



April 26, 2010

To: All Members, Transportation Policy Board

From: Sid Martinez

Subject: Director's Report

- 1. FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Public Listening Sessions** – the MPO will be hosting three public listening sessions as we prepare for the adoption of the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on May 17th. The three sessions will be similar in format and content and all will be held in the Community Room at the VIA Metro Center located at 1021 San Pedro. Meeting dates and times are:

- Tuesday, May 4th, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, May 6th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 8th, from 9:00 a.m. to noon

In order to reach a broader audience and increase citizen participation in the public involvement process, we will also be providing an enhanced online experience in order to solicit comments through our website at www.sametroplan.org.

- 2. TxDOT's Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan public meeting** The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration will host two series of open house-style public meetings for the development of the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035. This plan will establish a framework for addressing the challenges of our aging infrastructure, urban densification, and a growing population through 2035. The plan will also address the need for improvements to all modes of transportation including roadways, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, transit, freight rail, passenger rail, airports, water ports, pipelines, and Intelligent Transportation Systems.

The purpose of this first series of meetings is to present an overview of the project and to solicit comments and input to aid in the development of the plan. Information will be available for viewing at the meetings including exhibits and videos about the planning process. Representatives from TxDOT will be in attendance to discuss the development of the plan and answer questions. Forms will be provided for submitting written comments.

The open-house style public meeting in the San Antonio area will be held on Wednesday, May 12, 2010, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 pm at the VIA Metro Center Board Room located at 1021 San Pedro.

Written comments will be accepted on the project website at: www.txdot.gov, by e-mail at: (TPP_txtranplan@dot.state.tx.us), or by mail to Peggy Thurin, P.E., Project Manager, Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035 4544 Post Oak Place, Suite 224 Houston, Texas, 77027. For more information please contact Laura Lopez at (210) 615-5839.

3. **Walk & Roll Fest** - The 14th Annual Walk & Roll Fest will be held on Saturday, May 15th from 8:00 a.m. to noon at HemisFair Park under the arches at Alamo and Nueva Streets. The Fest highlights healthy and smart transportation alternatives. Local dignitaries will speak at 10:30 a.m., exhibitors will be set-up throughout the day and a live band will play from 8:00 a.m. until noon.
4. **The May Transportation Policy Board meeting will be moved to Monday, May 17th at 1:30 p.m. at the VIA Metro Center**
5. **Pass through Financing Proposals are due to TxDOT by 3:00 p.m. on May 11, 2010** - Pass-through financing is a tool the state created to stretch already limited tax highway dollars and to allow communities to fund upfront costs for constructing a state highway project. The state then reimburses a portion of the project cost to the community over time based on the number of vehicles using the new facility. Projects must be on the state highway system to be eligible to be developed under this program. TxDOT issued a call for projects on March 12th. The deadline for submission of proposals is 3:00 p.m. on May 11, 2010.
6. **Traffic Signal Re-timing Study V Request for Proposals will be issued on Monday, May 24th; the contract award is scheduled for the July Transportation Policy Board meeting** – the formation of the project oversight committee is on the consent agenda for today under item #8. This is part of a larger program of traffic signal re-timing studies funded over the past nine years by the MPO on behalf of the City of San Antonio.
7. **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Project Cost Underruns** – as discussed at the March Transportation Policy Board meeting, both the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority and VIA Metropolitan Transit have requested using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) cost underruns for projects. Attached is a copy of a letter from VIA, which has been sent to all of you, stating their support for the Loop 1604 Superstreet Project. VIA has requested that their transit projects be considered with any remaining ARRA underrun funds once this important regional project has been funded. However, at this time the underrun amount is not known. It is expected that as more projects are let over the next few weeks we will better know the amount of underruns. We hope to bring this item back for action at the May Transportation Policy Board meeting.