

**Webb County – City of Laredo
Regional Mobility Authority (RMA)
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2015
9:00 AM**

Minutes

The Webb County – City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority Board of Directors convened in a meeting at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Office in the Laredo District Meeting Room, 1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, TX.

Minutes are as follows:

Present: Ruben Soto, Jr., Chairman and Presiding Officer; Paul Saenz, Albert Muller, Sr., Jose Murillo, Alfonso Mendiola, Steve LaMantia, Oscar Lopez and Arturo Dominguez.

Absent: Board Member for Precinct 1 (Unassigned)

Others: Melisa Montemayor, TxDOT District Administrator
Danny Magee, TxDOT Traffic Operations Director
Mike Graham, Environmental Coordinator, TxDOT Laredo District
Marissa Montoya, Office Technician, TxDOT Laredo District (Registration, Note taker)
Araceli Rangel, Staff Assistant, CPA Office of Ruben Soto, Jr. (Note taker)
Brian O'Reilly, Locke Lord, LLP (Legal Counsel)
Richard Ridings - HNTB
Nathan Bratton, MPO (Speaker)
Rolando Ortiz, Killam Development (Speaker)
Juan Cruz, J. Cruz & Associates, LLC (Legal Counsel)

1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer, Ruben Soto, Jr., called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. He then announced the following Board Members present; Steve LaMantia, Jose Murillo, Albert Muller, Sr., Oscar Lopez, Alfonso Mendiola, Paul Saenz and himself, Ruben Soto, Jr. He notified everyone present that the meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, then asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Ruben Soto (WC-CL RMA Presiding Officer)

Chairman Soto informed all present that the meeting was being recorded and thanked TxDOT for hosting. He thanked Melisa Montemayor, TxDOT Laredo District

Administrator, Mike Graham, Marissa Montoya and Araceli Rangel for assisting with the minutes and preparations for the meeting. He asked Mike Graham if anyone had signed up for public comments. Mr. Graham stated that no one signed up for public comments.

3. Action Item: Discussion, Consideration, and Approval of August 17, 2015 WC-CL RMA Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Chairman Soto stated that the Board Members had been supplied a copy of the August 17, 2015 meeting minutes for review. He then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Webb County - City of Laredo RMA meeting that took place on August 17, 2015 as presented.

Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Paul Saenz to approve the meeting minutes. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Report: Introduction of Planning Committee

Chairman Soto stated that at the beginning of the year, he commenced to establish a Planning Committee. Effective September 9, 2015, the Webb County - City of Laredo RMA has a Planning Committee in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 13 of the WCCL-RMA Bylaws. A written description of the Planning Committee shall be entered in the official records of the Authority. The Planning Committee is an Ad hoc committee intended to exist until February 1, 2016 unless extended by the Chair of the Board of Directors. The Planning Committee is tasked with considering Right of Way acquisition and other issues related to the development of operation of the WCCL-RMA projects, and making appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors. Meetings may be called by the Chair, Committee Co-Chair, or any two members of the Committee. The Planning Committee is composed of the following members:

Board of Directors Members include:

Oscar Lopez, Co-Chair

Ruben Soto, Ex-Officio Member

Albert Muller, Sr.

Steve LaMantia

Non-Director Members include:

Viviana Frank, Co-Chair

Howard Moreno

Carlos Flores

The alternate member will be Paul Saenz. Mr. Soto then thanked everyone for accepting. The Planning Committee will not take any action; only recommendations to the Board.

Please view attached document for additional information.

5. Action Item (Resolution 15-04): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Ratify Approval to Solicit a Request for Proposals for Bank Depository Services

Chairman Soto stated that before they open a bank account, the RMA had to apply for an EIN number, which was done and a number was assigned and thereby official with the IRS. The next step was to issue an RFP to banks selected by Executive Committee. The Executive Committee approved to submit the request for proposal and was issued on September 15, 2015, with a response deadline of September 24, 2015. The RFP was issued to the following banks: Compass Bank, Wells Fargo, Plains Capitol, Falcon and Commerce Bank. Mr. Soto stated that as of today he has yet to receive a response. He then asked for a motion to ratify the issuance of the request for proposal for bank depository services.

Oscar Lopez made a motion, seconded by Albert Muller, Sr. to ratify the issuance of the request for proposal for bank depository services. Mr. Alfonso Mendiola asked if this motion was to let out the contract. Mr. Soto then responded that they cannot just pick a bank; they would have to go through the process of reviewing RFP's. Mr. Soto asked if there was any more discussion. No further discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached document for additional information.

Chairman Soto stated, for the record, Mr. Arturo Dominguez arrived at the WCCL-RMA meeting at 9:08 a.m.

6. Action Item (Resolution 15-05): Discussion, Consideration And Possible Action To Approve an Agreement for General Consultant Civil Engineering Services with HNTB

Chairman Soto said that the Executive Committee met with the attorney, Juan Cruz, Brian Cassidy and with Brian O'Reilly to discuss the GEC agreement that was put forth before the RMA Board. After several revisions, they have a finalized agreement on hand. Mr. Soto then asked Brian O'Reilly to explain to the Board Members the areas that were not in agreement and how it was resolved. Mr. O'Reilly stated that it was a five year term and the RMA has the right to terminate the agreement with or without cause. Any fees in the agreement or the scope of any work is done by individual work authorizations, so this will give the Board the opportunity to review and approve all work that is done by the GEC and all fees. If any payments to the GEC are subject to a TxDOT grant and TxDOT refuses to pay it for any reason, the RMA will not be liable for the payment to the GEC. Mr. Soto stated that all the issues were resolved, and the Executive Committee was in favor of those changes. The Executives Committee's recommendation is to accept the Agreement. Mr. Soto then asked for a motion to approve the Agreement for the General Engineering Consulting Services with HNTB.

Paul Saenz made a motion, seconded by Albert Muller, Sr. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached document for additional information.

7. Action Item (Resolution 15-06): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action To Approve Work Authorization No. 1 With HNTB for Development of the WC-CL RMA Strategic Plan

Chairman Soto stated that HNTB has submitted a proposed work authorization for review. He stated that they are going to have the Executive Committee meet and discuss, in detail, the contents and report back to the Board. The scope of services and what is within budget were to be reviewed. Mr. Soto said they will get back with the Board and give them a report.

Oscar Lopez made a motion, seconded by Jose Murillo to table the discussion until the next meeting. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached document for additional information.

8. Report: Update on the Status of Financial Advisor agreement

Chairman Soto stated that the Executive Committee will meet with legal counsel on September 24th to review the Agreement that has been presented and hopefully come to terms before the next meeting. They are going to look at it the same way they looked at the GEC contract. They are going to review, make recommendations to the Board and finalize the Agreement. They are going to meet at 2:30pm at Mr. Ruben Soto's office.

9. Action Item (Resolution 15-07): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Amend the WC-CL RMA Policy Manual

Chairman Soto stated that the Policy Manual has been revised to include the travel expense clause. Mr. Soto asked Brian O'Reilly what they should expect to see next from the policy. Brian stated that the investment policy would be coming up next. Mr. Soto then asked for a motion to approve the new WC-CL RMA Policy Manual, as presented.

Alfonso Mendiola made a motion, seconded by Albert Muller, Sr. to approve the WC-CL RMA Policy Manual. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached for additional information.

10. Report: Update on the status of projects in the TxDOT Laredo District - Melisa D. Montemayor (TxDOT Laredo District Administrator and Staff)

Mr. Soto then asked Melisa Montemayor to update the Board on the upcoming projects.

Please view attached PowerPoint presentation for additional information.

Oscar Lopez commented that if you are going South on Loop 20 and you come over that KCS bridge, the exit is right away if you are not looking for it. Mrs. Montemayor clarified that it's the one that goes to Hebbronville. Mr. Lopez asked if the exit was going to be before the bridge or

if it was going to be in the same spot. Mrs. Montemayor responded that the ramp was going to be in the same spot. They have looked into moving the sign a further up to give earlier warnings before that exit.

Regarding the area where there is a connector to 359 from Loop 20. In the future, direct connectors could be possible if traffic patterns are consistent with that and if they have the construction dollars to do so. Last year voters voted in favor of proposition 1 funding and the Laredo District received 48 million dollars. Our District covers 8 counties, last year the majority of the 48 million dollars was put into the Laredo District, Webb County projects. The frontage roads at KCS, the widening of that overpass and grade separation at Loop 20-International was estimated at 23 million dollars. The next interchange is going to be let this December and, again, the estimate is 23 million dollars for International.

Mr. Albert Muller, Sr. asked when the Loop 20-I35 was going to start. Mrs. Montemayor responded that the east and west bound main lanes over 35 would let in August 2016. That's a 40 million dollar project. Mr. Muller stated that north and south bound are not on the books coming off of Loop 20. Mrs. Montemayor said the direct connector is not on the books, but it is needed. She said it was in TxDOT's long range plan, but it's not one of the projects that is financially constraint today. Mr. Steve LaMantia asked if those direct connectors were considered shovel ready. Mrs. Montemayor stated that they are not considered shovel ready. Mr. Lopez asked if that project was going to let in August 2016, when was construction scheduled to start. Mrs. Montemayor stated that construction would start three months after the let date. The total for those projects are about 75 and a half million dollars. They are various projects along I69, Loop 20 that are needed such as overpasses. They are not financially constraint, but they are in the RMA's list of priority projects to get done on Loop 20 / I69. That is 120 million dollars' worth of projects, just in construction. Mr. Soto asked for the status of the financial analysis study. Mrs. Montemayor stated that TxDOT has a special projects office that is working to get the report on a financial plan to tackle Loop 20 / I69 improvement. For your review, it would have an option for tolling, vehicle registration fees, SIB loans and many financing options to tackle the Loop 20 projects. Right now they are trying to get information on traffic data, so there is a travel demand model that belongs to the Laredo MPO. It's that information that they are trying to get data from. They want the most accurate numbers. The more accurate they are on the traffic, the more accurate the report will be, so they are trying to retrieve information from the travel demand model to give you the most up to date report.

Mr. Soto asked about the traffic study on Mines Road. Mrs. Montemayor said they have a study with Texas Transportation Institute on Mines Road. Phase 1 is complete, which suggest adjusting signals on the existing facility. Phase 2 is underway right now. That Phase is going to be looking at what type of improvements within Mines Road, Right of Way can be done; i.e. deceleration / acceleration lanes, turn lanes, or extending lanes that are there right now. They expect Phase 2 to be complete within the next 60 days, then they will begin Phase 3, looking at parallel and alternative routes to Mines Road that would help the congestion. That's also going to look at Vallecillo and Hachar to see what type of traffic relief to Mines Road those two roads would have. Phase 3 would be a year from now, around September.

Mr. Muller asked when the traffic light study or readjustment was going to begin. Mrs. Montemayor stated that the study was complete. They took action at the MPO to devote \$600,000 of CBI money that's connected to that I35-Loop 20 Project, to take that and devote

it to adjusting the traffic signals, not only on Mines Road, but those that are needed throughout the City of Laredo. The traffic department should be making some progress on that contract. Mr. Nathan Bratton stated that there was still an issue with the matching side of it. Many times there is a 20% match. Mrs. Montemayor stated that in an economically disadvantaged county like Webb, CBI dollars are 80% federal and 20% local if its off-system or 20% state if it's on a state facility. That will be part of the AFA, but the City traffic department will be working on a contract to let those projects out for bid and to spend that \$600,000 to upgrade those traffic signals. Whatever the study suggests that they do will help move traffic along here in Laredo. It's within the entire city; it's not just on Mines Road. It should have a positive impact on the community.

Mr. Paul Saenz asked what studies do they have, since Mrs. Montemayor stated that studies were being prepared on Mines Road for parallel routes. He asked what alternatives exist to Vallecillo or any other project out there, and is it going to do what we want it to do. He stated that he assumed the studies would show the percentage of traffic, where it will be going and how to alleviate the traffic on Mines Road. Mrs. Montemayor stated that was the exact information that they were asking TTI to provide everyone. When Vallecillo and Hachar open up, independent of each other, how much of the Mines Road traffic will be diverted to Vallecillo and Hachar, respectively. That's going to give you an idea of the benefits of each. A lot of it depends on land development, the existing infrastructure, the industrial portion that's out there. They have talked with some of the local forwarding agencies and custom brokers. They are trying to get a feel of what are some traffic generators. They mentioned Mines Road, that's a huge traffic generator because of Millennium and all industrial parks that are out there. That goes into the study also, as far as where the trucks are crossing, but where they are going as well. They look at what percentage is long haul and what percentage is drayage, and that's going to determine how many of those vehicles take Vallecillo and Hachar. She stated that is why they wanted to incorporate the traffic demand model and be able to utilize the data from that model. Mr. Saenz asked if the report will have any information as to any alternative routes besides those two. Mrs. Montemayor stated that it would look at parallel routes also, so they will look at routes that are between Mines Road and I35, parallel to Mines Road and maybe look at what's available between Mines Road and the river.

11. Report: Discussion Regarding Bicycle Transit System as an Alternative Form of Transportation in Webb County

Chairman Soto stated that Mr. Arturo Dominguez added this topic to the agenda. Mr. Dominguez stated that in regards to the traffic congestion on Mines Road; he sits on both the US Customs Brokers and the Freight Forwarders Board and it is a concern and are looking for alternative modes of transportation. The Metro now has a route towards Mines Road. He stated that he was looking into the Hike and Bike trail that the valley had recently constructed. We have to look at other modes of transportation because there is 112 thousand trucks that were imported in February of this year plus the ones going out. There are enough trucks there that we have to find another way to get to Mines Road. Maybe we can start a type of bicycle transit system.

Mr. Soto asked Mrs. Montemayor when they do those studies, do they take that into consideration, shared paths or the like. Mrs. Montemayor stated that the studies that are being conducted right now are much too detailed and are looking at the big picture. She then stated

that she met with Mr. Dominguez and they have developed a bicycle map that incorporates all the routes that the local bicycle groups are using today. One of the issues that came up from Mr. Dominguez is what they use on the shoulders impacts the riders, so the type of aggregate that they use to pave the shoulder or to maintain the shoulders is crucial to the quality their rides. With the path that they have ironed out with Mr. Dominguez and his group and the bicycle groups in Laredo, now they can move forward. If they have to maintain or do any type of major rehabilitation or reconstruction on a roadway shoulder, they are going to make an effort to use a smaller rock so that it's a better riding experience for them. Statewide that is something that TxDOT has incorporated into many communities. Now that the route is known, they can work with the local bicyclists, creating a safer environment. For Loop 20-I69 that's something that's in the plans, but when it comes to the studies that they are doing now for Mines Road and Vallecillo, those are looking strictly at traffic relief, reducing congestion, and increasing mobility. They are not looking into bicycle routes in those studies; it's not something that can't be looked at. The scope of this study did not include that.

Mr. Dominguez stated that AT&T helped get the valley a type of grant and they might be able to help us out with that.

Mr. LaMantia stated that the bicycle routes are within 'dead areas' in the valley. They have a bike and hike trail in McAllen that's 10 miles long, in Houston they did it on Memorial Parkway and they also did it in Dallas in part of the right of way by the train tracks. He asked if a bicycle road would be done in a 'dead area.' Richard Ridings, from HNTB, stated that in Austin, on Loop 1/Mopac, as part of the RMA project; they are building a parallel bike lane that goes all the way down the right of way within Mopac from north of 183 to downtown Austin and connects to the hike and bike trail. It varies from city to city. We have seen an increase in bike ridership for people going to work which is a change that started to take place all over the world. As part of the planning for all these facilities, what Mrs. Montemayor is saying is you are going to have to incorporate that phase of the planning and look at 20 years from now. You have to look at the strong work centers and strong residential centers. It is reasonable to expect people to ride a bicycle from the residential area to work as opposed to taking a car. What HNTB will be doing for the RMA is identifying, planning and making provisions for it, whether its long term or short term and identifying that as part of your traffic planning schedules.

12. Report: Discussion Regarding Illumination of Loop 20

Mr. Dominguez stated that there are sections of Loop 20 that have no illumination and it is dangerous if someone should have a mechanical problem. Especially driving on a curb, that can be dangerous since a person can only see so far ahead. He asked if they were involved in that part of the illumination of Loop 20. Mrs. Montemayor stated that they have safety lighting in various areas of Loop 20. She said they are constantly looking for areas of improvement. If there are areas that look unsafe, then they can include safe lighting. Continuous lighting down Loop 20 would be something the City of Laredo could look at. She asked Mr. Dominguez if there was a particular area he was talking about. Mr. Dominguez replied that it was mostly in the curved areas of the street. Mr. Murillo said it was mostly from Jacaman to Del Mar, the light at TAMIU and from TAMIU to Del Mar. Mr. Soto asked if it was something they could look into and implement now and not have to tear down when they eventually do the highway. Mrs. Montemayor stated that if there was truly a safety concern with lighting, then they

wouldn't wait. If its safety lighting, then TxDOT can make the decision to put up lights in some areas on Loop 20, if it was continuous lighting, then they would have to work with City of Laredo. If it was something that is wanted and not something safety related then they would have to work with the City of Laredo. Mr. Soto asked what they would look at in determining whether those lights are needed. Mr. Danny Magee stated that if there is a location to where they have numerous accidents happening, then they could take a look at that, and if lighting will be something that could fix that, then they could put the lights that are needed for that. If this is because an area is dark and there is nothing that shows a problem, then that would qualify as continuous lighting. The City of Laredo would have the authority to do that, not TxDOT. If we do continuous lighting then only certain highways qualify for that, I35, Loop 20 would qualify for that, but there are two types of contracts that they do with the city. They don't just put up the lighting and that's it, the city would have to agree to either pay for half of the construction cost, or TxDOT would pay half and they both pay for half of the electricity or TxDOT builds it and the city would pay for the electricity. There are different variations. Mr. Soto asked what would be the initial step to look into something like that. Mr. Magee stated that if a citizen has a concern on a location then he would look into it. Mrs. Montemayor stated that they can meet with Mr. Dominguez and identify exactly where, then they can look at it in terms of safety.

13. Report: Update on Vallecillo Road Project

Mr. Dominguez asked if there was a chart of the project and how long it would take for the studies. Mrs. Montemayor stated that Vallecillo is being locally developed in conjunction with the developer and the city. The MPO and the RMA took action to prioritize that project as well. As far as TxDOT, they are determining the relief of traffic off of Mines Road. She stated that Mr. Ortiz with Killam was in attendance and he gave a presentation at the MPO meeting a few months ago and he might be able to give an update on Vallecillo. Mr. Soto first stated that this was something that the RMA voted on to take on as their first project, besides the Loop 20 over I35 lanes. It went through the Board and they voted on it. It went to the MPO and they voted for it and it was decided that the RMA would take the lead on that project. Mr. Soto stated that they should start working on that project now. They have some funds available and that's why they are going to hire consultants to advise them on how to use those funds or what sources of funds are available to do that. The Board already voted on that and he doesn't think they would wait.

Mr. Rolando Ortiz stated that in regards to the discussion on the congestion on Mines Road, it was mentioned at the City Council meeting that Vallecillo was on their master plan for several years.

Please view attached map for additional details.

Mr. Soto asked Mrs. Montemayor about the access road on IH 35. Should people want to go north on 35, do the cross over and utilize Vallecillo Road going towards Mines Road, is it possible to make the access road two ways. Mrs. Montemayor stated that whenever you make changes to the interstate, then they have to coordinate with the Federal Highway Administration and they have to have the appropriate public involvement, for example, they have a similar case, going from two-way to one-way, proposed by the Border Patrol at the check station at north I35. The Border Patrol wanted to make the frontage road one-way

instead of two-way, so TxDOT asked the Federal Highway Administration and they asked for public involvement. When they held the public meeting, the majority of the landowners for that area said they did not want a one way frontage road. Since the majority wanted to keep the two-way road, the Federal Highway Administration kept it as is. This situation would be similar to that as in they would have to get public involvement and get the majority for a two-way. Because it is an interstate, they have to go through a federal process and they have to designate limits and how the circulation is going to work. They have to do a study on traffic numbers to see how they would expect traffic numbers to change, more or less congestion and take that to the federal government, as well as the public meeting hearing summary.

Mr. Saenz questioned, in regards to his concern on Vallecillo. What was the information that was provided to the Board to make the decision to undertake that project. He stated he wasn't on the Board when they voted on the project. He asked why they were doing the study to find alternate routes for Mines Road if they already decided to do the Vallecillo project. Mr. Soto stated that he thinks the studies will provide information on the on and off access on Mines Road and what can be used to alleviate traffic there. Mrs. Montemayor stated that there should be some relief when Vallecillo and Hachar are open. Mr. Soto stated that the studies involve that and parallel routes to Mines Road. There were presentations made to the MPO, City Council, RMA and everyone was on board with that. It's a project that won't cost a lot of money, can be done quicker and it will alleviate traffic in that area. Mr. Lopez stated that what compelled them to move forward with this is because the willingness of the land owner to donate the land to them. Because they are dealing with one land owner, means they can move on it fast. It looks like it should give relief from some of the traffic on Mines Road by allowing people another way of crossing over to I35. Mr. Saenz said that that was his concern that it looks like it should alleviate traffic. He stated that the decision shouldn't have been made until they have consulted with the engineers so they can tell them if Vallecillo is going to, in fact, reduce traffic. He said he wasn't opposed to the project; he just wanted to know if that road was going to do what they want it to do. Mr. Lopez stated that they still have time, in case the engineers say that it's not a good route, to back out of it.

Mr. Juan Cruz stated that they already submitted it as part of the plan that the County has approved, so it would have to be modified. Mr. Lopez stated that if they need to change it, then the Board wouldn't mind modifying it. Mr. Soto stated that they also have full support of the city councilman who represents that area and the citizens in that area. Mr. Lopez asked Mr. Magee, in his estimation, would Vallecillo Road give relief to the traffic congestion on Mines Road. Mr. Magee stated that, yes it would give relief. He has been looking at this area for the past 5 years. He has talked to the owners of the trucking companies and they are just looking for relief. It's one way in, one way out of Mines Road, so any connector that they have is going to help. He stated that connections north and south of the river bank are needed. Mr. Saenz asked if there was an alternative route to Vallecillo. He asked if that was the best option. Mr. LaMantia stated that he thinks Hachar would be better, but it's a 5 year project. He then asked if they were willing to wait 5 years to do anything. He stated that they can't have ten of those roads; they can have one today and go with it, or wait five years, do the study, get the right of way and build Hachar. Mr. LaMantia stated that in his opinion, the Hachar Road would do more to alleviate the traffic on Mines Road.

Mr. Dominguez asked how fast Vallecillo Road be built. Richard Ridings, from HNTB, stated that he would need to meet with TxDOT, but in this case since the right of way is being donated, then he would suggest doing this small project first. Mr. Cruz stated that they could

place it as an agenda item for the next meeting. Mrs. Montemayor stated that since the PS&E hasn't been developed, they now have an additional option; the design build is an option that is available to the RMA. Mr. Muller stated that the estimate on Vallecillo Road was 10 million, and Hachar was somewhere around 57 million. They don't need one road; they need 3 or 4 to try to get the pressure off Mines Road.

14. Public Comments

No public comments

15. Report: Date/Time/Location of the Next Regular Board Meeting

Chairman Soto stated that the next meeting will be held on Monday, October 19, 2015, 9 a.m. Location is at TxDOT District Headquarters.

16. Adjournment

Oscar Lopez made a motion, seconded by Jose Murillo to adjourn the Webb County - City of Laredo RMA meeting at 10:08 a.m. Motion passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned.

**MINUTES FOR THE WEBB COUNTY - CITY OF LAREDO REGIONAL MOBILITY
AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2015
WERE APPROVED ON THIS THE 19th DAY OF OCTOBER 2015.**

Submitted by:
Marissa J. Montoya
Office Technician
TxDOT Laredo Dist.

**GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WEBB COUNTY-CITY OF LAREDO
REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY**

RESOLUTION NO. 15-05

WHEREAS, the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority ("WC-CL RMA") was created pursuant to the request of Webb County and the City of Laredo and in accordance with provisions of the Transportation Code and the petition and approval process established in 43 Tex. Admin. Code § 26.1, *et seq.* (the "RMA Rules"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the WC-CL RMA has been constituted in accordance with the Transportation Code and the RMA Rules; and

WHEREAS, the WC-CL RMA Board of Directors recognize the importance of procuring general engineering consultant services and authorized the WC-CL RMA Chair and legal counsel to initiate the process of procuring general engineering consultant services by causing to be developed and issued a Request for Qualifications ("RFQ") to solicit responses from firms interested in providing such services to the WC-CL RMA; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2015, in Resolution 15-01, the WC-CL RMA Board of Directors approved the selection of HNTB Corporation ("HNTB") to serve as the general engineering consultants ("GEC") to the WC-CL RMA; and

WHEREAS, the Chair, with the assistance of the Executive Committee and legal counsel have negotiated the agreement with HNTB for general engineering consultant services, attached hereto as Attachment "A".

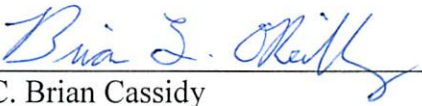
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the WC-CL RMA Board of Directors hereby approves the agreement with HNTB for general engineering consultant services, with such agreement to be in the form or substantially the same form attached hereto as Attachment "A"; and


BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chair or his designee is authorized to execute the necessary documents to consummate the agreement on behalf of the WC-CL RMA.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority on the 16th day of September, 2015.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Approved:


C. Brian Cassidy
General Counsel for the
Webb County-City of Laredo
Regional Mobility Authority


Ruben Soto Jr.
Chair, Board of Directors
Resolution Number 15-05
Date Passed: 09/16/2015

**GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WEBB COUNTY-CITY OF LAREDO
REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY**

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WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the WC-CL RMA has been constituted in accordance with the Transportation Code and the RMA Rules; and

WHEREAS, the WC-CL RMA Board of Directors recognize the importance of procuring general engineering consultant services and authorized the WC-CL RMA Chair and legal counsel to initiate the process of procuring general engineering consultant services by causing to be developed and issued a Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) to solicit responses from firms interested in providing such services to the WC-CL RMA; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2015, in Resolution 15-01, the WC-CL RMA Board of Directors approved the selection of HNTB Corporation (“HNTB”) to serve as the general engineering consultants (“GEC”) to the WC-CL RMA; and

WHEREAS, HNTB has developed a proposed scope of work and budget for the development of the WC-CL RMA Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, a copy of that proposed scope of work and budget not to exceed \$_____ is contained in Work Authorization No. 1.0, attached hereto as Attachment “A”; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors must approve Work Authorization No. 1.0 before HNTB may proceed to work thereunder; and

WHEREAS, HNTB has represented to the Board of Directors that the work reflected in Work Authorization No. 1.0 is necessary and appropriate.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors approves Work Authorization No. 1.0 for development of the WC-CL RMA Strategic Plan in the form attached hereto as Attachment “A”, for an amount not to exceed \$_____; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all work performed under Work Authorization No. 1.0 shall be subject to the Agreement for General Consulting Civil Engineering Services between the WC-CL RMA and HNTB and that no additional work may be undertaken without the specific approval of the Board of Directors.

Draft – 9.11.15

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority on the 16th day of September, 2015.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Approved:

C. Brian Cassidy
General Counsel for the
Webb County-City of Laredo
Regional Mobility Authority

Ruben Soto Jr.
Chair, Board of Directors
Resolution Number 15-06
Date Passed: 09/16/2015

**GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WEBB COUNTY-CITY OF LAREDO
REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY**

RESOLUTION NO. 15-07

WHEREAS, the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority ("WC-CL RMA") was created pursuant to the request of Webb County and the City of Laredo and in accordance with provisions of the Transportation Code and the petition and approval process established in 43 Tex. Admin. Code § 26.1, *et seq.* (the "RMA Rules"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the WC-CL RMA has been constituted in accordance with the Transportation Code and the RMA Rules; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2015, the Board of Directors adopted a policy code to guide the operations of the Board of Directors and the WC-CL RMA (the "Policy Code"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors now desires to adopt amendments to the previously adopted Policy Code for the purpose of adopting a Travel Expense Policy.

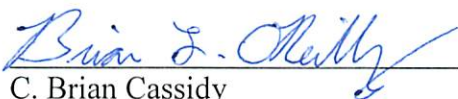
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the WC-CL RMA hereby approves and adopts the addition to the Policy Code of the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority, attached hereto as Attachment "A"; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Policy Code of the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority may be further amended from time to time in accordance with procedures set forth therein.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority on the 16th day of September, 2015.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Approved:


C. Brian Cassidy
General Counsel for the
Webb County-City of Laredo
Regional Mobility Authority



Ruben Soto Jr.
Chair, Board of Directors
Resolution Number 15-07
Date Passed: 09/16/2015

WEBB COUNTY-CITY OF LAREDO RMA POLICY CODE

Chapter 6: Travel Expense Policy

601.001 Applicability

This chapter applies to the board and all staff.

601.002 Submission of Expense Reimbursement Requests

All expense reimbursement requests must be received by the authority no more than 90 days after the occurrence of the expense. Any items over 90 days may be denied reimbursement.

601.003 Requests for Reimbursements that include Overnight Travel

- (a) Travel arrangements should be made at lowest cost, using the Internet, if possible, to mitigate fees. Staff will assist in arranging flights. Travel agents may be used on more complicated travel arrangements to reduce staff time and thereby reduce overall costs.
- (b) Employee travel should be done in a manner to minimize time away from work.
- (c) Hotel shuttles should be used when available. Rental cars should be approved in advance by the Chair or his designee.
- (d) Additional lodging reimbursement would be allowed only if there is a significant reduction in airfare over the cost for the extra days lodging and per diems.
- (e) All incremental costs of any non-authority companion traveling with an employee or director will be paid for by the employee or director and must be paid in advance or promptly reimbursed to the authority.
- (f) Travel expenses must be approved by the Chair or his designee before reimbursement. All out of state travel by staff must be approved by the Chair or his designee prior to travel.

601.004 Airfare

- (a) Airfare should be booked at the most economical rate as far in advance as reasonably possible.
- (b) Coach or business fares or Internet specials should be used when possible. Cost of upgrades at user's expense.
- (c) Travel agents may be used on more complicated travel arrangements to reduce staff time and thereby reduce overall costs.
- (d) Cancellation fees or fees for ticket changes will be reimbursed if it is in the best interests of the authority or a family emergency.

WEBB COUNTY-CITY OF LAREDO RMA POLICY CODE

601.005 Hotel accommodations

- (a) Hotel stays will be reimbursed or paid for at the lowest reasonable rate.
- (b) Exceptions to the above rate would include:
 - (1) The alternate hotel would reduce total overall costs of travel, such as not requiring a rental car.
 - (2) Time constraints for business meetings would require staying at a closer hotel.
 - (3) Conference rate is always acceptable in Conference hotel or one located nearby.

601.006 Meals

- (a) Meals will be reimbursed without a receipt at \$34/day.
- (b) Meals above \$34/day will require a receipt and justification.
- (c) No meals which are not related to authority business will be allowed.
- (d) No reimbursement for alcohol will be allowed.

601.007 Incidentals

- (a) Reasonable and customary tips and gratuities do not require a receipt.
- (b) Parking, toll and taxi receipts will be reimbursed on an actual basis.
- (c) Other minor expenditures should have a receipt and justification.
- (d) Local calls related to business will be reimbursed.
- (e) Long distance calls related to business, including Internet connections will be reimbursed.
- (f) There will be no reimbursement for any parking or traffic violations.
- (g) There will be no reimbursement for entertainment purposes, including in hotel movies.

601.008 Rental vehicles

- (a) Vehicle rental should be approved in advance by the Chair or his designee.
- (b) Preference for compact or mid-sized vehicles, unless multiple persons traveling in vehicle.
- (c) Gasoline should be refilled prior to returning.
- (d) Loss damage waiver should be used until such time as the authority has either insurance coverage or individual personal coverage extension.

WEBB COUNTY-CITY OF LAREDO RMA POLICY CODE

(e) In certain cities, it is cost effective to use private van services in order to meet meeting schedules. The costs should be compared to taxi services for reasonableness.

601.009 Mileage Reimbursement

(a) Use of a personal vehicle on authority business will be reimbursed using the current Internal Revenue Service rate. A request for reimbursement should include:

- (1) The purpose of the travel;
- (2) The dates of the travel; and
- (3) Net Mileage.

(b) If a personal vehicle is used and extended or long-distance trip, the maximum reimbursement will be at the lower of the:

- (1) IRS rate times the number of miles driven or
- (2) The lowest quoted airfare at the time of travel for overnight stay.

601.010 Food Service at Local Meetings

Food service for local business meetings will be reimbursed. These business meetings are required for the active conduct of authority business and include board meetings and workshops, board committee meetings, meetings with other governmental entities for authority business and other official business as determined by the Chair or his designee. A request for reimbursement should include:

- (1) The purpose of the meeting
- (2) The time and location of the meeting
- (3) Names of principle attendees
- (4) Approval of the reimbursement request by the Chair or his designee

601.011 Other expenses

- (a) Recruiting expenses for top level candidates, subject to approval by the board.
- (b) Organizational membership fees, subject to advance approval by Executive Committee.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



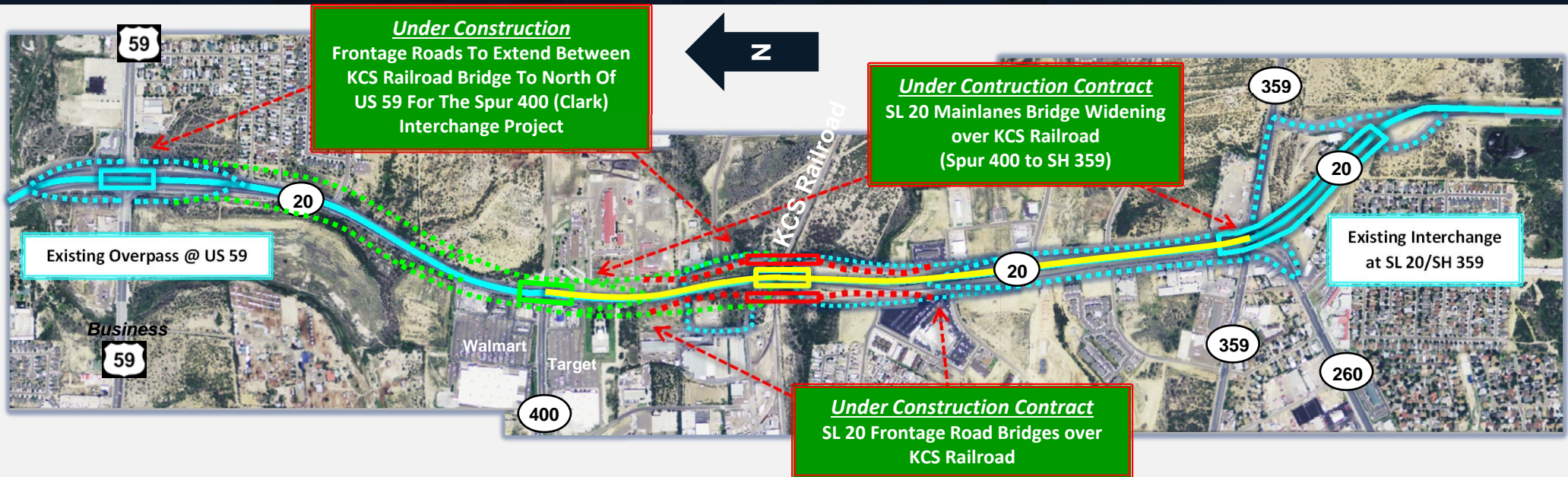
US 59/LOOP 20/ FUTURE I-69W PROJECTS

Melisa D. Montemayor
Laredo District Administrator



September 16, 2015

Recent and Ongoing Spending On Loop 20 – US 59 to SH 359:



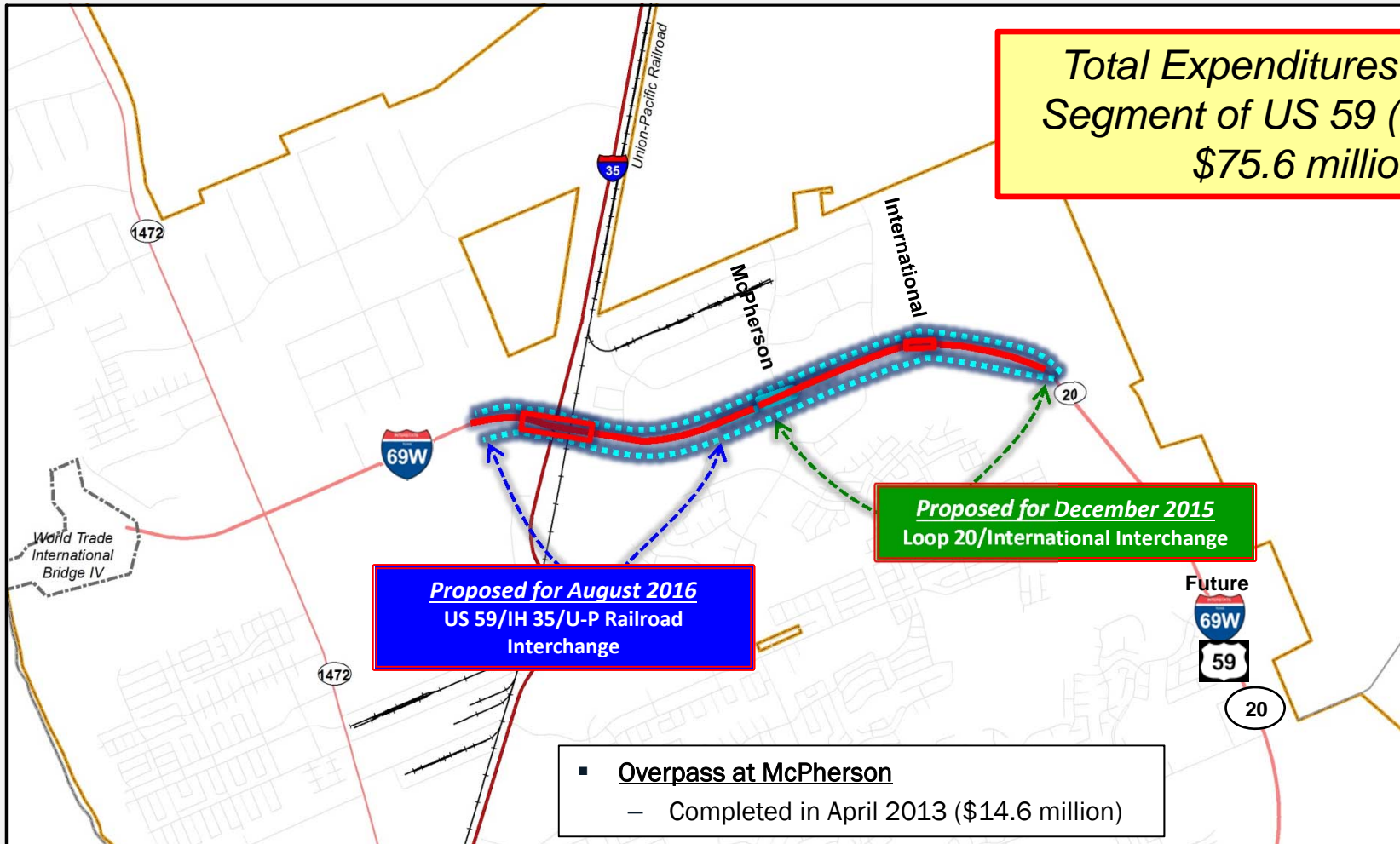
- Overpass at US 59 (Saunders St.)
 - Completed in November 2008 (\$20.5 million)
- SL 20/SH 359 Interchange
 - Completed in January 2014 (\$18.1 million)
- SL 20/Spur 400 Interchange Project
 - Project let in August 2014 (\$33.8 million)
 - Utility Relocations and Construction are Underway
- SL 20 Mainlanes Bridge Widening over KCS Railroad
 - Contract Let in August 2015 (\$8.8 million)
- SL 20 Frontage Road Bridges over KCS Railroad
 - Let with Mainlanes Bridge Widening Project in August 2015 (\$16.7 million)
 - Will provide for continuous frontage roads between SH 359 and US 59
 - No additional right-of-way / Railroad Coordination Being Finalized
 - Used Prop. 1 funds

*Total Spending On This Segment of Loop 20 :
\$97.9 million*

2015 Proposition 1 Projects In The Laredo District:

			Proposition 1 Funding Categories <i>(\$48,028,000 Allocated to Laredo District)</i>				
Projects	Letting Date	Contract Amounts For Projects With Prop. 1	Category 1 Maintenance	Category 2 Mobility (MPO)	Category 4 Connectivity	Category 11 Energy Sector	Other Traditional Funding Sources
Loop 20 – Frontage Road Bridges over KCS Railroad (Webb)	Aug. 2015	\$16,728,742		\$5,352,000	\$10,378,000	\$998,742	
Loop 20 – International Interchange (Webb)	Dec. 2015	Estimate \$21,049,258		\$758,000		\$20,291,258	

Recent and Upcoming Spending On Loop 20– IH 35 to International:



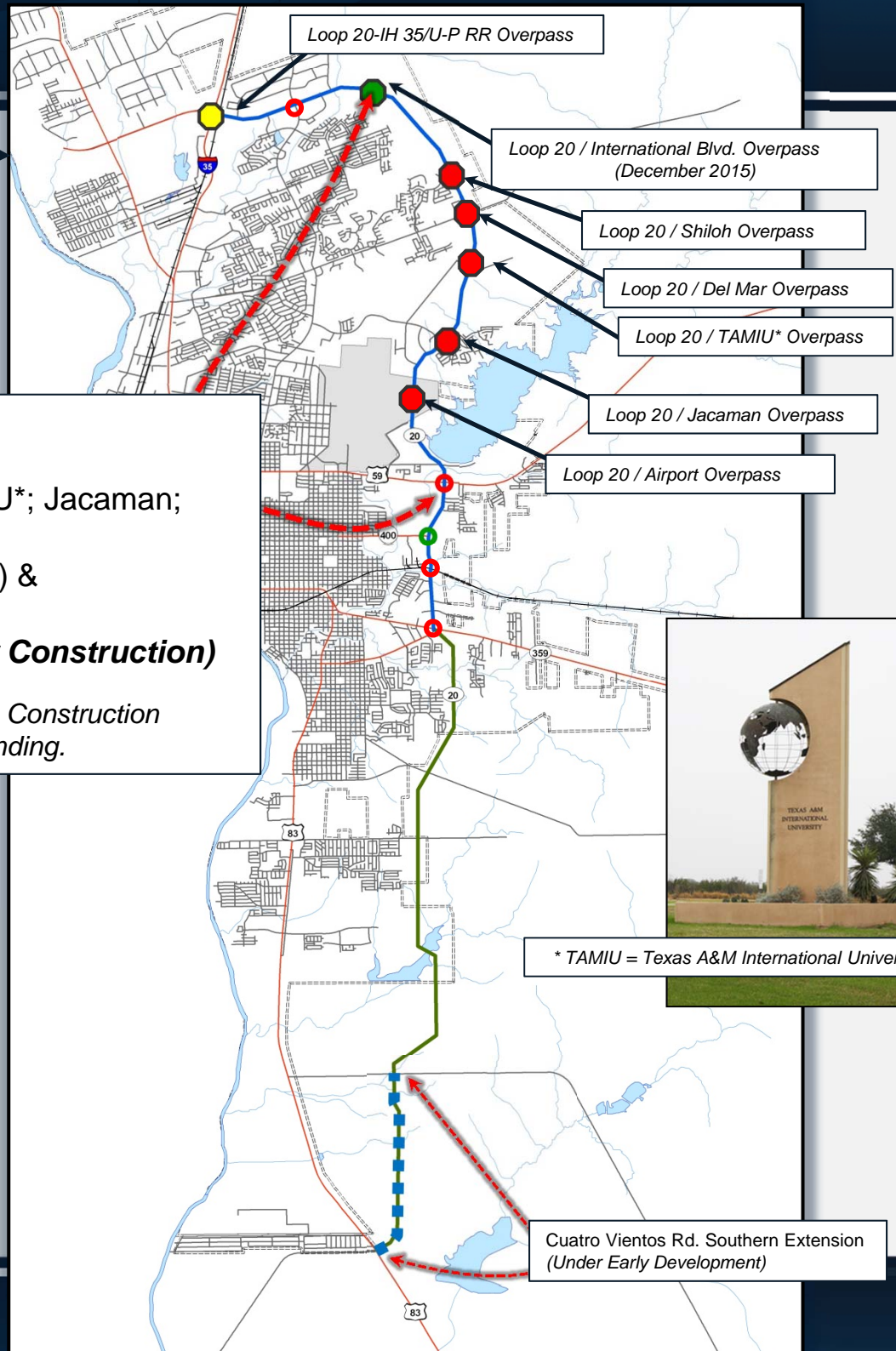
- **US 59 (Loop 20)/IH 35/U-P Railroad Interchange**
 - Scheduled to Let – August 2016
 - Estimated Cost ~\$40 million
 - Will Connect to the Mainlanes on the McPherson Overpass
 - No Additional Right-of-Way / Railroad Coordination Underway

- **SL 20/International Blvd. Interchange**
 - Meets the Prop. 1 Requirements
 - Scheduled to Let – December 2015
 - Estimated Cost \$21.049 million
 - Will Complete the Mainlanes on the McPherson Overpass
 - No Additional Right-of-Way / No Railroad Coordination

Laredo Loop 20 / US59 / IH 69 Project:



World Trade International Bridge



Loop 20-IH 35/U-P RR Overpass

Loop 20 / International Blvd. Overpass
(December 2015)

Loop 20 / Shiloh Overpass

Loop 20 / Del Mar Overpass

Loop 20 / TAMIU* Overpass

Loop 20 / Jacaman Overpass

Loop 20 / Airport Overpass



* TAMIU = Texas A&M International University

Cuatro Vientos Rd. Southern Extension
(Under Early Development)

Loop 20 / IH 69 Project – Southern Segment:

Limits: International Blvd To US 59

Interchanges: International; Shiloh; Del Mar; TAMIU*; Jacaman;
Airport

Status: Under Preliminary Engineering (Schematic) &
Environmental Studies

Construction Estimate: \$120 Million (**Unfunded for Construction**)

Note: This Is A Candidate Project that could use Innovative Construction
Financing w/ Local Funds to leverage federal/state funding.

Questions / Comments?



Melisa D. Montemayor

TxDOT – Laredo District Administrator

1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo TX 78043

E-mail: Melisa.Montemayor@TxDOT.gov

Phone: (956) 712-7456