

**WEBB COUNTY – CITY OF LAREDO  
REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY BOARD**

WC-CL RMA Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 10:00 AM  
International Bank of Commerce  
1200 San Bernardo Ave.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor - Community Suite

**BOARD MINUTES**

The Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA) Board met on Wednesday, July 20, 2022, at the IBC Community Suite. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. WC-CL RMA Board Chair Jed A. Brown present and presiding. The following board members were present:

Jed A. Brown  
Douglas B. Howland  
Oscar O. Lopez  
Arturo Dominguez  
Alfonso Mendiola  
Antonio Arce, Jr.  
George Beckelhymer

**AGENDA**

**1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum**

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer Jed Brown, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. It was announced that Jose Murillo and Viridiana Fernandez were absent. Mr. Brown then notified everyone present that a notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, and then asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

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**2. Welcome the Board Members – Jed Brown (WC-CL RMA Presiding Office)**

Chairman Brown welcomed the board and thanked IBC for hosting the RMA. He also informed all present that the meeting was being recorded and speakers must identify themselves when speaking.

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**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

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#### 4. Open Public Forum/Comment Period.

No public comments to report.

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#### 5. Action Item: Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action concerning approval of the May 10, 2022, WC-CL RMA Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Chairman Brown opened the discussion, consideration, and possible action concerning the approval of the Minutes for the May 10, 2022, Regular Board Meeting. He then asked for a motion to accept the Board Meeting Minutes of the Webb County-City of Laredo RMA.

Motion: Motion to Approve the May 10, 2022, WC-CL RMA Board Meeting Minutes.  
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez  
Second by: George Beckelhymer  
Discussion: No discussion was held  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

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#### 6. Chair's Report

##### a. Vallecillo Road Project

Chairman Brown went on to remind the board that the Vallecillo Road Project had not made the 2023 Draft Unified Transportation Program. In a conversation with TxDot District Engineer Salazar, it was explained that when the Category 12 projects were scored, Vallecillo came up a little bit short. Chairman Brown added that he will continue to do everything he can to get the project included with the Unified Transportation Program and get funded this year.

##### c. Feasibility of Mines Road (FM 1472) Transportation Reinvestment Zone

Chairman Brown informed the board that during the Metropolitan Planning Organization Meetings, RMA projects are discussed and amount to about one third of the meeting. Chairman Brown added that he was excited that for years, the RMA has been very active in raising monies to do what it has now been doing.

##### b. Concord Hills Extension Project

Chairman Brown informed the board that the City of Laredo's budget includes Concord Hills, which is an item they want to see completed. Chairman Brown added that he has participated in meetings with different members of the City and County and noted the City wants to participate strongly with landowners willing to donate right-of-ways to get the roads built.

**d. Designation of WC-CL RMA Investment Committee**

Chairman Brown announced that he created an Investment Committee that will only put monies into government backed securities and announced that Oscar Lopez was named the Investment Officer several years ago and has agreed to continue in that role. Chairman Brown added that the Advisory Committee included Doug Howland and George Beckelhymer and would like to bring other members of the board to provide input.

**e. El Manana & Interview with News Media 9:51**

Chairman Brown informed the board of a text received about a photo on an article that ran in El Mañana about the Webb County Transportation Planning Study and a number of projects listed that aren't necessarily projects the RMA had agreed to work on. Chairman Brown informed the board that a reporter contacted an RMA board member and didn't translate the RMA projects correctly. Chairman Brown told the board that if they were approached by a reporter, to inform them about the projects the RMA is working on and ensure they understand. Chairman Brown requested a clarification or correction with El Mañana, but the request was refused.

**f. Compliance Calendar**

Chairman Brown included the item in case there was something that the board need to focus on or required an action.

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**7. Presentations**

**A. Financial Report**

Chairman Brown welcomed Oscar Lopez, RMA treasurer, to present the financial report through June 30, 2022. Mr. Oscar Lopez went on to give a brief report on RMA's financial position. He went on to report to the board that as of June 30, 2022, the checking account balance was \$1,076,457.97, the CD balance is \$9,099,988.85. The total balance 11,895,835.73. Total checks disbursed was \$114,915.08, which itemized list was included in board packaged.

**B. Status Report on Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) Program and Collections.**

Mr. Oscar Lopez reported that as of July 6, the RMA had not received the second quarter registration fees from the County. He directed the board to review the report included in the board packet, which illustrates deposits, disbursements and activity for the past two months and welcomed questions by the board.

Motion: Motion to Accept the financial statements through June 30, 2022.  
Moved by: George Beckelhymer  
Second by: Antonio Arce

Discussion: No discussion was held.  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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### **C. TxDOT Presentation on Unified Transportation Program District Projects.**

Chairman Brown welcomed TxDot to make their presentation on the unified Transportation Program District Projects. TxDot Laredo District Engineer, David Salazar, introduced Denise Garcia, as the presenter for the board update the on current construction projects and Mr. Humberto Gonzalez as the presenter for the Unified Transportation Program plan presentation. Ms. Denise Garcia from the TxDot Area Office, went on to inform the board on the various construction projects including current construction status, expected completion dates and money invested in each project. Questions by the board members were welcomed. Mr. Humberto Gonzalez, District Engineer for TxDot, continued with his presentation on how the UTP process works in scoring and ranking of projects. Mr. Gonzalez went on to illustrate to the board the development timeline steps beginning with the enrollment process in September, the strategic goals developed to get planning forecast, the start of prioritizing potential transportation projects locally, and the later steps in scoring and ranking of projects. Mr. Gonzalez described all steps taken by the UTP and answered any questions presented by the board.

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### **8. Action Item (Resolution 22-18): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Work Authorization No. 14 with HNTB for the Development of the River Road Corridor Study.**

Chairman Brown welcomed Melissa Montemayor, HNTB General Engineering Consultant, to explain development of the River Road Corridor Study. Ms. Montemayor went on to inform the board that the HNTB has been looking at getting involved with the River Road corridor alternatives analysis and has developed the work authorization to commence work on the project with the City of Laredo and the MPO in the amount of \$250,000.00. Ms. Montemayor reminded the board that this would be a joint venture where RMA will pay for half of the study cost and the MPO will pay the other half. The study is estimated to last approximately 12 months

Motion: Motion to Approve Work Authorization No. 14 with HNTB for the Development of the River Road Corridor Study.  
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez  
Second by: Alfonso Mendiola  
Discussion: No discussion was held.  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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**9. Action Item (Resolution 22-19): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Authorize Submission of a United States Department of Transportation Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Application.**

Chairman Brown added that since he was appointed, there have been a number of times he had been approached by HNTB to look at grants that the RMA could participate and believes this would be a good grant to pursue. Chairman Brown mentioned that the MPO will be joining to assist with the development of the application. Melissa Montemayor, HNTB, went on to inform the board about the two phases to this grant. The first phase is getting funds to develop a Safety Action Plan and the second phase is for implementation of the Safety Action Plan. She added that there cannot be implementation funds until the community has a safety action plan in place, which HNTB does not, hence the proposal to submit an application for the safe streets and roads for all for the Safety Action Plan development. Ms. Montemayor reminded the board that this would be a joint venture between the City and the RMA financially, to pay 50/50 for the development of the application. The cost is \$25,318.00, half of which is \$12,659.00 to the RMA, and the same for the City. Application will be submitted by September 15, 2022. Ms. Montemayor welcomed and discussed questions presented by the board.

Motion: Motion to approve and Authorize Submission of a United States Department of Transportation Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Application.  
Moved by: Alfonso Mendiola  
Second by: Antonio Arce  
Discussion: No discussion was held.  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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**10. Action Item (Resolution 22-20): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Work Authorization No. 15 with HNTB for Development of the United States Department of Transportation SS4A Grant Application.**

Chairman Brown went on to ask the board to consider and take action to approve Work Authorization No. 15 with HNTB for the development of the United State Department of Transportation SS4A Grant Application.

Motion: Motion to approve Work Authorization No. 15 with HNTB for Development of the United States Department of Transportation SS4A Grant Application.  
Moved by: George Beckelhymer  
Second by: Oscar Lopez  
Discussion: No discussion was held.  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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**11. Action Item (Resolution 22-21): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve an Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Laredo, Webb County Drainage District No. 1, and the WC-CL RMA for Increased Funding Commitments for the Development of the Los Presidentes, Phase 1 and 2A Road Project.**

Chairman Brown welcomed Tony Rodriguez, HNTB, to present the request to Amend the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Laredo, Webb County Drainage District No. 1 and the RMA for increased funding commitment. Mr. Rodriguez went on to remind the board that this resolution was pass in February 2021 as part of the adoption of the Second Amendment to the interlocal agreement between, which the RMA committed with about \$2.60 million for the project. Mr. Rodriguez added that City of Laredo passed the resolution with council in December 2021 having a difference in their number about \$1,900. Mr. Rodriguez informed the board that the increase is to match the number to that the city council passed back in December of 2021 being an increase of \$1,900.

Motion: Motion to approve an Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Laredo, Webb County Drainage District No. 1, and the WC-CL RMA for Increased Funding Commitments for the Development of the Los Presidentes, Phase 1 and 2A Road Project.

Moved by: George Beckelhymer

Second by: Oscar Lopez

Discussion: No discussion was held.

In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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**12. Action Item (Resolution 22-23): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action on Approval of the WC-CL RMA Investment Policy and to Designate WC-CL RMA Investment Officer.**

Chairman Brown informed that board that he touched base with the Investment Committee about revisiting the actual policy, which should be done from time to time to ensure money is managed wisely. In working with RMA’s Investment Officer, Oscar Lopez, the goal is to earn more interest in government backed securities. Brian O’Reilly, attorney for RMA, makes sure that what the committee is doing is consistent with the investment policy. Oscar Lopez will continue his role as Investment Officer.

Motion: Motion to for the Approval of the WC-CL RMA Investment Policy and to Designate WC-CL RMA Investment Officer.

Moved by: Arturo Dominguez

Second by: Antonio Arce

Discussion: No discussion was held.

In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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### **13. General Engineer Consultant Update:**

Chairman Brown invited Tony Rodriguez with HNTB to update the board on the following agenda items.

#### **a. Project Status Update: Webb County Fairgrounds Traffic Study**

Raj Basavaraju, Transcend Engineer, went on to inform the board that all existing conditions analysis were completed and information was presented to TxDOT. Rafael Guzman provided really good feedback on these conditions. The consultant who is assisting the county with the Domestic Plan Update provided a site plan with a proposed phasing of development. According to this information, phase one will be completed by 2025, which happens to be the interim conditions analysis that Transcend is scoped to do. Transcend will move forward with operations analysis and documenting the 2025 build conditions for phase one with the goal of submitting that report by mid-August, if not sooner. The GC was asked to touch base with the county to gain a better understanding of all four phases of the development that will take place by 2025. TxDOT provided good guidance as to what the lanes realistically and practically will look like by 2025. Transcend will be accounting for some of that information as they focus on the 2025 analysis beyond mid-August.

Ms. Melissa Montemayor will be reaching out to Webb County to ask when they expect this project to be on the ground. Ms. Montemayor is internally thinking there is a 10-year projection timeframe and the completion will probably be in 2035. If this information is confirmed, this will allow Mr. Raj Basavaraju to proceed further with the traffic impact analysis that he's conducted. All questions by the board were addressed.

#### **b. Project Status Update: Los Presidentes, Phases 1&2A**

Alfredo Martinez, Crane Engineering, gave an update of the current progress of Phase 1 and 2a. He went on to illustrate the board on completed items, ongoing construction status and gave a 90% project completion based on latest inspection on July 10, 2022. He explained some of their issues they are facing involve the water improvements that were tacked on to this project with the city. Some of the original improvements the city wanted to include as part of this project is to relocate and replace a segment of the existing 18 inch waterline. With all the water issues occurring in South Laredo, we are unable to temporarily shut them down for work to be completed. Mr. Martinez is waiting on definitive answer from to city to determine if they can leave it in place to continue the project. This answer is controlling the final project completion date. Contractor is dealing with a concrete supply situation causing them to slow down, but they are moving along. Landscape and irrigation projects have begun.

#### **c. Project Status Update: Springfield Avenue Extension Project, Phase 3**

Mr. Antonio Rodriguez shared a status report from the City of Laredo. This project is ongoing construction beginning December of last year and current completion status is

65%. RMA helped fund 47.5% of this project. The concrete shortage has slowed down this project moving the August timeframe for completion to October 2022.

**d. Project Status Update: Killam Industrial Blvd. Turn Lane Project**

Mr. Antonio Rodriguez shared an update on the project reiterating some of the items TxDOT reported. He informed the board the construction of the intersection is 20-25% complete with a completion date of October.

**e. Project Status Update: Cuatro Vientos Transportation Reinvestment Zone Feasibility Study**

Mr. Travis James, TXP consultant, gave a quick update on the project. They are getting contract issues worked out and conducting online interviews with the city to collect data. Mr. James will conduct in-person interviews once school is in session. He will have a preliminary/final report done in September 2022.

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**14. Report: Date/Time/Location of Next Regular Board Meeting.**

Chairman Brown informed the Board of plans to have the next board meeting in mid-September unless one was needed sooner. Details for next board meeting would follow.

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**15. Adjournment.**

On a motion by Antonio Arce and seconded by Alfonso Mendiola, with no discussion, meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m. Motion passes unanimously, and meeting was adjourned.