Laredo Urban Transportation Study

Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee
City of Laredo Council Chambers
1110 Houston St. -Laredo, Texas

MINUTES OF THE JULY 17, 2017 MEETING

I. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Judge Tijerina, Vice- Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

C.M. Alvarez made a motion to **excuse** members absent.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Regular members present:

Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge
Honorable Charlie San Miguel, City Councilmember, District VI
Honorable George Altgelt, City Councilmember, District VII
Honorable Roberto Balli, City Councilmember, District VIII
Pete Alvarez, TxDOT

Regular members absent:

Honorable Pete Saenz, Mayor and LUTS Chairperson
Honorable John Galo, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 3
Honorable Jaime Canales, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 4
Melisa Montemayor, TxDOT

Ex-Officio Members Not Present:

Honorable Richard Raymond, State Representative, District 42
Honorable Judith Zaffirini, State Senator, District 21
Honorable Tracy O. King, State Representative, District 80

Staff (Of Participating LUTS Agencies) Present:

City: Nathan R. Bratton, City Planning/LUTS Staff

Vanessa Guerra, City Planning/LUTS Staff
Angie Quijano, City Planning/LUTS Staff
Claudia San Miguel, Transit, El Metro
Rosa Soto, Transit, El Metro
Joe Jackson, Transit, El Metro
Eduardo Bernal, Transit, El Metro

State: Ana Duncan, TxDOT
Alberto Ramirez, TxDOT
Sara Garza, TxDOT
Mike Graham, TxDOT
Danny Magee, TxDOT

County: Luis Perez Garcia, Webb County Engineering
Guillermo Cuellar, Webb County Engineering

Others: Ruben Soto, Regional Mobility Authority (RMA)
Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB, Inc.
Richard Ridings, HNTB, Inc.
Anthony Garza, Dannenbaum Engineering

II. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL ROLL

Nathan R. Bratton, MPO Director, called roll and verified that a quorum existed.

III. COMMITTEE AND DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

The Chairman encouraged those members of the community with transportation related concerns to come to the MPO Policy Committee meetings and share their thoughts with the full committee.

IV. CITIZEN COMMENT

Speakers are required to fill out witness cards, which must be submitted to MPO Staff no later than 15 minutes after the start of the meeting. Speakers shall identify themselves at the microphone. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a specific issue, they should select not more than three (3) representatives to speak on their behalf. The presiding officer may further limit public comment in the interest of order or time. Speakers may not transfer their minutes to any other speaker. Comments should be relevant to City business and delivered in a professional manner. No derogatory remarks shall be permitted.

V. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION

A. Approval of the minutes for the meeting held on June 19, 2017.

C.M. Altgelt made a motion to **approve** the minutes for the meeting of June 19, 2017.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

B. Discussion with possible action to include High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) lanes for FM 1472 (Mines Road).

C.M. Algelt expressed his support for the implementation of an HOV lane on Mines Road.

Pete Alvarez, District Engineer, stated the implementation of HOV lanes on an on-system roadway must follow the appropriate steps.

C.M. Altgelt asked what steps would be necessary to move forward.

Ruben Soto, RMA Chairman, stated the RMA would gladly offer its assistance and resources in the performance of any required studies

C.M. San Miguel requested a technical report be presented identifying the steps necessary for the implementation of HOV lanes.

C.M. Altgelt made a motion to request TxDOT identify the necessary steps necessary for implementation of HOV lanes on Mines Road.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

C. Discussion with possible action to restripe and/or add Right-of-Way for bicycle routes on FM 1472 (Mines Road).

C.M. Algelt expressed his support for the implementation of bicycle routes on Mines Road.

C.M. Alvarez stated the initial steps would include: identification of project limits, development of a general project scope, and formulation of preliminary cost estimates.

C.M. Altgelt made a motion requesting TxDOT develop a guidance document identifying procedures necessary for the implementation of a pedestrian bike way from Green Ranch to the terminus of Mines Road.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

D. Discussion with possible action to place digital signage on FM 1472 (Mines Road) to notify the driving public of congestion.

C.M. Algelt expressed his support for the installation of intelligent signage to advise those traveling to Mines Road of estimated delays.

C.M. Algelt made a motion directing TxDOT to develop a list of recommended digital/intelligent sign placement locations, cost estimates, and possible revenue sources.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

E. Discussion with possible action on the Laredo Bundle and FAST Lane Grant/INFRA Grant application.

C.M. Alvarez, TxDOT, stated TxDOT in conjunction with the City of Laredo would be re-submitting the grant application. The proposed Laredo bundle would include the construction of 5 overpasses on Loop 20 as well as the construction of a 3rd lane on I-69.

F. Receive public testimony and approve Resolution No. MPO 2017-06, adopting the proposed amendment(s) of the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

1. ***Removal* of project CSJ 0086-14-077 intended to provide for construction of an interchange at the international airport, with an estimated construction cost of $14,785,990. *Rationale*: Latest estimated letting date is fiscal year (FY) 2024, which is outside of the current TIP horizon.**

C.M. Balli made a motion to **open** a public hearing.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

C.M. made a motion to **close** the public hearing and **approve** Resolution No. MPO 2017-06 authorizing for the *Removal* of project CSJ 0086-14-077 intended to provide for construction of an interchange at the international airport, with an estimated construction cost of $14,785,990. *Rationale*: Latest estimated letting date is fiscal year (FY) 2024, which is outside of the current TIP horizon.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

2. ***Removal* of project CSJ 0086-14-078 intended to provide for construction of an interchange from 0.50 miles south of Jacaman Road to 0.50 miles north of Jacaman Road, with an estimated construction cost of $19,691,424. Rationale: The latest estimated letting date is FY 2021, which is outside of the current TIP horizon.**

C.M. Balli made a motion to **open** a public hearing.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

C.M. made a motion to **close** the public hearing and **approve** the *Removal* of project CSJ 0086-14-078 intended to provide for construction of an interchange from 0.50 miles south of Jacaman Road to 0.50 miles north of Jacaman Road, with an estimated construction cost of $19,691,424. Rationale: The latest estimated letting date is FY 2021, which is outside of the current TIP horizon.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

3. ***Administrative Revision* of grouped project CSJ 0922-33-149 intended to provide for the construction of the Chacon Creek Hike and Bike Trail, Phase 3, at Chacon Creek from Eastwood Park to US 59, with a construction**

cost estimate of $1,400,000. Purpose: The letting date is moving from FY 2017 to FY 2019.

C.M. Balli made a motion to **open** a public hearing.

Second: Judge Tijerina
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

C.M. made a motion to **close** the public hearing and **approve** the *Administrative Revision* of grouped project CSJ 0922-33-149 intended to provide for the construction of the Chacon Creek Hike and Bike Trail, Phase 3, at Chacon Creek from Eastwood Park to US 59, with a construction cost estimate of $1,400,000. Purpose: The letting date is moving from FY 2017 to FY 2019.

G. Receive public testimony and approve Resolution No. MPO 2017-07, adopting the 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

C.M. Balli made a motion to **open** a public hearing.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

C.M. made a motion to **close** the public hearing and **approve** Resolution No. MPO 2017-07, adopting the 2018 UPWP.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Judge Tijerina made a motion to **move up** the supplemental agenda item.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

Receive public testimony and initiate a ten-day public review and comment period for the proposed revision of all relevant sections of the 2015-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) per the updated Loop 20/I69 Funding Plan submitted by Webb County and approved by the Policy Committee on June 19, 2017.

Judge Tijerina made motion to **open** a public hearing.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Judge Tijerina made a motion to initiate a ten-day review and comment period for the proposed revision of all relevant sections of the 2015-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) per the updated Loop 20/I69 Funding Plan submitted by Webb County and approved by the Policy Committee on June 19, 2017.

Second: C.M. San Miguel
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

H. Discussion with possible action on Hachar Road.

Mr. Bratton stated there was no update at the time.

VI. REPORT(S) AND PRESENTATIONS (No action required)

A. Presentation by Webb County on the development of a plan to visually demonstrate the physical layout of the Airport overpass designed so as not to encroach on the Armory or the Airport's property.

The item was not discussed due to lack of time.

B. TxDOT report on the status of ongoing construction projects.

The item was not discussed due to lack of time.

C. Status report on the Regional Mobility Authority (RMA).

1. Presentation on the proposed Vallecillo Road's funding sources.

Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB, Inc. gave a brief presentation on the item.

Due to lack of time, Judge Tijerina requested a copy of the presentation to be sent to the Policy Committee members.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

C.M. San Miguel made a motion to **adjourn** the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Second:	C.M. Balli
For:	5
Against:	0
Abstained:	0

Nathan R. Bratton,
MPO Director

Pete Saenz,
Mayor and LUTS Chairperson