

MPO MEETING

NOVEMBER 10, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wayne Dierlam, Chairman
Lynn Short
Lonnie Gregorcyk
Randy Bena
Don Pozzi
Gabriel Soliz
Charles Windwehen
Tom Halepaska

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tony Rigdon

STAFF PRESENT:

Ray Miller, Deputy Director
Marie Lester, Environmental

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 8, 2009 meeting were approved as delivered.

2. Citizen Communication – None.

3. Election of Officers – Vice-Chairman

Don Pozzi made a motion to nominate Tom Halepaska for Vice Chairman. Charles Windwehen seconded the motion. Tom Halepaska was voted the new Vice-Chairman.

4. Consider approving the 1st Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2010 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Mr. Miller noted that the Unified Planning Work Program 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 stated 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 Policy Advisory Committee approved the FY 2010 UPWP on August 11, 2009. The Staff was directed to add more clarification for a Task 5 “Special Studies” within the UPWP. Mr. Miller stated that this allowed the staff an opportunity to provide a better account carryover from 2009 and adjust the budget accordingly. Mr. Miller then went over the budget for each of the different tasks.

a) **Public Hearing – There were no comments.**

b) **Policy Board Deliberations – none.**

c) Formal Action.

Judge Pozzi made a motion to approve the 1st Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2010 Unified Planning Work program. Lynn Short seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5) Consider recommending approval of a Non-Radio Active Hazardous Materials Route.

Mr. Miller noted that this project has been going on since 2007. The proposed route is Loop 463 and US 59. The studies stated that this route was less of a risk to the public. Mr. Miller noted these vehicles carry hazardous material other than radioactive material can use this route.

Judge Pozzi asked if this route coincides with the hazardous material route and our emergency management plan. Mr. Miller stated yes.

Mr. Miller recommended approval of this proposal.

a) Public Hearing – none.

b) Policy Board Deliberations – none.

c) Formal Action

Judge Pozzi made a motion to approve the Non-Radio Active Hazardous Material Route. Mr. Halepaska seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

6) Update on 2009 Pass-Through Financing Program and Proposal for Zac Lentz Parkway Improvements.

Mr. Miller stated that this is a proposal for the construction of grade separation along Zac Lentz Parkway at the intersection of Salem Road and Mockingbird Lane. The estimated cost of the project is \$27.7 million. He stated that the City of Victoria would issue debt for the total construction of the project and seek reimbursement from TxDOT over a 10-year period for the actual construction cost of the project. Mr. Miller then explained the timelines for the proposal. He noted that on September 24, 2009 the Commission authorized negotiations on agreements and Victoria's proposal was #14 on a list of 14. On October 29, 2009, the Commission accepted 8 projects for the Pass-Through Program. Mr. Miller reported that on November 9, 2009, Victoria received official notice to begin negotiations with TxDOT for Pass Through financing program. He stated that December 9, 2009 is the tentative date to meet with TxDOT to discuss the agreement.

Mr. Miller noted that the current State estimates has the project just under \$23 million. So total cost both construction and financing should be less. The exact numbers have not been developed. He stated there is a possibility to ask for more commission dollars which may free up some funds for future projects in Victoria.

Mr. Miller reported that a traffic signal is being designed and will be in place before the opening of the East Campus High School. This is being funded through a small amount of Stimulus Funds that came to Victoria MPO. He stated that the hardware for the traffic signal could be used at another intersection when the overpasses are constructed.

7) Transportation Program Reports

Mr. Miller reported that Victoria Transit is holding its own. He stated that the Flexible Route is starting to rise again. He also reported that the shelters are being built by a local contractor which is making the cost much less.

8) Items from MPO members.

Mr. Gregorcyk gave a report on projects that were going to be done with the Stimulus money that was received. One of the projects was access to the campuses and also safety upgrades.

Mr. Gregorcyk also reported that there was approximately \$400,000 left from the Stimulus money and that he wanted to work with the MPO staff on projects this money could be used for. He stated that we needed to pick projects that fit the community.

Judge Pozzi also informed the committee that today was the dedication of the new bridge on Salem Road.

Mr. Halepaska asked if any decisions had been made concerning Railwood crossing. Mr. Miller stated that no decision has been made.

9) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m..

APPROVED: _____
W ayne Dierlam, Chairman
Victoria Metropolitan Planning Organization