



July 26, 2010

**To:** All Members, Transportation Policy Board

**From:** Sid Martinez

**Subject:** Director's Report

- 1. Continuing Phase Agreement Agency Approval Status Update** – In April, the Board took action to approve changes to the MPO Policies (bylaws), which required changes to the MPO's Continuing Phase Agreement between Bexar County, the City of San Antonio, VIA Metropolitan Transit and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). In order for the changes to that agreement to become effective, all four signatory agencies to the agreement must approve and sign that document. Bexar County and the City of San Antonio have both taken action and signed the document. VIA Metropolitan Transit has taken action and will sign the document next. After it's executed by VIA, the document will be sent to TxDOT. Once all signatures are finalized, each signatory agency to the agreement will receive an original for their files.
- 2. Development of the Pedestrian Action Safety Plan** – the MPO, through the City of San Antonio Metro Health Department, was recently awarded \$175,000 for the development of a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. The federal funding source is through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 – "Prevention and Wellness – Communities Putting Prevention to Work" program. The product of this effort will be a reference for improving pedestrian safety through street redesign and the use of engineering techniques as well as other safety-related treatments and programs that involve the entire community. The MPO's Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee will serve as the study oversight committee for the plan development. Other stakeholders will be invited to participate. The consultant procurement process will begin soon with the contract award likely to occur at the October TPB meeting.

In another partnership with the MPO, the City of San Antonio will be submitting a "Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant" application. The grant program is being administered through a joint effort between HUD and the US Department of Transportation. The goal of the program is to support metropolitan and multi-jurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments. The application deadline is August 23, 2010 and applications will be accepted from consortiums only. The consortium, at a minimum, must include

the principal city, MPO, or the regional planning agency, and a nonprofit organization, foundation, or educational institution within the region that has the capacity to engage a diverse representation of the general population. In order to formalize the consortium, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be executed by the consortium. In order to meet the application deadline, I as the MPO Director or Commissioner Adkisson, as the MPO Chair will execute the MOA on behalf of the MPO and bring it back for ratification by the entire board at the next TPB meeting.

- 3. SAMCO State of the District Luncheon** – SAMCo has announced its next Transportation Leadership Program Series event, the Sixth Annual State of the District luncheon. The luncheon will be held on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Pearl Stable, 200 E. Grayson St. For registration information please contact Leslie Harlan via email at [lharlan@samcoinc.org](mailto:lharlan@samcoinc.org) or by calling 688-4407 ext. 11.

The program is titled *“From the Capital City to the Alamo City, the TxDOT Perspective”*. Mr. Amadeo Saenz, Jr., TxDOT Executive Director, and Mr. Mario Medina, TxDOT San Antonio District Engineer will be addressing a number of topics including TxDOT accomplishments and future plans from a statewide as well as local perspective.

- 4. Potential cancellation of the August 2010 Transportation Policy Board meeting** – we have received several requests to cancel the August TPB meeting. Agencies will be fully into their budget processes and we have not identified any pressing agenda items at this time. MPO staff will work with the Chair as the meeting date approaches and will let all of you know as soon as a decision is made.
- 5. MPO staff budget scheduled for adoption in September** – as is our normal annual custom the MPO’s line item (or staff) budget will be agendized for review and approval at your September meeting. The Executive Committee will meet sometime in late August or early September to make a recommendation to the board. As a reminder, members of the Executive Committee include MPO Chair and Bexar County Commissioner Tommy Adkisson, Vice-Chair and City of San Antonio Councilman John Clamp, Bexar County Commissioner Sergio “Chico” Rodriguez, City of San Antonio Councilman Ray Lopez, City of Leon Valley Mayor Chris Riley, TxDOT District Engineer Mario Medina and VIA Board Member Mary Briseño.