



Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2010

Voting Members Present:

Dean Danos
Renee Green, P.E.
Trish Wallace, AICP
Christina Delacruz, P.E.
Manuel Longoria
Blake Partridge
Ken Zigrang
Christina Castaño-Perez

Alamo Area Council of Governments
Bexar County
City of San Antonio Planning Department
City of San Antonio Public Works Department
Greater Bexar County Council of Cities
Northeast Partnership
Texas Department of Transportation
VIA Metropolitan Transit

Voting Members Absent:

Richard LaBiche

Private Transportation Providers

Others Present:

Richard Higby
Mary Frances Teniente
Marcus Hammer
Scott Ericksen
Jeanne Geiger
Zack Graham
Lydia Kelly
Stephanie Lee
Cecilio Martinez
Heather Evans
Jason Rodriguez

Bexar County
Bexar County
City of San Antonio
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Metropolitan Planning Organization
TCEQ
VIA Metropolitan Transit

Renee Green called the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Jeanne Geiger called roll. A quorum was present.

2. Citizens to be Heard

There were none.

3. Approval of the February 5, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Blake Partridge moved and Manny Longoria seconded the motion to approve the February 5, 2010 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Update of VIA Metropolitan Transit's Long Range Comprehensive Transportation Plan and Streetcar Project

Christian Castaño-Perez provided a brief update on VIA's Long Range Comprehensive Transportation Plan and Jason Rodriguez provided an overview of the Streetcar Feasibility Study, the Urban Circulator Grant process including funding availability from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Rodriguez showed slides comparing nodal development typically associated with light rail to linear transit-oriented development patterns associated with the streetcar project. Moreover, Rodriguez provided examples of the Pearl District and the South Water Front in Portland, Oregon and compared development in relation to Streetcar Line. Rodriguez explained the streetcar vision plan from East-West alignment (EW1a option), and the North-South alignment (NS-1a option). He stated the North-South Starter Line had an estimated total of \$90 M which included contingency.

The Federal Urban Circulator Grant Award announcements are scheduled for June 30th and VIA is looking at completing its Long Range Plan in the summer of 2010.

For information and discussion only.

Items were taken out of order:

8. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the Development of the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program

Jeanne Geiger distributed and reviewed a status report on the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Dean Danos asked if the previously submitted projects for potential Job Access Reverse Commute and New Freedom grant funding would be included in the new TIP. Geiger stated she would convene a subcommittee of TAC members to score the projects.

For information and discussion only. No action is being requested at this time.

Items returned to order:

5. Discussion and Appropriate Action on a Demonstration of the MPO's Transportation Data Retrieval and Display System

Cecilio Martinez presented information about the MPO's Strategic Geospatial Coordination Committee (SGCC) and demonstrated the MPO's web-based Transportation Data Retrieval and Display System.

Martinez presented the SGCC's membership and purpose. He stated the committee's goals were to promote and authorize formalize partnerships for GIS to support business processes, sharing the cost of acquiring and distributing GIS related data, and data sharing. The data sharing effort will include a survey of agencies to document needs and available data sets within the SGCC membership.

Martinez briefly explained the proposed SGCC survey. This survey will capture existing data and data needs. Furthermore, the ArcGIS server makes it easy for organizations to share mapping services and applications across the web connecting more people to more information. The ArcGIS server publishes Web mapping applications and services based to the audience needs.

The Geocortex Essentials is the third party application that integrates with the ArcGIS Server technology to create a high end Web mapping application such as the bike maps, transportation data maps, and Crash Records used in the Safety Study.

Martinez summarized the benefits of the MPO's Transportation Data Retrieval and Display System. He stated the MPO staff has the applications and the experience to develop the system and has the capability of customizing applications in house, and the GIS Network is established and moving towards greater data sharing efforts.

Martinez stated the MPO will work towards simplifying the display to focus on the user and will keep site updated with new transportation related data as it becomes available. Renee Green asked that this item be brought back in April so TAC could see the improvements to the system.

For information and discussion only. No action is being requested at this time.

6. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the MPO's Safety Study

Cecilio Martinez and Stephanie Lee provided a brief review of the MPO's Safety Study and the Texas Crash Records Information System (CRIS). The CRIS data includes TxDOT's crash information from 2007 and 2008. The 2009 data is expected to be available in July 2010.

Lee stated the study is part of a safety planning program that will identify problem areas in the region. A multi-agency committee has been formed to help guide the process. The committee is comprised of representatives from the Alamo Area Council of Governments, Bexar County, City of San Antonio, San Antonio Police Department (SAPD), VIA Metropolitan Transit and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

Martinez reviewed the variables available in the crash dataset and presented some of the applications the MPO has used the data for to date. These applications include intersection crash data requests from SAPD, supporting information for the MPO Bicycle Safety Grant application, and the Transportation Safety Survey given at the Walkable Community Workshops.

The MPO will coordinate with TxDOT as far as to what information can be provided to other agencies.

For information and discussion only.

7. Discussion and Appropriate on Amendments to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (long range transportation plan) and the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (short range plan)

Jeanne Geiger stated the transit amendments were included in the meeting package for review. The FTA Urban Circulator grant VIA is applying for the Streetcar Project requires that the project be included in the TIP in order to be considered for funding. Additionally, the City of San Antonio is requesting to split their Intelligent Transportation Systems project into two parts; one part is scheduled to go to contract in FY 2010 and the balance would likely go to contract in 2012.

For information and discussion only. Action is scheduled for April 2010.

9. Announcements

Trish Wallace mentioned that the Metropolitan Health District received a Complete Streets Grant and she will provide a more detailed update at the next TAC meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.



Renee D. Green
Renee Green, P.E.

Chair

Technical Advisory Committee