

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Of November 15, 2024

Call to Order: TPB Chair Oscar Leeser called the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. at the Blue Flame Building, 17th Floor (Center for Community Engagement), 304 Texas Avenue, El Paso, TX 79901, and also conducted the meeting telephonically and by video conference. TPB Member attendance was as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT	TITLES	MEMBERS ABSENT	TITLES
1. Oscar Leeser (Chair)	Mayor, City of El Paso	Joseph Cervantes	NM State Senator, District 31
2. Ricardo Samaniego	Judge, El Paso County	Willie Madrid	NM State Representative District 53
3. Tomas Trevino	District Engineer, TXDOT El Paso District	Eddie Morales	TX State Representative – 74 th District
4. Cassandra Hernandez	City of El Paso Representative – District 3	Rachel Quintana	Mayor, Village of Vinton
5. Lina Ortega	TX State Representative – 77 th District	Mo Moabed	County Commissioner, Doña Ana County
6. Anthony Dekeyser	Director,, Sun Metro (COEP)	Isabel Salcido	City of El Paso Representative - District 5
7. Yvette Hernandez	City Engineer, COEP	Mary E. Gonzalez	TX State Representative – 75 th District
8. Anthony Turner	Mayor, Town of Anthony, TX	Javier Perea	Mayor, Sunland Park, NM
9. Ramon Cano	Mayor, Town of Clint	Diana Murillo	Mayor, Anthony, NM
10. Chris Canales	City of El Paso Representative – District 8	Cesar Blanco (Vice-Chair)	TX State Senator
11. Dionne Mack	City Manager, City of El Paso	Miguel Chacon	Mayor, City of San Elizario, TX
12. Tony Nevarez	Director of Aviation, El Paso International Airport		
13. Iliana Holguin	El Paso County Commissioner, Precinct 3		
14. Norma Palacios	Assistant Public Works Director, El Paso County	MPO STAFF	
15. Aaron Chavarria	District Engineer, NMDOT	Sergio Estrada	MPO/TPB Attorney
16. Walter Miller	Alderman 1, Town of Horizon City	Eduardo Calvo	Executive Director
17. Rudy Cruz	City of Socorro, District 3 Representative	Claudia Valles	Transportation Planner
18. Claudia Ordaz	TX State Representative – 76 th District	Nina Rodriguez	Transportation Planner
19. Joe Moody	TX State Representative – 78 th District	Jennifer Moreno	Transportation Planner
20.		Harrison Plourde	Assistant Director
21.		Anne Guayante	Regional Transportation Manager
22.		Marisol Enriquez	Administrative Secretary
23.			

(Meeting began with 16 members)

- No Public Comment: No member of the public signed up for Initial Public Comment

DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the October 18, 2024 TPB meeting.

Presenter: TPB Chair

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2024 TPB meeting made by Commissioner Iliana Holguin and seconded by Representative Chris Canales. Motion passed unanimously

2. Consider accepting the draft Vision Statement and Goals for the *Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2052 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)*

Presenter: Robbie Guthart (WSP)

- **Walter Miller commented**
- **Cassandra Hernandez commented**
- **Chris Canales commented**

Motion to approve accepting the draft Vision Statement and Goals for the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2052

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Commissioner Iliana Holguin.

Motion passed unanimously

3. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a letter of support for the Sun Metro application for FY 2025 United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program for the *Montana Brio Route Extension Feasibility Study* project

Presenter: Rodolfo Reyes (Sun Metro)

Motion to delete Item 3 made by Representative Cassandra Hernandez and seconded by Commissioner Iliana Holguin.

Motion passed unanimously

4. Consider approval of amendments to the RMS 2050 MTP, Amended RMS 2050 MTP, and RMS 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the *Border Highway Connector PE Phase* (MPO ID: P623A-PE / CN: E100390) project to add \$3,362,466 in State Program funds and \$5,000,000 in USDOT Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant Program funds for a total funded amount of \$11,362,466 in 2025.

Presenter: Anne Guayante (EPMPO)

Motion to approve amendments to the RMS 2050 MTP, Amended RMS 2050 MTP, and RMS 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Border Highway Connector PE Phase (MPO ID: P623A-PE / CN: E100390) project to add \$3,362,466 in State Program funds and \$5,000,000 in USDOT Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant Program funds for a total funded amount of \$11,362,466 in 2025 made by Representative Joe Moody and seconded by Alderman Walter Miller. Motion passed unanimously

5. Consider approval of amendments to the RMS 2050 MTP and RMS 2025-2028 TIP to program FFY 2024-25 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 program funds, as recommended by the FTA 5310 project call Ad Hoc Committee:

- Program the *Amistad 5310 Program* project with \$361,200 in FY 2025 and \$361,200 in FY 2026
- Program the *Microtransit Vans* project with \$238,000 in FY 2026
- Program the *FY25 Paratransit Service Software* project with \$280,000 in FY 2025
- Program the *FY26 Paratransit Service Software* project with \$280,000 in FY 2026
- Program the *Rio Vista 5310 Transportation Program* project with \$149,659 in FY 2025 and \$60,659 in FY 2026

Presenter: Anne Guayante (EPMPO)

Motion to approve amendments to the RMS 2050 MTP and RMS 2025-2028 TIP to program FFY 2024-25 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 program funds, as recommended by the FTA 5310 project call Ad Hoc Committee:

- Program the *Amistad 5310 Program* project with \$361,200 in FY 2025 and \$361,200 in FY 2026
- Program the *Microtransit Vans* project with \$238,000 in FY 2026
- Program the *FY25 Paratransit Service Software* project with \$280,000 in FY 2025
- Program the *FY26 Paratransit Service Software* project with \$280,000 in FY 2026
- Program the *Rio Vista 5310 Transportation Program* project with \$149,659 in FY 2025 and \$60,659 in FY 2026

made by Representative Cassandra Hernandez and seconded by Representative Chris Canales. Motion passed unanimously

6. Consider providing a recommendation to the United States General Services Administration (GSA) on a preferred alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Modernization of the Bridge of the Americas Land Port of Entry Enhanced Feasibility Study

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

- **Iliana Holguin commented**
- **Walter Miller commented**
- **Cassandra Hernandez commented**
- **Ricardo Samaniego commented**
- **Claudia Ordaz commented**
- **Rudy Cruz commented**
- **Lina Ortega commented**

- **Anthony Dekeyser commented**
- Chairperson, Mayor Oscar Leeser opened Public Comment:
 1. Paul Dipp commented.
 2. Richard Dayoub commented
- Chairperson, Mayor Oscar Leeser closed Public Comment.

Motion to approve providing a recommendation to the United States General Services Administration (GSA) on a preferred alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Modernization of the Bridge of the Americas Land Port of Entry Enhanced Feasibility Study made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Representative Claudia Ordaz with 12 in favor Ramon Cano, Mayor Rudy Cruz, Representative Cassandra Hernandez, Norma Palacios, Tony Nevarez, Yvette Hernandez, Judge Ricardo Samaniego, Alderman Walter Miller, and 6 opposed Mayor Oscar Leeser, Representative Cassandra Hernandez, Commissioner Iliana Holguin, Representative Chris Canales, Dionne Mack, Anthony Dekeyser. Motion passed.

7. Consider adoption of EPMPO policy documents:
 - a. Planning Document Development Outreach Standard Operating Procedure
 - b. Outreach Policy for Providers of Public Transportation

Presenter: Harrison Plourde (EPMPO)

Motion to approve adoption of EPMPO policy documents:

- a. Planning Document Development Outreach Standard Operating Procedure
- b. Outreach Policy for Providers of Public Transportation

made by Alderman Walter and seconded by Representative Claudia Ordaz. Motion passed unanimously

Motion to appoint Alderman Walter Miller as Chair for the remainder of meeting because Chair and Vice-Chair were no longer present made by Lina Ortega and seconded Iliana Holguin. Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

8. Presentation on Rider 7 Project History
Presenter: Claudia Valles (EPMPO)
9. Project Call Announcements for TxDOT Statewide Transportation Alternatives Set Aside (TASA) program and NMDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Recreational Trails (RTP), Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP)
Presenter: Anne Guayante (EPMPO)
10. Executive Director's Report
 - a. El Paso Region Binational Connectivity Workshop
 - b. Foreign Trade Zone Summit – Regional Outlook Panel
 - c. Border Trade Advisory Committee, November 12, 2024 meeting
 - d. Freight Advisory Committee meeting, November 12, 2024 meeting
 - e. State of the County

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

 - **Iliana Holguin commented**

The **next meeting** of the TPB is scheduled for **9:30 a.m.** on **December 13, 2024**, at the at Blue Flame Building, Floor 17 (Center for Community Engagement), 304 Texas Ave, El Paso, TX 79901

6. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 10:55 a.m.

Approved as to content:


 Marisol Enríquez, Recording Secretary of the
 Transportation Policy Board for the El Paso MPO Study Area