

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Of March 20, 2026

Call to Order: Mayor Javier Perea called the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting to order at 9:09 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
César J. Blanco	TX State Senator	Joseph Cervantes	NM State Senator, District 31
Javier Perea (Chair)	Mayor, Sunland Park, NM	Sarah Silva	NM State Representative District 53
John Andoh	Executive Director, ETA	Eddie Morales	TX State Representative – 74 th District
Claudia Ordaz	TX State Representative – 76 th District	Tony Nevarez	Director of Aviation, El Paso International Airport
Iliana Holguin (Vice - Chair)	El Paso County Commissioner, Precinct 3	Alejandra Chavez	City of El Paso Representative - District 1
Andres Renteria	Mayor, Town of Horizon City	Anthony Dekeyzer	Director, Sun Metro (COEP)
Aaron Chavarria	District Engineer, NMDOT	Rudy Cruz	City of Socorro, District 3 Representative
Dionne Mack	City Manager, City of El Paso	Art Fierro	City of El Paso Representative – District 6
Rachel Quintana	Mayor, Village of Vinton	Ramon Cano	Mayor, Town of Clint
Yvette Hernandez	City Engineer, COEP	Ricardo Samaniego	Judge, El Paso County
Miguel Chacon	Mayor, City of San Elizario, TX	Renard Johnson	Mayor, City of El Paso
Vince Perez	TX State Representative-77 th District	Joe Moody	TX State Representative – 78 th District
Tomas Trevino	District Engineer, TXDOT El Paso District	MPO STAFF	
		Nicklaus Jimenez	MPO/TPB Attorney
MEMBERS VIRTUAL		Eduardo Calvo	Executive Director
Gloria Gameros	County Commissioner, Doña Ana County	Nina Rodriguez	Transportation Planner
Mary E. Gonzalez	TX State Representative – 75 th District	Jennifer Moreno	Transportation Planner
Josh Acevedo	City of El Paso Representative – District 2	Anne Guayante	Regional Transportation Manager
Gabriel Holguin	Mayor, Anthony, NM	Marisol Enriquez	Administrative Secretary
Martin Lerma	Mayor, Town of Anthony, TX	Andres Lucero	Associate Regional Transportation Analyst
		Harrison Plourde	Assistant Director
		Claudia Valles	Transportation Planner
		Salvador Gonzales- Ayala	Transportation Research and Development Manager

(Meeting began with 17 members)

*09:10am Joshua Acevedo joined virtually (18)

*09:11am Claudia Ordaz arrived (19)

- Chairperson, Mayor Javier Perea opened Public Comment: No public comment

DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

Executive Director Eduardo Calvo requested that items be taken out of order due to the risk of losing quorum. There being no objection, the agenda was taken in that order.

10. Consider approval of amendments to the Amended RMS 2050 MTP and RMS 2025-2028 TIP to amend the *Border Highway Connector (BHC) Preliminary Engineering Phase* project (MPO ID: P623A-PE/CSJ: E100390) to increase the project right-of-way (ROW) costs from \$5,300,000 to \$12,726,000 for a new total project cost of \$18,788,466 in FY 2026.

Presenter: Andres Lucero (EPMPO)

Motion to approve the Amended RMS 2050 MTP and RMS 2025-2028 TIP to amend the *Border Highway Connector (BHC) Preliminary Engineering Phase* project (MPO ID: P623A-PE/CSJ: E100390) to increase the project right-of-way (ROW) costs from \$5,300,000 to \$12,726,000 for a new total project cost of \$18,788,466 in FY 2026 made by Mayor Andres Renteria and seconded by Commissioner Iliana Holguin. Motion passed unanimously

9. Consider approval of amendments to the Amended Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and RMS 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to program the following projects:
 - a. *NEVI – Anthony Project (FY 2026)* (CSJ: 5000-00-261 / MPO ID: M109X) using \$1,226,250.00 of CAT 10 NEVI funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026
 - b. *NEVI – Horizon Project (FY 2026)* (CSJ: 5000-00-267 / MPO ID: M410X) using \$936,250.00 of CAT 10 NEVI funds in FY 2026.

Presenter: Andres Lucero (EPMPO)

Motion to approve the amendments to the Amended Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and RMS 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to program the following projects:

- a. *NEVI – Anthony Project (FY 2026)* (CSJ: 5000-00-261 / MPO ID: M109X) using \$1,226,250.00 of CAT 10 NEVI funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026
- b. *NEVI – Horizon Project (FY 2026)* (CSJ: 5000-00-267 / MPO ID: M410X) using \$936,250.00 of CAT 10 NEVI funds in FY 2026

made by Commissioner Iliana Holguin and seconded by Mayor Rachel Quintana. Motion passed unanimously

5. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to approve the Statement of Work between EPMPO and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for use of Texas Rider 7 State and Local Air Quality Planning grant funding (Ozone) for work associated with air quality research and modeling at international border crossings.

Presenter: Claudia Valles (EPMPO)

Motion to authorizing the Executive Director to approve the Statement of Work between EPMPO and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for use of Texas Rider 7 State and Local Air Quality Planning grant funding (Ozone) for work associated with air quality research and modeling at international border crossings made by Mayor Andres Renteria and seconded by Commissioner Iliana Holguin. Motion passed unanimously

6. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to execute Task Order #4 with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) for *Phase I: Border Crossing Traffic Data Collection and Analysis* for an amount not to exceed \$ 379,920.00.

Presenter: Claudia Valles (EPMPO)

7. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to execute Task Order #5 with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) for *Phase II: Travel Demand Model Integration and Air Quality Analysis* for an amount not to exceed \$100,030.00.

Presenter: Claudia Valles (EPMPO)

Motion to postpone Items 6 and 7 made by Mayor Andres Renteria and seconded by Mayor Rachel Quintana. Motion passed unanimously

8. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to execute Task Order #7 with WSP, Inc. for support in the implementation activities identified in the approved *Borderplex Safe Mobility Plan* in an amount not to exceed \$199,859.56.

Presenter: Anne Guayante (EPMPO)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute Task Order #7 with WSP, Inc. for support in the implementation activities identified in the approved *Borderplex Safe Mobility Plan* in an amount not to exceed \$199,859.56 made by Commissioner Iliana Holguin and seconded by Mayor Rachel Quintana. Motion passed unanimously

11. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign the First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for Local Match, International Border Crossing System-Wide Analysis to extend the termination date of the agreement from May 31, 2026 to July 31, 2027, with each of the following entities:
 - a. City of El Paso
 - b. El Paso County
 - c. Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority
 - d. New Mexico Department of Transportation

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign the First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for Local Match, International Border Crossing System-Wide Analysis to extend the termination date of the agreement from May 31, 2026 to July 31, 2027, with each of the following entities:

- a. City of El Paso
- b. El Paso County
- c. Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority
- d. New Mexico Department of Transportation

made by Mayor Andres Renteria and seconded by Mayor Miguel Chacon Motion passed unanimously

12. Consider revisions to the *EPMPO Attendance Policy Requiring In-Person Attendance by TPB Members at TPB Meetings*.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

- Cesar Blanco, Javier Perea, Gloria Gameros, and Gabriel Holguin commented

No Action

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the February 20, 2026, TPB meeting.
Presenter: TPB Chair

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2026 TPB meeting made by Mayor Rachel Quintana and seconded by John Andoh. Motion passed unanimously

2. Review the Executive Director's Annual Performance Assessment for Year 2025, including the Executive Director's Self-Performance Assessment for Year 2025.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

Motion to accept the Executive Director's Annual Performance Assessment for Year 2025, including the Executive Director's Self-Performance Assessment for Year 2025 made by Mayor Andres Renteria and seconded by Mayor Rachel Quintana. Motion passed unanimously

3. Consider action on the Executive Director's Employment Agreement.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

Motion to approve the Executive Director's Employment Agreement with 3-year term and 3% salary increase made by Mayor Andres Renteria and seconded by Mayor Rachel Quintana Motion passed unanimously

4. Consider renewal of the Legal Services Agreement between EPMPO and Kemp Smith, LLP.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

Motion to renew the Legal Services Agreement between EPMPO and Kemp Smith, LLP made by Mayor Rachel Quintana and seconded by Mayor Miguel Chacon. John Andoh abstained. Motion passed.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

13. Report on FY 2027 UTP funding projections and fiscal constraint strategy.
Presenter: Anne Guayante (EPMPO)

- **Javier Perea and Yvette Hernandez commented**

**09:44am Aaron Chavarria left (18)*

**09:52am John Andoh stepped out (17)*

**09:54am Mary Gonzalez, Gabriel Holguin, Gloria Gameros logged out (15)*

At this time a quorum was not present; therefore, no official actions could be taken.

**09:57am Gabriel Holguin joined (16)*

**10:05am John Andoh returned (17)*

**10:00am Martin Lerma left (16)*

14. Update on analysis of the travel demand model for the RMS 2052 MTP.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

15. Quarterly Reports
- Administrative Amendments Report
 - Project Completion Report
 - Project Readiness Report
 - RMS 2020 Projects Report

Presenter: Anne Guayante and Andres Lucero (EPMPO)

16. Executive Director's Report
- IBC Strategic Plan update sponsored by CODER in Ciudad Juarez – February 26, 2026
 - Binational Bridges and Border Crossings Group Plenary meeting in Washington D.C. – April 8, 2026
- Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

17. The Board may go into closed session under the authority of the Government Code, Chapter 551, Texas Open Meetings Act, as follows: Consultation with Attorney – Attorney/Client Privileged Consultations, on Pending or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers (§ 551.071), Deliberations Regarding Real Property (§ 551.072), Deliberations Regarding Personnel Matters (§ 551.074), or Deliberations Regarding Security Devices or a Security Audit (§§ 551.076, 551.0894)
18. Consider and take action on matters discussed in closed session.
19. Adjournment

Meeting ended 10:28am

The **next meeting** of the TPB is scheduled for **9:00 a.m.** on **April 17, 2026**, at the Blue Flame Building, Floor 17 (Center for Community Engagement), 304 Texas Ave, El Paso, TX 79901

Approved as to content:

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