

**TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2020
2:00 PM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING**

Members Present:	Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, Chair, <i>District 5</i> Councilmember Roberto Treviño, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember Melissa Cabello Havrda, <i>District 6</i> Councilmember Ana Sandoval, <i>District 7</i> Councilmember Clayton Perry, <i>District 10</i>
Staff Present:	Roderick Sanchez, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Ed Guzman, <i>Deputy City Attorney</i> ; Art Reinhardt, <i>Interim Deputy Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements</i> ; Gary Gilbert, <i>Transportation Services Manager, SAPD Ground Transportation Unit; SAPD</i> ; Jillian Harris, <i>Manager, Transportation Demand</i> ; Nancy Cano, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	David Knipp, <i>Owner, Movemint Bike Cab</i> ; Jack M. Finger; Maria Gutierrez, <i>Assistant Vice President, Public Policy, San Antonio Chamber of Commerce</i> ; Lily Lowder, <i>Commute Solutions Planner, Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO)</i> ; Dale Picha, <i>Traffic Operations Manager, Texas Department of Transportation</i> ; Joey Pawlik, <i>Active Transportation Planner, AAPO</i>

1. Approval of the Minutes for the September 16, 2019 Transportation and Mobility Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Perry moved to approve the Minutes from the September 24, 2019 Transportation and Mobility Committee Meeting. Councilmember Sandoval seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the November 4, 2019 Transportation and Mobility Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Perry moved to approve the Minutes from the November 4, 2019 Transportation and Mobility Committee Meeting. Councilmember Sandoval seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Briefing and possible action on the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Road to Zero goal of eliminating traffic deaths statewide by 2050, with a midpoint goal of reducing deaths by half by 2035. [Dale Picha, Texas Department of Transportation]

Dale Picha introduced TxDOT's Road to Zero (RTZ) Funding Program which was adopted by the Texas Transportation Commission on May 30, 2019 with the goal of reducing the number of deaths on Texas roadways by half by the year 2035 (to about 1,800) and to zero by the year 2050. He noted that November 7, 2000 was the last day that there were 0 deaths on Texas Roads and that there were currently 3,600-3,700 fatalities per year. He identified the San Antonio District of TxDOT (SAT District) as a 12-County Region which represented a total of 2.6 million residents, with 1.5 million residents within Bexar County making up the bulk of the region's population. He added that there were 25 Regions within the State of Texas.

Mr. Picha stated that \$600 million was allocated by the Texas Transportation Commission over Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021 to help achieve the RTZ goal and funds would be split among the following categories (and between the 25 TxDOT Districts):

- 65% of the total amount (\$390 million) dedicated to reduce roadway departure crashes.
- 10% of the total amount (\$60 million) is dedicated to pedestrian improvements.
- The remainder of the funds would consist of intersection improvement projects as well as technology upgrades.
- Each of TxDOT's 25 Districts would be required to develop a four-year safety plan to determine how funds would be spent within their District. *[Note: Allocations to each TxDOT District to be determined.]*

Mr. Picha explained that the TxDOT RTZ Program was a supplement to the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) which was established to grant funding for HSIP Emphasis Areas by Region. Mr. Picha cited a total of 300 HSIP projects that were funded for the SAT District from FY 2015 through FY 2018 which totaled \$77 million.

Mr. Picha noted that the number of fatalities for the SAT District reflected a hopeful downward trend from 305 in FY 2013 to 258 in 2019; and that overall, the SAT District scored an average fatality rate over a 3-year average of 1.22, which was below the Statewide average of 1.35.

Mr. Picha referenced the following five RTZ Projects that were submitted for the SAT District for FY 2020:

- Median Barrier: IH 35 in Atascosa County (\$1.6 million)
- Two Intersection Improvements: RM 32 in Comal County (\$1.7 million)
- Flashing Yellow Arrows: 15 intersections on US 90 in Uvalde County (\$500,000)
- Wrong Way Driver Technology: IH 35 in Bexar County (\$1.5 million)

Mr. Picha stated that the remaining RTZ fund balance of \$90 - \$95 million allocated to the SAT District would become available in January 2020. He concluded by stating that he was working with staff to identify developed projects ready to be delivered within the City's Vision Zero Program that would qualify to receive a portion of this additional funding, especially projects pertaining to pedestrian crossings and intersection improvements.

Chairwoman Shirley Gonzales noted the RTZ statewide budget to be \$600 million and that the SAT District received only \$5.5 million. She asked how the distribution of funds was determined. Mr. Picha replied that a Committee determined which developed projects were ready to be delivered within the fiscal year. She asked how the SAT District could be eligible to receive more funding, given the size of its population. She cited several large highway systems in San Antonio that could greatly benefit. Mr. Picha replied that only numbered state highways are eligible for RTZ funding and he acknowledged the City's Vision Zero Program to be a great foundation for identifying projects. He stated that selected projects would have to be in a developed stage prior to the selection process so as to allow for a bidding system to be in place and to allow for any possible change orders. Mr. Picha emphasized that the RTZ Program was an additional means of cash infusion to deliver safety projects and that the HSIP was still in place to fund Vision Zero Program Safety Projects. Chairwoman Gonzales asked how HSIP funding was determined. Mr. Picha replied that he did not know specifically, but that HSIP was generally doubled at two year

intervals, with highway crashes monitored before and after to gauge crash reductions. Chairwoman Shirley Gonzales asked what the State's annual highway budget was. Mr. Picha replied that it was \$8 billion and was developed through the Unified Transportation Program (UTP). Chairwoman Gonzales requested the process to request more HISP funding. Art Reinhardt replied that he would follow up with a specific list of approximately two dozen Vision Zero Projects that were developed or in progress through HSIP funding over the last three years.

Councilmember Perry requested outreach to insurance companies for safety data sharing. Mr. Picha replied that incentives offered by insurance companies for safer driving behaviors would be a beneficial outreach topic.

Councilmember Sandoval requested that staff present additional recommended safety projects to the Committee. Chairwoman Gonzales agreed.

No action was required for Item 3.

4. Briefing and possible action on the Transportation Advisory Board, including an overview of the current structure and recommendations to become more multimodal. [Roderick Sanchez, *Assistant City Manager*; Razi Hosseini, *Interim Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements*]

Art Reinhardt presented an updated briefing of the potential restructuring of the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) to become more multimodal. He stated that SAPD had provided oversight for TAB since its inception in 1984, and that currently the TAB only focused on private, for-hire transportation. He noted that TAB no longer provided oversight for towing services as the City was now engaged in direct contracts with Towing Agencies; and that more recently, pedicabs and group cycles were added to the vehicle for hire industries, but were not represented by TAB. He stated that the future focus of TAB would be to serve in an advisory role for multimodal transportation providing advocacy and public involvement for City policies and vision with subcommittees created for specific issues/analysis. He outlined a Transportation & Mobility Committee of eleven Voting Technical and Community Members and Non-Voting Agency Members. He requested approval to brief the Governance Committee and present the recommendation to City Council for consideration in March 2020.

Public Comment

David Knipp introduced himself as the owner of an Austin-based pedicab company with 60 licensed pedicabs in operation. He added that he has participated in the Pedicab Industry in San Antonio since 2016. He requested a call for action for the City's Ordinance on pedicabs to be reconsidered. He stated that currently the City allows for only 15 licensed pedicabs allocated among three different companies. He emphasized pedicabs to be an alternative, sustainable multimodal transportation option and that pedicab drivers were licensed chauffeurs. He added that the City of Austin had 425 pedicabs in operation.

Chairwoman Shirley Gonzales asked if TAB met on a regular or monthly basis. Gary Gilbert replied that TAB met monthly. He recommended that TAB structure be updated to report to the Transportation and Mobility Committee instead of to the Public Safety Committee.

Councilmember Perry requested an itemized definition for each of the proposed TAB areas of representation. Mr. Reinhardt stated that it would be provided.

Councilmember Cabello Havdra moved to recommend and forward the restructuring of TAB to the Governance Committee for consideration prior to City Council consideration. Councilmember Treviño seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Briefing on the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program and Transportation & Capital Improvements (TCI) continuing efforts to promote and execute TDM in San Antonio. [Roderick Sanchez, *Assistant City Manager*; Razi Hosseini, *Interim Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements*]

Art Reinhardt provided a briefing on the updated strategies to the TDM Program to address commute challenges and the hiring of a TDM Manager to establish and execute an internal commuting pilot program. Jillian Harris stated that TDM was awarded \$13.7 million for a variety of air-focused projects through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program. Ms. Harris discussed the implementation of a six-month Vanpool Pilot Program (VPP) which was established in October 2019 and consisted of three vans located in the northwest, north central, and northeast areas of town. She stated that the VPP was free to participants which were selected from six city departments located in three different buildings in the downtown area which were convenient to the vanpool's dedicated free parking slot at City Tower. She presented testimony from commuters and stated that TDM would expand the VPP to include participants from the Center City Development & Operations and Human Resources Departments. She added that the City Employee Bike Share Program would also be revamped. She stated that educational outreach would be made through the new employee hiring process and through a dedicated employee-only website with a plan to add a community-wide website in the future.

Public Comment

Jack M. Finger stated that there would always be human error regarding traffic fatalities and recommended harsher sentences for drunk drivers.

Councilmember Sandoval asked how many City employees worked downtown. Ms. Harris replied that approximately 2,000 City Employees worked downtown and that approximately 1,500 employees would be consolidated into the new space at City Tower. She stated that the attached garage's capacity was approximately 1,000 parking slots and some of those slots were to be allocated for the general public and for other building tenants.

Councilmember Perry requested an itemized list of funds distributed by CMAQ and the metric analyses used to gauge success of the respective programs.

No action was required for Item 5.

Adjourned

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Shirley Gonzalez, Chair

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy Cano
Office of the City Clerk*