

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Of May 17, 2024

Call to Order: TPB Vice-Chair Cesar Blanco called the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting to order at 9:23 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. Ricardo Samaniego	Judge, El Paso County	Joseph Cervantes	NM State Senator, District 31
2. Cary Westin	City Manager, City of El Paso	Anthony Turner	Mayor, Town of Anthony, TX
3. Cesar Blanco (Vice-Chair)	TX State Senator	Eddie Morales	TX State Representative – 74 th District
4. Aaron Chavarria	District Engineer, NMDOT	Willie Madrid	NM State Representative District 53
5. Walter Miller	Alderman 1, Town of Horizon City	Mo Moabed	County Commissioner, Doña Ana County
6. Tomas Trevino	District Engineer, TXDOT El Paso District	Oscar Leeser (Chair)	Mayor, City of El Paso
7. Diana Murillo	Mayor, Anthony, NM	Ramon Cano	Mayor, Town of Clint
8. Rudy Cruz	City of Socorro, District 3 Representative		
9. Claudia Ordaz	TX State Representative – 76 th District		
10. Norma Palacios	Assistant Public Works Director, El Paso County	Isela Reyes	Mayor, City of San Elizario, TX
11. Rachel Quintana	Mayor, Village of Vinton	Sam Rodriguez	Director of Aviation, El Paso International Airport
12. Cassandra Hernandez	City of El Paso Representative – District 3	Mary E. Gonzalez	TX State Representative – 75 th District
13. Isabel Salcido	City of El Paso Representative - District 5		
14. Chris Canales	City of El Paso Representative – District 8		
15. Lina Ortega	TX State Representative – 77 th District	MPO STAFF	
16. Javier Perea	Mayor, Sunland Park, NM	Sergio Estrada	MPO/TPB Attorney
17. Ellen Smyth	Chief Transit & Field Operations Officer (COEP)	Eduardo Calvo	Executive Director
18. Yvette Hernandez	City Engineer, COEP		
19. Joe Moody	TX State Representative – 78 th District	Salvador Gonzalez-Ayala	Transportation Research and Development Manager
20. Iliana Holguin	El Paso County Commissioner, Precinct 3	Gerardo Fierro	Associate Regional Transportation Analyst
21.		Sonia Perez	Regional Transportation Planner
22.		Anne Guayante	Regional Transportation Manager
23.		Marisol Enriquez	Administrative Secretary
24.		Gabriela Lopez	Transportation Financial Analyst
25.			
26.			

(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 April 19, 2024 TPB meeting.
Presenter: TPB Chair

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2024, TPB meeting made by Representative Cassandra Hernandez and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the County of El Paso application for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Project Funding program for the *Fabens Airport ROW Acquisition* project
Presenter: Daniel Marquez (EP County)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute sign a Letter of Support for the County of El Paso application for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Project Funding program for the *Fabens Airport ROW Acquisition* project made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Cassandra Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the City of El Paso application for the FY 2024 Federal Railroad Administration Consolidated Rail Infrastructure & Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant for the *Zaragoza Rail Grade Separation* project.
Presenter: Omar Martinez (COEP)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the City of El Paso application for the FY 2024 Federal Railroad Administration Consolidated Rail Infrastructure & Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant for the *Zaragoza Rail Grade Separation* project made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Cassandra Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Support for the City of El Paso application for the FY 2023 Federal Highway Administration Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) Grant for the *Stanton-Texas Active Transportation Project Development 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 for the FY 2023 Federal Highway Administration Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) Grant for the *Stanton-Texas Active Transportation Project Development Study* project made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Cassandra Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Consider approval of amendments to the Transportation Policy Board Bylaws to add South Central Regional Transit District to the Transportation Project Advisory Committee as a voting member entity, and to make text amendments to Article III – TPB Membership, to clarify rules on the composition of the Board.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO Executive Director)

Motion to approve amendments to the Transportation Policy Board Bylaws to add South Central Regional Transit District to the Transportation Project Advisory Committee as a voting member entity, and to make text amendments to Article III – TPB Membership, to clarify rules on the composition of the Board made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Cassandra Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between EPMPO, New Mexico Department of Transportation, and SCRTD to make provision for cooperative transportation and transit activities in the metropolitan planning area.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO Executive Director)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between EPMPO, New Mexico Department of Transportation, and SCRTD to make provision for cooperative transportation and transit activities in the metropolitan planning area made by Representative Joe Moody and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Consider approval of amendments to the RMS 2050 MTP, and RMS 2023-2026 TIP to program transit projects from South Central Regional Transit District:
 - a. Program the *Preventative Maintenance (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024*
 - b. Program the *Pavement Resurfacing (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024*
 - c. Program the *JARC (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024*
 - d. Program the *Operating Assistance (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024*
 - e. Program the *Maintenance Facility Equipment (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024*
 - f. Program the *Security Fencing (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024*

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

Motion to approve amendments to the RMS 2050 MTP, and RMS 2023-2026 TIP to program transit projects from South Central Regional Transit District:

- g. Program the *Preventative Maintenance (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024***
- h. Program the *Pavement Resurfacing (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024***
- i. Program the *JARC (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024***
- j. Program the *Operating Assistance (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024***
- k. Program the *Maintenance Facility Equipment (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024***
- l. Program the *Security Fencing (FY24 5307)* project using FTA 5307 funds in FY 2024***

made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Representative Chris Canales. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to execute Task Order #3 with the El Paso MPO General Planning Consultant for development of a Regional Safety Action Plan for an amount not to exceed \$729,888.56
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO executive Director)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute Task Order #3 with the El Paso MPO General Planning Consultant for development of a Regional Safety Action Plan for an amount not to exceed \$729,888.56 made by Commissioner Iliana Holguin and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Consider approval of the second amendment to the EPMPPO FY 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to add reference to the San Elizario Transportation Needs Assessment project, and to add TCEQ Rider 7 funding to funding summary tables and subtask descriptions, as applicable
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO executive Director)

Motion to approval the second amendment to the EPMPPO FY 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to add reference to the San Elizario Transportation Needs Assessment project, and to add TCEQ Rider 7 funding to funding summary tables and subtask descriptions, as applicable made by Commissioner Iliana Holguin and seconded by Judge Ricardo Samaniego. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Consider supporting New Mexico Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 project applications
Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

Motion to approve supporting New Mexico Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 project applications made by Judge Ricardo Samaniego and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.

1st Motion: Motion to enter into Executive Session at 09:39 am with nineteen (19) members to review EX item 1 and Ex Item 2 made by Alderman Walter Miller by and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion carried unanimously.

EX. Item No. 1 Executive Director's Annual Performance Assessment for Year 2023, including review and discussion of the Executive Director's Self-Performance Assessment for Year 2023.

Presenter: MPO Executive Committee Chair

EX. Item No. 2 Executive Director's Employment Agreement

Presenter: MPO Executive Committee Chair

2nd Motion: Motion to exit from Executive Session made by made Alderman Walter Miller by and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chair, Cesar Blanco reconvened meeting at 10:25am with nineteen (19) members.

EX. Item No. 1. Motion to approve Executive Director's Annual Performance Assessment for Year 2023, as submitted by the Executive Director made by Representative Claudia Ordaz and seconded by Ricardo Samaniego. Motion Passed unanimously.

EX. Item No. 2. Motion to approve renewing the Executive Director Employment Agreement for a 1(one) year period.

Approved motion to increase Executive Director base salary by 3% made by Representative Claudia Ordaz and seconded by Ricardo Samaniego. Nays Representative Canales and Representative Cassandra Hernandez.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

11. Update on the TxDOT-El Paso District Mobility Projects funding proposal for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2025 Unified Transportation Program
Presenter: Tomas Trevino (TXDOT)

- **Alderman Walter Miller commented**

12. Update on TxDOT Highway Emergency Response Operator (HERO) Program

Presenter: Eduardo Perales& Rodolfo Pino (TxDOT)

- **Lina Ortega commented**
- **Claudia Ordaz commented**
- **Ellen Smyth commented**

13. Discussion of the triennial amendment to the EPMPO Public Participation Plan

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

14. Executive Director's Report

- a. Stakeholder meetings with Doña Ana County's SS4A project and the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator project
- b. Texas Transportation Committee meeting - April 25, 2024
- c. Submittal of the grant application to the 2025-2026 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) program (i.e., MEGA) for the Downtown10 project

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO Executive Director)

The **next meeting** of the TPB is scheduled for **9:00 a.m.** on **June 21, 2024**, at the at Blue Flame Building, Floor 17 (Center for Community Engagement), 304 Texas Ave, El Paso, TX 79901

15. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 11:18 a.m.

Approved as to content:



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