

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Of October 18, 2024

Call to Order: TPB Chair Oscar Leeser called the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting to order at 9:45 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	Willie Madrid	NM State Representative District 53
3. Diana Murillo	Mayor, Anthony, NM	Eddie Morales	TX State Representative – 74 th District
4. Cassandra Hernandez	City of El Paso Representative – District 3	Joe Moody	TX State Representative – 78 th District
5. Lina Ortega	TX State Representative – 77 th District	Rachel Quintana	Mayor, Village of Vinton
6. Ellen Smyth	Chief Transit & Field Operations Officer (COEP)	Mo Moabed	County Commissioner, Doña Ana County
7. Yvette Hernandez	City Engineer, COEP	Claudia Ordaz	TX State Representative – 76 th District
8. Anthony Turner	Mayor, Town of Anthony, TX	Norma Palacios	Assistant Public Works Director, El Paso County
9. Ramon Cano	Mayor, Town of Clint	Isabel Salcido	City of El Paso Representative - District 5
10. Chris Canales	City of El Paso Representative – District 8	Tony Nevarez	Director of Aviation, El Paso International Airport
11. Dionne Mack	City Manager, City of El Paso	Tomas Trevino	District Engineer, TXDOT El Paso District
12. Javier Perea	Mayor, Sunland Park, NM	Ricardo Samaniego	Judge, El Paso County
13. Miguel Chacon	Mayor, City of San Elizario, TX		
14. Iliana Holguin	El Paso County Commissioner, Precinct 3	MPO STAFF	
15. Mary E. Gonzalez	TX State Representative – 75 th District	Sergio Estrada	MPO/TPB Attorney
16. Aaron Chavarria	District Engineer, NMDOT	Eduardo Calvo	Executive Director
17. Walter Miller	Alderman 1, Town of Horizon City	Claudia Valles	Transportation Planner
18. Rudy Cruz	City of Socorro, District 3 Representative	Nina Rodriguez	Transportation Planner
19.		Jennifer Moreno	Transportation Planner
20.		Harrison Plourde	Assistant Director
21.		Anne Guayante	Regional Transportation Manager
22.		Marisol Enriquez	Administrative Secretary
23.			

(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 September 20, 2024 TPB meeting.

Presenter: TPB Chair

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2024 TPB meeting made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Norma Palacios. Motion passed unanimously

2. Consider adopting the proposed 2025 TPB meeting schedule.

Presenter: Harrison Plourde (MPO)

Motion to adopt the proposed 2025 TPB meeting schedule made by Representative Ellen Smyth and seconded by Chris Canales. Motion passed unanimously

3. Consider approval of amendments to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Amended RMS 2050 MTP, RMS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and RMS 2025-2028 TIP for the following Texas Transit projects to:
- a. Amend the *Bus Purchase (FY25-FY28 5307)* project (MPO ID: T3J) to decrease FTA 5307 Urbanized Area Program formula funds from \$7,000,000 to \$4,800,000 and change Fiscal Years (FY) from 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028 to 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively.
 - b. Amend the *ADA Paratransit Service (FTA FY25-FY28 5307)* project (MPO ID: T3H) to decrease FTA 5307 Urbanized Area Program Formula funds from \$2,213,380 to \$2,132,349 and change Fiscal Years (FY) from 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028 to 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively.
 - c. Amend the *Support Vehicles/Bus Rehab (FTA FY25-FY28 5339)* project (MPO ID: T3F) to change Fiscal Years (FY) from 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028 to 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively.
 - d. Amend the *Transit Enhancements (FTA FY25-FY26 5339)* project (MPO ID: T3G) to change Fiscal Year from 2025 and 2026 to 2026 and 2027, respectively.
 - e. Program the *Transit Enhancements (FTA FY27-FY28 5339)* project (MPO ID: T3G) using \$500,000 in FTA 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities program funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2028 and 2029, respectively.
 - f. Amend the *FY25 FTA 5339 Funding* project (MPO ID: T3I-12) to change Fiscal Year (FY) from 2025 to 2026.
 - g. Amend the *FY26 FTA 5339 Funding* project (MPO ID: T3I-13) to change Fiscal Year (FY) from 2026 to 2027.
 - h. Amend the *FY27 FTA 5339 Funding* project (MPO ID: T3I-14) project to change Fiscal Year (FY) from 2027 to 2028.
 - i. Deprogram the *FY28 FTA 5339 Funding* project (MPO ID: T3I-15) in the 2025 – 2028 TIP and Amend it the RMS 2050 MTP and Amended RMS 2050 MTP to change Fiscal Year (FY) from 2028 to 2029.

Presenter: Anne Guayante (EPMPO)

Motion to approve amendments to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Amended RMS 2050 MTP, RMS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and RMS 2025-2028 TIP for the following Texas Transit projects to:

- a. Amend the *Bus Purchase (FY25-FY28 5307)* project (MPO ID: T3J) to decrease FTA 5307 Urbanized Area Program formula funds from \$7,000,000 to \$4,800,000 and change Fiscal Years (FY) from 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028 to 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively.
- b. Amend the *ADA Paratransit Service (FTA FY25-FY28 5307)* project (MPO ID: T3H) to decrease FTA 5307 Urbanized Area Program Formula funds from \$2,213,380 to \$2,132,349 and change Fiscal Years (FY) from 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028 to 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively.
- c. Amend the *Support Vehicles/Bus Rehab (FTA FY25-FY28 5339)* project (MPO ID: T3F) to change Fiscal Years (FY) from 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028 to 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively.
- d. Amend the *Transit Enhancements (FTA FY25-FY26 5339)* project (MPO ID: T3G) to change Fiscal Year from 2025 and 2026 to 2026 and 2027, respectively.
- e. Program the *Transit Enhancements (FTA FY27-FY28 5339)* project (MPO ID: T3G) using \$500,000 in FTA 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities program funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2028 and 2029, respectively.
- f. Amend the *FY25 FTA 5339 Funding* project (MPO ID: T3I-12) to change Fiscal Year (FY) from 2025 to 2026.
- g. Amend the *FY26 FTA 5339 Funding* project (MPO ID: T3I-13) to change Fiscal Year (FY) from 2026 to 2027.
- h. Amend the *FY27 FTA 5339 Funding* project (MPO ID: T3I-14) project to change Fiscal Year (FY) from 2027 to 2028.
- i. Deprogram the *FY28 FTA 5339 Funding* project (MPO ID: T3I-15) in the 2025 – 2028 TIP and Amend it the RMS 2050 MTP and Amended RMS 2050 MTP to change Fiscal Year (FY) from 2028 to 2029

made by Representative Javier Perea and seconded by Cassandra Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously

4. Consider approval of amendments to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Amended RMS 2050 MTP, RMS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and RMS 2025-2028 TIP for the following Texas Highway project to:
- j. Program the *International Border Crossings System-wide Improvements Analysis* project (MPO ID C047X/ CSJ 0924-06-738) into the 2025 – 2028 TIP using \$2,000,000 of CAT 7 STP MM funds in FY 2025 and amend the project year in the 2023 – 2026 TIP year from FY 2024 to FY 2025

Presenter: Anne Guayante (EPMPO)

Motion to approve amendments to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Amended RMS 2050 MTP, RMS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and RMS 2025-2028 TIP for the following Texas Highway project to:

j. Program the International Border Crossings System-wide Improvements Analysis project (MPO ID C047X/ CSJ 0924-06-738) into the 2025 – 2028 TIP using \$2,000,000 of CAT 7 STP MM funds in FY 2025 and amend the project year in the 2023 – 2026 TIP year from FY 2024 to FY 2025 with the change of j. to a. made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Yvette Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously

5. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign a letter indicating the El Paso Metropolitan Organization's concurrence with the following additions to the Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET) Project List:
- a. Sergeant Major Boulevard from Fort Bliss to TX Highway 375
 - b. TX Highway 375 from Sergeant Major Boulevard to Texas Spur 601.

Presenter: Harrison Plourde (EPMPO)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a letter indicating the El Paso Metropolitan Organization's concurrence with the following additions to the Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET) Project List:

- a. Sergeant Major Boulevard from Fort Bliss to TX Highway 375
- b. TX Highway 375 from Sergeant Major Boulevard to Texas Spur 601

made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously

6. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to submit a letter to the General Services Administration (GSA) during the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Modernization of the Bridge of the Americas Land Port of Entry Enhanced Feasibility Study seeking to address MPO concerns with the preferred Alternative #4, and related issues.

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO Executive Director)

- Chairperson, Mayor Oscar Leeser opened Public Comment:
 - 1. Jaime Campos commented.
 - 2. Juan Acebedo commented
 - 3. Manny Rodriguez commented
 - 4. Gerardo Fierro commented
 - 5. Luis Talavera commented
 - 6. Paul Dipp commented
 - 7. Vince Perez commented
- Chairperson, Mayor Oscar Leeser closed Public Comment.

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to submit a letter to the General Services Administration (GSA) during the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Modernization of the Bridge of the Americas Land Port of Entry Enhanced Feasibility Study seeking to address MPO concerns with the preferred Alternative #4, and related issues made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Alderman Walter Miller. Motion passed unanimously

7. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to seek an extension of the GSA public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Modernization of the Bridge of the Americas Land Port of Entry Enhanced Feasibility Study.

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO Executive Director)

Motion to authorize the Executive Director to seek an extension of the GSA public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Modernization of the Bridge of the Americas Land Port of Entry Enhanced Feasibility Study made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Mayor Anthony turner. Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

8. Presentation on Rider 7 Project History

Presenter: Claudia Valles (MPO)

Motion to delete item 8 made by Walter Miller and seconded by Yvette Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously.

9. New Mexico Match Fund

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

10. Executive Director's Report

- a. AMPO update
- b. El Paso MPO Safety Action Plan Update

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (EPMPO Executive Director)

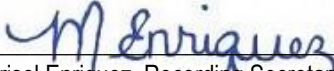
- Iliana Holguin commented

The **next meeting** of the TPB is scheduled for **9:00 a.m.** on **November 15, 2024**, at the at Blue Flame Building, Floor 17 (Center for Community Engagement), 304 Texas Ave, El Paso, TX 79901

6. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 10:55 a.m.

Approved as to content:



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