

**Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board**

**Meeting Date:** October 19, 2009

**Agenda Item: Review and Discussion on small city representation for the MPO Policy Board.**

**Comments:**

SB 585 became law this past September requiring all MPOs to adopt specific ethical standards for Policy Board members and staff within their bylaws. In addition to these standards, SB 585 also requires the bylaws to identify specific measures to prevent potential conflicts of interest from arising. SB 585 states that violations of these standards constitute a criminal act punishable by removal from the Policy Board, termination of employment (for staff) and possible prosecution. SB 585 further requires Policy Board members and staff to report any violations of these standards to the District Attorney’s office in a timely manner or face the potential of criminal prosecution for failure to report.

SB 585 requires all new Policy Board members and staff to sign an affidavit stating understanding and agreement to these standards within 3 days of appointment or employment. Policy Board members will not be eligible to participate until a signed affidavit has been received. Existing Policy Board members and staff will be required to submit signed affidavits no later than January 4, 2010. Attached are draft affidavits for Policy Board and staff members.

Please note that the MPO bylaws already contain language defining conflicts of interest and procedures for Policy Board members to follow under such circumstances.

**Action Required:** Approve or disapprove proposed bylaws amendment.

**Motion By:**

**Seconded:**

**Content of Motion:**

**Vote:**