

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Of February 23, 2024

Call to Order: TPB Chair Oscar Leeser called the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting to order at 9:40 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. Cesar Blanco (Vice-Chair)	TX State Senator	Anthony Turner	Mayor, Town of Anthony, TX
3. Ricardo Samaniego	Judge, El Paso County	Willie Madrid	NM State Representative District 53
4. Joe Moody	TX State Representative – 78 th District	Yvette Hernandez	City Engineer, COEP
5. Aaron Chavarria	District Engineer, NMDOT	Diana Murillo	Mayor, Anthony, NM
6. Walter Miller	Alderman 1, Town of Horizon City	Sam Rodriguez	Director of Aviation, El Paso International Airport
7. Tomas Trevino	District Engineer, TXDOT El Paso District		
8. Ellen Smyth	Chief Transit & Field Operations Officer (COEP)		
9. Eddie Morales	TX State Representative – 74 th District		
10. Iliana Holguin	El Paso County Commissioner, Precinct 3		
11. Rudy Cruz	City of Socorro, District 3 Representative		
12. Claudia Ordaz	TX State Representative – 76 th District		
13. Isela Reyes	Mayor, City of San Elizario, TX		
14. Norma Palacios	Assistant Public Works Director, El Paso County		
15. Rachel Quintana	Mayor, Village of Vinton	MPO STAFF	
16. Cassandra Hernandez	City of El Paso Representative – District 3	Sergio Estrada	MPO/TPB Attorney
17. Isabel Salcido	City of El Paso Representative - District 5	Eduardo Calvo	Executive Director
18. Mo Moabed	County Commissioner, Doña Ana County	Harrison Plourde	Assistant Director
19. Ramon Cano	Mayor, Town of Clint	Salvador Gonzalez-Ayala	Transportation Research and Development Manager
20. Lina Ortega	TX State Representative – 77 th District	Gerardo Fierro	Associate Regional Transportation Analyst
21. Mary E. Gonzalez	TX State Representative – 75 th District	Sonia Perez	Regional Transportation Planner
22. Chris Canales	City of El Paso Representative – District 8	Anne Guayante	Regional Transportation Manager
23. Cary Westin	City Manager, City of El Paso	Marisol Enriquez	Administrative Secretary
24. Javier Perea	Mayor, Sunland Park, NM		

(Meeting began with 22 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 January 19, 2024 TPB meeting.

Presenter: TPB Chair

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2024, EPMPO TPB meeting made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Alderman Walter Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the City of El Paso application to the FY2025 Community Project Funding (CPF) for the Ysleta POE Feasibility Study project
Presenter: Omar Martinez (COEP)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the City of El Paso application to the FY2025 Community Project Funding (CPF) for the Ysleta POE Feasibility Study project 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 City of El Paso application to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grand (CPRG) Phase II
Presenter: Nicole Ferrini (COEP)

- Isabel Salcido commented
- Cassandra Hernandez commented
- Mary Gonzalez commented
- Cesar Blanco commented

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the City of El Paso application to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grand (CPRG) Phase II made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Representative Isabel Salcedo. Motion passed unanimously

4. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the City of El Paso application to the FY2025 CPF program for the George Perry Phase II project
Presenter: Omar Martinez (COEP)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the City of El Paso application to the FY2025 CPF program for the George Perry Phase II project made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded Commissioner Iliana Holguin. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the joint City of El Paso/El Paso Chamber National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program for the Mission Trail Development Alliance
Presenter: Omar Martinez (COEP)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the joint City of El Paso/El Paso Chamber National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program for the Mission Trail Development Alliance made by Commissioner Iliana Holguin and seconded by Alderman Walter Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) application to the National Institute of Standards and Technology for the Secure Cross-Border Autonomous Vehicle Connectivity project
Presenter: Rafael Aldrete (TTI)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) application to the National Institute of Standards and Technology for the Secure Cross-Border Autonomous Vehicle Connectivity project made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Consider approval of an amendment to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include Appendix C: Consultative Process*
Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

Motion to approve an amendment to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include Appendix C: Consultative Process* made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Alderman Walter Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Consider approval of amendments to the RMS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and RMS 2023-2026 TIP to amend the Railroad Dr. Widening and Reconstruction project to change project description in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026*
Presenter Anne Guayante (MPO)

Motion to approve amendments to the RMS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and RMS 2023-2026 TIP to amend the Railroad Dr. Widening and Reconstruction project to change project description in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026* made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Consider approval of amendments to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to:
 - a. Amend the *Sunland Park Hike and Bike Trail* project to change project name, project description, project cost and move from FY 2030 to FY 2027*
 - b. Amend the *Border Traveler and Cargo ITS* project to change project name, project description, project limits and project cost in FY 2028*
 - c. Deprogram the *Tierra Este (Arterial 1) -Phase I* project using Category 7 Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds in FY 2027*
 - d. Deprogram the *Tierra Este (Arterial 1) -Phase II* project using Category 7 STP funds in FY 2028*
 - e. Program the *Tierra Este*

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

- Iliana Holguin commented
- Chris Canales commented
- Mary Gonzalez commented

Motion to approve amendments to to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to:

- a. **Amend the *Sunland Park Hike and Bike Trail* project to change project name, project description, project cost and move from FY 2030 to FY 2027***
- b. **Amend the *Border Traveler and Cargo ITS* project to change project name, project description, project limits and project cost in FY 2028***
- c. **Deprogram the *Tierra Este (Arterial 1) -Phase I* project using Category 7 Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds in FY 2027***
- d. **Deprogram the *Tierra Este (Arterial 1) -Phase II* project using Category 7 STP funds in FY 2028***
- e. **Program the *Tierra Este***

made by Commissioner Iliana Holguin and seconded by Representative Chris Canales. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Consider approval of staff recommendation to select an auditor and to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement.

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO)

Motion to approve of staff recommendation to select an auditor and to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement made by Senator Cesar Blanco and seconded by Mayor Rachel Quintana. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

11. Presentation for the Mission Trail Alliance

Presenter: Omar Martinez (COEP)

12. Public comment period for RMS 25-28 TIP, RMS 2050 MTP amendment and Transportation Conformity Report

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

13. NMDOT Transportation Project Fund (TPF) FY 2025 Project Call

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

- Cassandra Hernandez commented

14. Draft FY 2025 Unified Transportation Plan

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO)

15. Executive Director's Report

- a. Border Trade Advisory Committee Meeting (February 19th and 20th)
- b. Texas Transportation Commission workshop and meeting (February 21st and 22nd)

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO)

The **next meeting** of the TPB is scheduled for **9:30 a.m.** on **February 23, 2024**, at the at Blue Flame Building, Floor 17 (Center for Community Engagement), 304 Texas Ave, El Paso, TX 79901

12. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 10:41 a.m.

Approved as to content:

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