

***Bryan/College Station Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Special Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes***

April 6, 2020

**Certification of Quorum:**

The following TAC Members participated: Paul Kaspar, Chair, City of Bryan; Tim Lomax, Vice Chair, TTI-TAMU; Jason Schubert, City of College Station; Prarthana Banerji, Brazos County; Doug Marino, TxDOT-Bryan District; and Wendy Weedon, Brazos Transit District. The following MPO staff participated: Dan Rudge, Bart Benthul, and Lisa Lyon. Additional meeting participants included Peter Lange, Phillip Tindall, Troy Rother, and Nancy Berry.

**1. Welcome and Open Meeting**

Paul Kaspar called to order a special meeting of the MPO Technical Advisory Committee at 1:06 p.m. on April 6, 2020. Because of constraints due to COVID-19, the meeting was hosted by TxDOT and held via WebEx.

**2. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Administrative Change**

The MPO received a request from TxDOT Bryan District to amend the Transportation Improvement Program to show the adjusted cost estimate for the FM 2818 project between Wellborn Road and University Drive. It is a significant increase in funding which automatically triggered a revision to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Mr. Rudge spoke with staff of the Federal Highway Administration on Friday and they believe that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan only needs to go through an administrative change. In order to trigger an official amendment, the federal share has to be increased by at least 50% and at least \$15 million. For this amendment, the 50% threshold was not met and the increase to the federal share was \$14.4 million. Other considerations that would cause an official amendment would be a change to project scope or limits, a change to the CSJ number, and a change to the priority ranking. There was no change to scope or limit and the CSJ number did not change. The priority ranking and inclusion of the project was previously decided as part of the public participation process for the adoption of the plan. While there is an increase to the amount of funding, it is not in Category Two (funding is in Category Four) which is the only funding category the MPO has control over. Since the funds are Category Four, and the other possible triggers are not met, it is acceptable as an administrative change provided TAC members are comfortable with the reasoning used to do an administrative change versus a full blown MTP amendment. The MPO will need to make revisions to the Public Participation Procedures to clearly show what can be done as an administrative change versus a full blown amendment. There was no opposition by TAC members to make the change to the MTP as an administrative change.

**3. FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment VIII**

Doug Marino explained the requested change To FM 2818 Project (Super Street between University Drive and Wellborn Road)

- Increase from approximately \$39 million to \$56.7 million
  - Cost increase from 90% design to 99% design

- Additional funds needed for traffic control during construction to improve safety, address additional drainage concerns and adding sound walls in certain locations
- Total cost increase from estimated \$39 million to \$47.5 million
- Remaining \$9.2 million is needed for the following:
  - Difference between estimate and actual bid letting
  - Contingency
  - Change orders
  - If the actual bid or any unforeseen issues raised the cost of the project we would have to use Category One (Preventive Maintenance and Rehabilitation funds) which is not what these funds are intended for
- The extra \$18 million is made available from Bryan District funds and not MPO controlled funds
  - TxDOT is using Category 4 funds (Statewide Connectivity)
  - Locks in those funds for MPO projects if the extra \$9.2 million is not used on FM 2818
  - Money is being “borrowed” from the future Earl Rudder Freeway project
  - Since the Unified Transportation Program at the State level is a 10-year funding program and the TIP is only four years there is time to “find” funds to replace the money borrowed
- Due to COVID-19 TxDOT and MPOs will have to be more creative in funding projects until the economy and oil/gas revenues return to normal

Wendy made the motion to approve FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Eight as presented and begin the 15-day public comment period. The motion was seconded by Paul Kaspar. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**4. Adjourn**

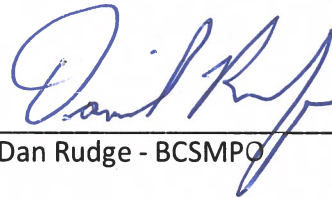
The meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

**ATTEST:**




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Technical Advisory Committee Chair/Vice-Chair  
 Bryan-College Station  
 Metropolitan Planning Organization




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Dan Rudge - BCSMPO

6/10/2020

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Date