

**TRANSPORTATION, TECHNOLOGY, & UTILITIES COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2016

11:00 AM

MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING, B ROOM

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| Members Present: | Councilmember Ray Lopez, Chair, <i>District 6</i> Councilmember Rey Saldaña, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, <i>District 5</i> Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, <i>District 8</i> Councilmember Joe Krier, <i>District 9</i> |
| Members Absent: | <i>None</i> |
| Staff Present: | Douglas Melnick, <i>Chief Sustainability Officer</i> ; Mike Frisbie, <i>Director of Transportation & Capital Improvements</i> ; Liza Meyer, <i>Office of Sustainability</i> ; Alicia Beckham, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i> |
| Others Present: | Jeanne Geiger, <i>Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization</i> ; Donna Huff, <i>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</i> ; Diane Rath, <i>Alamo Area Council of Governments</i> ; Steven Smeltzer, <i>Alamo Area Council of Governments</i> |

1. Approval of Minutes for the September 14, 2016 Transportation, Technology, and Utilities Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Krier moved to approve the Minutes for the September 14, 2016 Transportation, Technology, and Utilities Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Nirenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. A briefing on the San Antonio area Air Quality/Non-Attainment status. [Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; Douglas Melnick, Chief Sustainability Officer]

Doug Melnick reported that as of October 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the new ozone standards to 70 parts per billion (ppb). He noted that Bexar County would be declared Marginal Non-Attainment because the Region's Ozone Levels were at 73 ppb. He added that if the Bexar County Region did not meet the ozone standards; the Region would have the potential to rise to the next Non-Attainment Classification Level of Moderate. He stated that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) are the agencies responsible for enforcing the Federal Clean Air Act. He stated that before October 2018 or within 12 months after Non-Attainment Designation; the San Antonio Area would have to obtain clearance from the Federal Government on planned surface transportation projects assuring that it would not create or contribute to new violations.

Jeanne Geiger stated that the MPO would be required to complete and submit a Transportation Conformity Determination on its Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). She noted that a formal Non-Attainment Designation would

have to be made by the EPA. She added that the MPO would have to submit a Long Range and Short Range Transportation Conformity Determination by May 2018 for review. She stated that the MPO would have to approve a Transportation Conformity Determination by October 2018 to guarantee Federal Funding.

Mr. Melnick stated that the TCEQ completes an Emissions Inventory that identifies types of emission sources present in an area and that the Emission Statement Regulations outlines how the facilities must report emissions data to the TCEQ. He added that a Non-Attainment Public Health Impact Study would be completed March 2017 that would address the economic value of air quality. He noted that in November 2019, an Emission Inventory would be submitted by the TCEQ to the EPA and the attainment deadline for Marginal Classified Areas would be December 2020.

Chairman Lopez asked if one TIP were to negatively impact air quality; would the MPO be able to remove it from the Transportation Conformity Determination. Ms. Geiger responded that all future planned TIPs added to the list must be approved collectively. Chairman Lopez asked if the City would receive credit for air quality improvements. Donna Huff responded that the City would be lowering their base line when they make air quality improvements. Chairman Lopez stated that it was important to improve air quality for the purpose of improving Citizen Quality of Life.

Councilmember Nirenberg asked of the funding for the Public Health Impact Study. Mr. Melnick responded that \$75,000 was allocated in the FY 2017 Budget for a Non-Attainment Health Study. Councilmember Nirenberg asked when the campaign would be rolled out into the Community. Mr. Melnick responded that it would be launched in January 2017.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if there were any documents that presented control measures. Mr. Melnick confirmed that there was information that provided control measures and corresponding measures for transportation and industrial entities.

Councilmember Krier asked what the end goal would be to achieve air quality. Mr. Melnick responded that the goal would be to get to the Moderate Classification prior to the calendar year 2020. Diane Rath added that the City was closer to returning to ozone standards because of the actions it had been modeling in the past. She noted that 68% of Non-Attainment particles were coming from outside the Region and entering into the Bexar County Region. Councilmember Krier asked when cars would be required to hook up to a machine during Emission Testing. Mr. Melnick responded that cars would be required to hook up to a machine if the Region did not reach 70 ppb by December 2020.

No action was required for Item 2.

3. A briefing on the High Water Detection System, a collaborative infrastructure effort between the City of San Antonio and Bexar County. [Peter Zanoni, Deputy City Manager; Mike Frisbie, Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements]

Mike Frisbie reported that the City of San Antonio had been working with Bexar County to bring more awareness to low water crossings through the Bexar County High Water Alert Lifesaving Technology (HALT) System that detects high water levels on the road. He noted that there were over 90-low water crossing sites in Bexar County Area and approximately 100-low water crossing sites throughout the City. He added that Bexar County had installed 50 high water detectors in San Antonio. He discussed how HALT manually functioned, how individuals could view the sites online, and its Social Media Interaction. He added that there would be media releases to inform citizens about HALT.

No action was required for Item 3.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.



Ray Lopez, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



*Alicia K. Beckham,
Office of the City Clerk*

