

***Bryan/College Station Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Special MPO Policy Board Meeting Minutes***

April 22, 2020

**Certification of Quorum:**

Voting members present were Commissioner Nancy Berry, Chair, Brazos County; Mayor Karl Mooney, Vice Chair, City of College Station; Councilmember Brent Hairston, Member, City of Bryan; Dr. Bill Stockton, Member, Texas A&M Transportation Institute; and Mr. Lance Simmons, Member, TxDOT Bryan District. MPO staff members who participated included Dan Rudge, Bart Benthul, and Lisa Lyon. Additional participants included Prarthana Banerji, Tedi Ellison, Paul Kaspar, Tim Lomax, Doug Marino, Michael Parks, Troy Rother, and Jason Schubert.

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

Commissioner Berry called to order a special meeting of the MPO Policy Board at 2:00 p.m. on April 22, 2020. Because of constraints due to COVID-19, the meeting was hosted by TxDOT and held via WebEX. The meeting opened with the invocation given by Mr. Dan Rudge followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

**2. Public Comments regarding items not on the Agenda**

No public comments were received.

**3. Review and approval of February 26, 2020, Policy Board Minutes**

Minutes from the February 26, 2020, Policy Board Meeting were considered for adoption. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Berry. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hairston. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

**4. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment VIII**

Mr. Rudge provided an overview of the proposed TIP amendment. The amendment is to make modifications to the FM 2818 Project (Super Street between University Drive and Wellborn Road). These modifications include:

- Increase funding 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
  - Actual total cost increase from estimated \$39 million to \$47.5 million but an additional \$9.2 million is being added to ensure project completion

- 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 Phase 2
  - 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

Mayor Mooney made the motion to approve FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Eight as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simmons. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

## 5. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Administrative Change

The rules for making an amendment to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan are different than the rules for making an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program. Our Public Participation Procedures require that if a TIP amendment is over \$1.5 million it has to be through an official TIP amendment. When it comes to the MTP the requirement is that project cost increases by 50% in the federal share and more than \$15 million. This revision can be done as an administrative change because we did not change the project scope or limits, and we did not meet the two-part federal share requirement of 50% or greater than \$15 million (the TIP Amendment was \$14.4 million). The vetting for this project was done during the MTP update process, and we did not change any of the MTP fiscal constraint because we are using Category Four money which TxDOT controls and not Category Two funds which were the sole funds used to fiscally constrain our Metropolitan Transportation Plan for FY2020-F2024. Therefore, it was allowable to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to submit it as an administrative change, and staff submitted it on April 17, 2020.

## 6. Adjourn

The Policy Board meeting was adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

*Nancy Harvey*

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MPO Policy Board Chair or Vice-Chair  
Bryan-College Station  
Metropolitan Planning Organization

*6-6-20*

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Date

**ATTEST:**

*Dan Rudge*

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Dan Rudge - BCSMPO