

**MPO MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Wayne Dierlam, Chairman
Lynn Short
Randy Bena
Lonnie Gregorcyk
Gabriel Soliz
Don Pozzi

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Charles Windwehen
Tom Halepaska

STAFF PRESENT

Ray Miller, Deputy Director
Marie Lester, Environmental

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 5, 2009 meeting were approved as delivered.

2. Citizens Communication – None.

3. Consider Approving the Fiscal Year 2010 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Miller stated that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a one-year work program, which follows the Federal Fiscal Calendar that runs from October 1 to September 30 on any given year. The UPWP outlines how the MPO intends to utilize its one-year allocation of federal transportation planning dollars. Mr. Miller noted that the UPWP is broken down into five specific tasks: Administrative/Management, Data Development & Maintenance, Short Range Planning, Metropolitan Transportation Planning and Special Studies.

Mr. Miller reported that the FY 2009 Carryover was \$70,000.00. The total for the 2010 budget is \$260,000.00. The budget is broken down into Tasks. He noted that Task 1.0-Administration the budget is \$100,000; Task 2.0-Data Development is \$16,000; Task 3.0-Short Range Planning is \$32,000; Task 4.0-Long Range Planning is \$70,000; and Task 5.0-Special Studies is \$22,000.

Mr. Miller stated the MPO is allowed to carry-over funding into the upcoming fiscal year. In this particular situation the MPO held back or carried-over funding in order to conduct the update to the long-range plan which is Task 4.0. He noted that annually the MPO receives about \$160,000 to \$200,000 per fiscal year to conduct various transportation planning efforts.

Mr. Pozzi made a motion to recommend approval of the Fiscal Year 2010 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Gregorcyk seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. Review of MPO By-Laws and Consider Approving Changes.

Mr. Miller presented the By-Laws that were last amended in 1995. He then explained the proposed changes that needed to be made to the By-Laws.

Mr. Miller asked the committee if the second Tuesday of the month at 2 p.m. was still a good time for them to meet. Mr. Pozzi asked if it was necessary to meet once a month or could they meet every other month. Mr. Miller stated he would work on the wording to allow some flexibility for a special called meeting.

Mr. Miller noted that he would make the corrections to the By-Laws and bring them back before the MPO committee.

5. Update on Transportation Funding and Action Taken by 81st Texas Legislature

Mr. Miller stated that the first and foremost item was the Sunset Review of TxDOT and whether the State Agency would continue to exist. The legislature did vote to continue the Agency at least until the 2011 Texas Legislature. He also reported that the legislature was successful in reducing some of the diversion of state fuel tax to other state agency but not in significant amount to help with the current funding issues. He noted that this item is brought up almost every legislative session and is sure to be on the agenda of the 2011 Legislature. Approximately \$300 million was redirected however that funding would be used to help fund Proposition 14.

Mr. Miller noted that one of the more interesting items is Rider 56. This is a Rider or attachment to the TxDOT Appropriations Bill. The Legislature mandated TxDOT to determine the 100 most congested roadways within the State of Texas and to provide that list on the TxDOT Web Site. He also noted that included in the MPO packet was a methodology description development of a list of the 100 most congested Texas road sections.

6. Transportation Program Reports

Mr. Miller presented the chart for the Fixed Route Ridership. He noted that the ridership has gone down. He stated one of the reasons is because of the Flexible Routes Ridership which is from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Monday thru Friday; and an all day Saturday service and Sunday service from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mr. Miller reported that now there is also a medical transport service on Saturday.

Mr. Miller stated that next month he would report stop information for the MPO committee to review.

Mr. Miller noted that Victoria Transit did very well with the stimulus money. He reported that they would be receiving \$2.5 million which would be used to replace their entire fleet of buses.

7. Items from MPO members.

Mr. Gregorcyk stated that the commission allocated \$474 million towards the maintenance of roads. He noted that those projects that were already prioritized were able to move forward. He stated that the projects the MPO money is being used for are being designed and that would be the project to put signals and turning access on Mockingbird for the high school campus. The total stimulus money that came to the MPO was \$2.9 million and the project cost is about \$3.3 million. Mr. Gregorcyk noted that is covered through maintenance and rehab money. He stated they would put in a work order and use future funds for next year to insure that when those bids come in they would be able to pay for the total project.

Mr. Gregorcyk stated another issue he wanted to mention was the overpass project. He stated that project has been in Austin for the last few months and they have reviewed them. He stated that has not been in the minute order. He stated because of Proposition 12, the commission has postponed from taking any action until later this fall.

Mr. Bena noted that on Hwy. 59 at the Guadalupe River south of town next to the water treatment plant, they would be doing the bridge project. They will be extending both ends of the bridge because of the meandering of the river. Mr. Bena noted that the project would be starting next week.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 P.M.

APPROVED: _____

Wayne Dierlam, Chairman
Victoria Metropolitan Planning Organization