

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

WC-CL RMA Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, August 1, 2023, 1:30 PM
International Bank of Commerce
1200 San Bernardo Ave.
3rd Floor - Community Suite

BOARD MINUTES

The Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA) Board met on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at the IBC Community Suite. The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m. WC-CL RMA Board Chair Jed A. Brown present and presiding. The following Board members were present:

Jed A. Brown
Antonio Arce, Jr
Oscar O. Lopez
Jose Murillo
Douglas B. Howland
Arturo Dominguez
Diana Palacios
George Beckelhymer

AGENDA

1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer Jed Brown, called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. It was announced that Alfonso Mendiola was 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.

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

Chairman Brown welcomed the Board and informed all present that the meeting was being recorded and speakers must identify themselves when speaking.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

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

No public comments to report.

5. **Action Item: Discussion, Consideration and Possible Board Action Concerning the Approval of the June 19, 2023, WC-CL RMA Regular Board Meeting Minutes.**

Chairman Brown opened the discussion concerning the approval of the Minutes for the June 19, 2023, 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 June 19, 2023, WC-CL RMA Board Meeting Minutes.
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: Diana Palacios
Discussion: No discussion was held
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

6. **Chair's Report**

a. **Compliance Calendar Update**

Chairman Brown informed the Board that the fiscal year ends at the end of September.

b. **Project Status Update: Concord Hills Blvd. Extension**

Chairman Brown informed the Board that the City of Laredo has been presented with Interlocal Agreements and the RMA is now waiting on the City to be ready to proceed.

c. **Project Status Update: Springfield, Phases 1, 2, or 4**

The RMA has with Board Action agreed to a \$1 million contribution to the Springfield Project. The ribbon cutting for Springfield is August 2, 2023 at 10 am.

d. **Update on Transportation Reinvestment Zones**

Chairman Brown informed the Board of the TRZ workshops held for City staff and City Council with the possibility of moving forward with future TRZ projects.

e. **Update on WC-CL RMA General Engineering Consulting Services**

Chairman Brown updated the Board on the transition from HNTB to LJA. Pending projects with HNTB include Killam Industrial, Los Presidentes, and Springfield only missing final walk throughs and the record drawings to close out.

7. **Presentations**

a. **Financial Report**

Chairman Brown asked WC-CL Treasurer, Oscar Lopez, to provide the financial report to the Board. Mr. Lopez reported that as of May ,2023, Financial Summary reflects

cash in bank totaling \$4,317,242.45, the value of the investment portfolio was \$6,834,534.59, and accounts receivable brings total assets to \$11,151,777.04. Checks paid out of the operating account total \$196,247.14 and deposits made totaled \$592,958.46. The checking balance as of May 31, 2023, is \$821,249.24.

b. Acceptance of financial statements through May 31, 2023.

Motion: Motion to Accept Financial Statements through May 31, 2023
Moved by: George Beckelhymer
Second by: Arturo Dominguez
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

c. Status Report on Vehicle Registration Fees (VRF)

8. Action Item : Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Deliver a Letter in Support of City of Laredo’s Application for the 2023 Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Discretionary Grant for the SMAART Program.

Chairman Brown informed the Board of the City of Laredo’s request for a letter of support for their grant application to the SMAART Program. The grant would improve traffic situations using an intelligent system with advanced warnings to vehicles approaching or exiting the ports of entry that could hopefully improve congestion at the World Trade Bridge.

Motion: Motion to Approve
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: Oscar Lopez
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

9. Action Item (Resolution 23-09): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Authorize the Chair to negotiate and execute an interlocal agreement with the City of Laredo for cost sharing on a Transportation Reinvestment Zone (TRZ) Feasibility Study.

Chairman Brown went on to inform the Board that the City of Laredo would like to enter into an ILA for a TRZ study in North Laredo. The boundaries of the study have not yet been set but could be anywhere from the Rio Grande as the western boundary, to I-35, north up Mines road and possibly east of Mile Marker 13. The total cost of the study would be \$88,000 and the RMA would be responsible for 50 percent of the cost totaling \$44,000.

Motion: Motion to authorize the Chairman to negotiate with the City on this TRZ and do a

cost sharing not to exceed \$44,000.
Moved by: George Beckelhymer
Second by: Arturo Dominguez
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

10. Action Item (Resolution 23-10): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Work Authorization No. 1.0 for General Consulting Engineering Services between the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority and LJA Engineering, Inc.

Melissa Montemayor, LJA, presented to the Board that the Work Authorization No. 1 would encompass duties such program management, Board representation, staff augmentation, administrative type support services, technical support and data collection, etc. Budget for the services is an amount not to exceed \$90,000.

Motion: Motion to Approve Item 10 Resolution 23-10
Moved by: Oscar Lopez
Second by: George Beckelhymer
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

11. Action Item (Resolution 23-11): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Work Authorization No. 2.0 under the agreement for General Consulting Engineering Services between the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority and LJA Engineering, Inc. for development of a Transportation Reinvestment Zone (TRZ) Financial Feasibility Study.

Chairman Brown informed the Board that this item ties into number 9, whereas 9 authorized entering an agreement to participate in a TRZ study and this is the \$88,000 item which the RMA would be responsible for \$44,000.

Motion: Motion to Approve Item 11 Resolution 23-11
Moved by: George Beckelhymer
Second by: Antonio Arce, Jr
Discussion: Discussion on the possible boundaries of the study covering Northwest Laredo and possibly extending outside city limits.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

12. Action Item (Resolution 23-12): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to

Approve Work Authorization No. 3.0 under the agreement for General Consulting Engineering Services between the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority and LJA Engineering, Inc. for Schematic, Environmental, Plans, Specifications and Estimate Services for the Vallecillo Road Project.

No discussion was held.

Motion: Motion to Approve Item 12 Resolution 23-12
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: George Beckelhymer
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

13. Action Item (Resolution 23-13): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to approve Work Authorization No. 04 (WA4) under the agreement for General Consulting Engineering Services between the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority and LJA Engineering, Inc. for administration of Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Project.

Mellissa Montemayor, LJA, informed the Board of the \$2 million grant to develop the Vision Zero Safety Action Plan which is an 18-month project. Within those 18 months, there will be a substantial outreach to local stakeholders to determine what the areas of concern are in Laredo to improve safety to vehicles and pedestrians as well as data collection and analysis. The grant will be administered through Federal Highway Administration directly between them and the RMA. It is a reimbursement type of a process where the RMA makes the expenditures, pays the bills, and then submits those paid receipts for reimbursement. There is a 20% local match that the RMA and the city of Laredo will share and the reimbursements will be monthly.

Motion: Motion to Approve Item 13 Resolution 23-13
Moved by: Oscar Lopez
Second by: George Beckelhymer
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

14. General Engineer Consultant Update:

a. Project Status Update: Vallecillo Road

Tony Rodriguez, LJA, informed the Board that the project is looking to have a closing date by 2027. The project will include performing a topographical survey, aerial survey, as well as completion of schematic and environmental studies.

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

Tony Rodriguez, LJA, informed the Board the project is 99.99% complete as the final change order with the City of Laredo has been approved. The project is only pending the notification letter from the city engineer.

c. Project Status Update: Killam Industrial Blvd. at FM 1472 Turn Lane Project

Tony Rodriguez, LJA, updated the Board that the project is pending final walkthroughs, a TDR inspection, and record drawings. Additionally will need to resubmit two final change orders to complete proposals, which had to do with the utilities in the area, including the City of Laredo water and AT&T. There will be discussions with those utilities about compensation for completion of the change orders.

d. Project Status Update: Springfield Ave. Extension Project, Phase 3

Tony Rodriguez, LJA, informed the Board the ribbon cutting ceremony would be August 2, 2023 and awaiting the final invoice from the City of Laredo.

e. Project Status Update: River Road Corridor Study

Jason Rodriguez, LJA, updated the Board that the study was conducted over the course of August 2022 and submitted in May of 2023 and has been completed. The study looked at several alternatives and made a recommendation for a locally preferred alternative, which is approximately a 5.6 mile roadway extending from Mines Road in the north down Vaquero Boulevard in the south. The cost was approximately \$154.8 million for the fiscal year 2028. The next step would be to start to look at ways to partner within the region to fund the roadway.

f. Project Status Update: Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Application

Discussion held in Item 13.

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

No date and time was set for the next Board meeting. Details for the next Board meeting will follow.

16. Adjournment.

On a motion by Mr. Beckelhymer and seconded by Mr. Howland, with no discussion, meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm. Motion passes unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.
