

MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010

10:00 A.M., CONFERENCE ROOM A

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson Marlene Gafrick called the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Committee members and staff introduced themselves. A list of Committee representatives and alternates attending today's meeting is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1. There were 37 members in attendance; 16 are required for a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Billy Cook, P.E. made a motion for adoption of the Agenda and Ms. Kim Slaughter seconded the motion. The Committee voted and the motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. James Jackson, P. E. made a motion for approval of the Minutes of the March 17, 2010 meeting and Mr. Ken Fickes seconded the motion. The Committee voted and approved the minutes.

APPROVAL OF FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2010-2011 TAC SUBCOMMITTEES

Mr. Ashby Johnson reviewed the additions and corrections that were submitted from the floor during the March 2010 TAC meeting and confirmed that the changes were in accordance with the TAC by-laws.

Mr. Johnson also informed the committee of two corrections to the TCM/VMEP Development Working Group recommendation list. It was noted that David Gornet should have been shown as the Alternate for Perri D'Armond in lieu of Valerie Ruda and Emily Braswell was removed entirely from the list.

Ms. Perri D'Armond made a motion for approval of the final recommendations and Mr. Mike Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a call for discussion Mr. Jeff Weatherford requested an additional member, Mr. Mike Eretti, be added as a primary representative for the City of Houston. Ms. Perri D'Armond confirmed the original motion with the inclusion of this amendment and it was again seconded by Mr. Mike Wilson. No objections were made.

The following additions/corrections were made to the 2010 TAC Subcommittees rosters:

Operations Task Force – No changes.

Pedestrian & Bicycle Subcommittee – Ian Hlvacek
Cheryl Mergo as Alternate to Jeff Taebel
John O'Malley
John Saavedra

Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee – Rebecca Jasso, United Way of Greater Houston
Michael Worthy, City of Galveston
Rick Beverlin as Alternate to Michael Worthy
James Hoss, Fort Bend Transit
James Hollis, Brazoria County Connect Transit

Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee – No changes.

TCM/VMEP Development Working Group – David Gornet as Alternate

Transportation Demand Management Implementation Subcommittee - No changes.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee:

Mark Loethen
Paulette Shelton, Fort Bend County
Gerald Roberts, Brazoria County
Kevin Sherrod as Alternate to Gerald Roberts
Patricia Joiner as Alternate to Jeff Taebel
Dale Rudick as Alternate to Pat Walsh
Jeff Weatherford as Alternate to Mark Loethen
Mike Hodge, City of Pearland
Rick Beverlin as Alternate to Michael Worthy
Jess Hegemier as Alternate to Paulette Shelton

APPROVAL OF DRAFT FOR 2011-2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Ms. Pat Waskowiak gave a brief recap of how the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) has been handled in the past and explained how less programming revenue is available for the draft 2011-2014 (TIP) than for the current 2008-2011 (TIP). Two funding categories were discussed, the Surface Transportation Metro Mobility (STP-MM), Category 7, and the Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ), Category 5. As a result of less revenue some of the projects programmed in the 2008-2011 (TIP) have been deferred from the 2011-2014 TIP but maintained in the Regional Transportation Plan. Ms. Waskowiak only asked for approval of funding categories 5 & 7 and indicated that a listing of projects for the remaining funding categories was in progress. Ms. Waskowiak also explained that the previous 2008-2011 (TIP) is currently on hold due to fiscal constraint and that no new projects may be added and only certain amendments are being allowed at this time such as for AARA, stimulus, transit and locally funded projects.

In June the TAC and TPC will again be presented the completed (TIP) for a final approval. The approved, final (TIP) will then be submitted to Tx-DOT by June 30, 2010. The Commission is tentively set to approve the state wide (TIP) in September, 2010. Amendments can be made after the 2011-2014 TIP is approved by FHWA. A call for projects may be made later in the year and assessments of all projects for possible removal and/or new additions will be considered.

Mr. Phillip Lujan, P. E., mentioned that the draft 2011-2014 TIP project list showed a project in the Beaumont District that may not have a full funding commitment from the State at this time. Ms. Waskowiak responded by stating that the project was not in the first year of the 2011 TIP and perhaps funding would become available by its projected letting date.

Mr. Alan Clark reminded the Committee that the entire project cost is charged to the STP total letting cap and no benefits are currently received by blending local or state funding sources to the project. Mr. Clark proposed that the (TIP) program of project be approved contingent upon a commitment from the Texas Transportation Commission not to reduce letting caps based upon additional local match or blended state funding which would potentially add \$35 Million Dollars back into the program of projects according to current numbers.

Ms. Maureen Crocker expressed concern about approving the project lists for categories 5 & 7 without having heard a presentation from Metro on the status of the Intermodal Terminal. Ms. Kim Slaughter then gave a brief update on the Intermodal Terminal. Ms. Paulette Shelton made a motion to recommend approval of the program of projects for Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Metro Mobility (STP-MM) to be presented to the TPC for further action. Mr. James Jackson, P.E. seconded the motion. The motion carried with one opposed vote from Ms. Crocker, Intermodal Interests.

APPROVAL OF (JARC) PROJECT PARK AND RIDE

Mr. Kari Hackett asked the TAC for approval of changes in scope and budget of the park and ride lot in Brazoria County being done in partnership with Metro. This project was originally approved for JARC funding last year as a lease purchase option. Metro is now requesting money for the purchase of land to provide the park and ride service and it will involve a transfer of some of the prior approved funding to this land purchase. The purchase price is \$2.7 Million. It is also anticipated that an additional funding request for design and construction will be made.

Mr. Mark Loethen, P.E. questioned why the project changed from a lease purchase option to a regular sale. Ms. Kim Slaughter explained that the owner of the originally selected parcel of land decided not to lease or sell his property. A different parcel of land located on the opposite side of the freeway was found and the owner was only interested in selling the land.

Mr. Ken Fickes made a motion for approval and Mr. Mike Hodge, P.E., seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

JARC ACCESS UPDATE – COLORADO VALLEY TRANSIT

Ms. Vastene Olier gave a brief informational update on the rural transit district serving Austin, Colorado, Waller and Wharton counties. Funding received from H-GAC has allowed Colorado Valley Transit to create a “transit loop” which links towns together in Austin County. Designated routes throughout all these counties assist individuals with transportation needs and give access to jobs and other services within the community. The JARC project was designed for welfare work recipients, the disabled and low income individuals; however, it is a public service and available to everyone.

The Economic Development Corporation in Austin County was commended for providing money to help promote job readiness and retention in the area as well as the development of those routes mentioned. Local funding was used to leverage a \$25,000 challenge grant provided by H-GAC through their economic development corporation. The Texas Workforce supplied some of the match money for this project in addition to providing referrals. The JARC project has been active for the past three years.

Current activities include working with Houston Metro on a van pool program for individuals in rural areas to have access to jobs.

2035 RTP UPDATE – FINANCIAL FORECAST

Mr. Roland Strobel gave an update presentation of the 2035 RTP financial forecast. Mr. Strobel reviewed projected forecasts based off likely scenario assumptions of state and federal revenues. The 2035 RTP was originally adopted in October 2007. The new financial update activity is primarily due to changes in TxDOT's expected revenues which triggered the Federal fiscal constraint guidance. As a result, all MPO's have been asked to submit a new fiscally constrained plan to the State.

REPORT ON STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

H-GAC The 2009 Annual Mobility Report prepared by H-GAC is now ready and available for distribution.

TxDOT A new state Long Range Transportation Plan is currently underway and a public hearing will take place on May 6, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. in the district auditorium at 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas.

CITY OF GALVESTON

At the Transportation- Conference on April 22, 2010 Galveston County voted unanimously to develop the County Transit District. The next step will be a public hearing.

CITY OF HOUSTON

There was no status report from the City of Houston.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The second Fiscal Centers Forum will be held on April 22, 2010. It will be open to the public.

CITY OF SUGAR LAND

There was no status report from the City of Sugarland.

METRO There was no status report from METRO.

RAQPC There was no status report from RAQPC.

BRAZORIA COUNTY

There was no status report from Brazoria County.

HARRIS COUNTY

There was no status report from Harris County.

FORT BEND COUNTY

There was no status report from Fort Bend County.

BCTRA

There was no status report from the BCTRA.

TCEQ

There was no status report from TCEQ.

FUTURE BUSINESS

There was no future business to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- H-GAC will host its annual Fresh Air Friday event in Jones Plaza, 600 Louisiana Street, on Friday, April 16, 2010 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Speakers will include Emcee Jennifer Reyna, KPRC Channel 2, Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, Council Member Anne Clutterbuck, Executive Director of H-GAC Jack Steele, and The Stephen Richard Trio Band.
- The ITS America 20th Annual Meeting & Exposition will be held at the George R. Brown Center on May 3rd – 5th, 2010. Speakers will include Mayor Annise Parker, Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, President and CEO Frank Wilson of Metro, Executive Director of TxDOT Amadeo Saenz Jr., and President of TransCore, John Simler.
- TXDOT will have a 2010 Program Call for projects to be developed under the Pass-Through Finance Program. Deadline for submission of proposals is 3:00 p.m. on May 11, 2010.
- Next TPC Meeting – April 23, 2010, 9:30 a.m., Conf. Room A
- Next TAC Meeting – May 19, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Conf. Room A

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Gafrick adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:45 a.m.

Scott Elmer, P.E., Vice Chairman
Technical Advisory Committee

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2010 MEETING ATTENDANCE ROSTER
04/14/10 at 10:00 a.m.

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>PRESENT *</u>
Sarah Benavides, P.E.	City of Pasadena	(Vacant)	X
Don Brandon, P.E.	Chambers County	Gary Nelson	—
Kelly Carpenter, AICP	City of Baytown	Dick Carter	X
Don Carroll	City of Texas City	(Vacant)	X
Maureen Crocker	Intermodal Interests	Carol Lewis	X
Catarina Gonzales Cron	Environmental & Planning	Billy Cooke, P.E.	X
Perri D'Armond	Citizen & Business Interests	Bob Eury	X
David Douglas	Liberty County	Jimmy Sterling	—
<i>1st Vice Chair</i>			
Scott Elmer, P.E.	City of Missouri City	Valerie Ruda	X
Ken Fickes	Urban Transit	John Saavedra	X
G. Michael Fitzgerald, P.E.	Galveston County	Rod Shaut	—
<i>Chair</i>			
Marlene Gafrick	Environmental & Planning	Mike Kramer	X
D. Jesse Hegemier, P.E.	Fort Bend County	Ron Drachenberg, P.E.	X
Mike Hodge, P.E.	Smaller Cities	Pat B. McLaughlan, P.E.	X
James Jackson, P.E.	Intermodal Interests - <i>Ports</i>	Brenda Trevino, P.E.	X
Jeff Johnson, P.E.	Montgomery County	J. Ross McCall, EIT	X
James Koch, P.E.	TxDOT-Houston District	Rakesh Tripathi, P.E.	X
Mark Loethen	Intermodal Interests	Jack Whaley, P.E.	—

Phillip Lujan, P.E.	TxDOT-Beaumont District	Steven Stafford, P.E.	—
Andy Mao, P.E.	Harris County	Charles Dean, P.E.	X
Clark Martinson	Citizen & Business Interests	David Crossley	X
Luis Nunez	Smaller Cities	Robert Heineman, FAIA	X
John O'Malley	Environmental & Planning	Patricia Knudson Joiner	X
Gerald Roberts, P.E.	Brazoria County	Kevin Sherrod	X
<u>2nd Vice Chair</u>			
Yancy Scott, P.E.	Waller County	Orval Rhoads, P.E.	X
Paulette Shelton	Rural Transit	Vastene Olier	X
Kimberly Slaughter	METRO	Larry Badon	X
Jeff Taebel, FAICP	Environmental & Planning	Steve Howard	X
John Tyler, P.E.	Intermodal Interests	David Gornet	X
Patrick Walsh, P.E.	City of Sugar Land	Dale Rudick, P.E.	X
Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E.	City of Houston	Carol Ellinger, P.E.	X
Mike Wilson	Intermodal Interests	Diane Falcioni	X
Michael Worthy	City of Galveston	Rick Beverlin	X
Bill Zrioka	Intermodal Interests - <i>Airports</i>	Monica Newhouse	X

* Attendance of the Representative is marked with an "X" in the last column; Attendance of the Alternate is marked with an "A."

37 Total Voting Membership

29 Voting Membership Present

16 Required Quorum