

**HIDALGO COUNTY MPO**  
**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, February 23, 2006**

1 **Roll Call**

Chairman Leopoldo Palacios called the meeting to order at 5:45 P.M. The Policy Committee Meeting was held at the TxDOT Offices, 600 West Expressway 83, Pharr, TX. Present were representatives from The Cities of Alamo, Hidalgo, La Joya, McAllen, Mission, Peñitas, Pharr and TxDOT. Also present were Ex-Offio members: LRGVDC Transit, San Juan Economic Development and Weslaco Chamber of Commerce.

2 **Citizen Input**

Chairman Leopoldo Palacios asked if there was any citizen input. There being none, the chairman proceeded on to the next item.

3 **Adoption of Minutes from January 26, 2006**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Chairman Leopoldo Palacios asked if there were any additions or corrections that needed to be made. There being none the chairman asked for a motion of approval. **The City of Mission made a motion for approval of the minutes, The City of Alamo seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

4 **Multi-Modal Contract Consultant Approval**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Andrew A. Canon stated that the approval will allow to begin the negotiation process with the consultant, Wilbur Smith. Wilbur Smith was the only consultant that submitted their proposal to the LRGVDC Procurement department. The proposal was taken to the TAC members and each entity was given a score sheet for the evaluation. After calculating the final scores; Wilbur Smith was selected for the Multi-Modal Study pending on the negotiation outcome. **The City of Alamo made a motion to approve Wilbur Smith as the selected for the Multi-Modal Study pending on the negotiation outcome, The City of La Joya seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

5 **Earmark Projects Submittal to NADO**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Andrew A. Canon stated that at the January Policy meeting the board requested for the MPO to go back to the TAC committee and request for more projects to be submitted. Mr. Canon stated that the TAC members submitted two (2) other projects; which now brings us at a total of four (4) projects. The projects are: 1) Anzalduas Road Extension, 2) Military Parkway Arterial Loop - Phase I (which were approved at the January Policy Meeting) 3) I Rd. and 4) US 83. All four (4) projects were reviewed and approved by the TAC. **The City of Alamo made a motion to approve 4 Earmark Projects: 1) Anzalduas Road Extension, 2) Military Parkway Arterial Loop - Phase I, 3) I Rd., 4) US 83, to be submitted to NADO, The City of Mission seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

6 **Approval of LRP (Construct Phases)**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT, stated that on the attached spreadsheet, we are requesting to swap some projects around; with no change on the funding. The funding was only balance out. The request is to swap Abram Rd for FM492 (Goodwin Rd). **The City of La Joya made a motion of approval to swap project: Abram Rd for FM492 (Goodwin Rd.) in the LRP and approved to balance the funding only, The City of Alamo seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

## 7 CAT 2 Projects Submittal to Austin

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT, stated we want to balance the Mobility funds statewide. One of the restrictions was that we couldn't add any new projects, 2) was to balance statewide every year. A spreadsheet was provided to every member to show which projects will be submitted. The changes varied from: moving up and moving back projects and moving around funds. **The City of Peñitas made a motion to approve the CAT 2 Projects to be submitted to Austin, The City of La Joya seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

## 8 Staff Update

### A. Haz-Mat Update

Mr. Andrew A. Canon stated that the LRGVDC has collected about \$160,000 of the \$180,000. We would like to thank the cities and the county for submitting their portion. We are still pending \$20,000 from some of the other cities. Mr. Canon stated that the MPO has been unsuccessful in having the MPO's in Cameron County to participate on this project. Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT, stated that his office was also unsuccessful. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

### B. Thoroughfare Plan Update

Mr. Andrew A. Canon stated that the final deadline for submittal is Feb. 28th. Those updates that we do not receive, the MPO staff will use the 2030 Long Range Forecast Map. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

### C. Calendar: March & April

FYI: The March TAC meeting will be moved up one week from March 14th to March 7th. Mr. Canon stated that the MPO also met with the City of Reynosa. The MPO has been working really good with our Mexican Counterparts. An invitation is being extended to the City of Reynosa to become an Ex-Offio Member. **Report only.**

## 9 Executive Session

Chairman Leopoldo Palacios stated that the board approve the recommendation and approve a 3% annual increase; to be retroactive to the 1st of the year; for Mr. Andrew A. Canon, Transportation Director for the Hidalgo County MPO. **The City of La Joya made a motion to approve the recommendations and a 3% salary increase for Mr. Andrew A. Canon, Transportation Director, The City of Peñitas seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

## 10 Off System Report

No reports at this time.

## 11 Letting Report

Reports only.

## 12 Old Or New Business

Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT, stated that their will be a Cross Border Transportation meeting in Laredo, Tx. Mr. Canon stated that the HCMPO will be sending 2 employees, Mrs. Champine and Mrs. De La Fuente. Mr. Jorge, TxDOT, stated that there will be a Commission Meeting in Brownville on April 27th. All 3 MPO's (HCMPO, Bville MPO & Harl./ San Benito MPO) will be making one regional presentation.

## 13 Adjourn

**The City of La Joya made a motion to adjourn, The City of Peñitas seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**