



Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF McLENNAN

12:30 PM
This is to certify that the Notice of a Meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto, was posted on the official bulletin board at the Courthouse, as required by Article 62.52-17 V. T. C. S.

Executed on 5/7/25
J. A. "Andy" Harwell, County Clerk
McLennan County, Texas

By Pam Dunn Deputy

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

POLICY BOARD OF THE WACO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WACO, TEXAS

Thursday, May 15, 2025, 1:30 PM

South Waco Community Center

2815 Speight Ave
Waco, Texas 76711

AGENDA

VIDEOCONFERENCE NOTICE: A quorum of the Policy Board and a possible quorum of the City Council of the City of Waco, Texas, will meet at South Waco Community Center, 2815 Speight Ave, Waco, TX 76711. A limited number of members may attend remotely pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code §551.127. Interested members of the public must attend the meeting in person.


1. **Call to Order, Proof of Posting.**
2. **Public Hearing** regarding any discussion or action item on this agenda.
 - a. In accordance with requirements identified in Section 551.007 of the Texas Government Code, the public is permitted to address the Policy Board regarding any action or discussion item identified on this agenda.
3. **Approval** of the April 17, 2025, meeting minutes.
4. **Consideration and Possible Action** regarding approval of Resolution 2025-10: Waco Policy Board Support for Project Applications from McLennan County for the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects administered by the Texas Department of Transportation.
5. **Consideration and Possible Action** regarding approval of Resolution 2025-11: Selection Process for Small Cities Policy Board Representatives.
 - a. Discussion and Action on Resolution
 - b. Appointment of Small Cities West Representative

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6. **Review, Discussion, and Directive Action** regarding the solicitation of public comments on the draft 2026 and 2027 Unified Planning and Work Program (UPWP).
7. **Update and Discussion** on the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) debrief symposium.
8. **Update and Discussion** on current grant efforts.
9. **Update and Discussion** on MPO Redesignation.
10. **Update and Discussion** from the Technical Advisory Committee.
11. **Update and Discussion** from the Texas Department of Transportation regarding significant highway construction within the Waco Metropolitan Area.
12. **Work Group Updates.**
13. **MPO Monthly Report.**
14. **Announcements.**
 - a. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, June 26, 2025
 - b. **Request** for agenda items to be considered for future meetings.
15. **Hearing** of visitors regarding any item of MPO business not identified on this agenda.
 - a. Note: The Policy Board cannot respond to comments received during this public hearing.
16. **Adjournment.**

People with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services should contact the MPO at (254) 750-5650 at least twenty-four (24) hours before this meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

I hereby certify that this agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the McLennan County Courthouse, Waco, Texas, on the 7th day of May 2025.

Signed by:

44EB76D4EEFB4BB

Mukesh Kumar
Director

Si desea dirigirse al comité representativo de la Organización de Planificación Metropolitana en una reunión pública y necesita un intérprete, llame al 254-750-5650 al menos con 24 horas de anticipación.

Si necesita información adicional o una traducción de este documento, dirija su solicitud por correo a la Organización de Planeación Metropolitana a este numero telefónico: 254-750-5650, o por correo esta dirección: P.O. Box 2570 Waco, Texas 76702.

MPO Policy Board
Thursday, April 17, 2025
 South Waco Community Center
 Large Conference Room, 1:30 p.m.
 2815 Speight Ave, Waco, Texas



Summary Notes

Policy Board Members Present:

Andrea Barefield	Council Member District One, City of Waco
Jacob Bell	Citizen Representative, City of Waco
Josh Borderud	Council Member District Three, City of Waco
Deidra Emerson, proxy for Paul Cain	Assistant City Manager, City of Waco
Jed Cole	Plan Commission, City of Waco
Kevin Neal	City Manager, City of Lorena
Darius Ewing	Council Member District Four, City of Waco
Calvin Hodde	City Manager, City of Lacy Lakeview
Lisa Blackmon, proxy for Jim Holmes	Mayor, City of Waco
Jim Jaska	Mayor, City of Ross
Will Jones*	County Commissioner, Pct. 3, McLennan County
Bryan LeMeilleur	City Planner, City of McGregor
Craig Lemin	City Manager, City of Robinson
Adam Niolet	Assistant City Manager, City of Woodway
Stan Swiatek	District Engineer, Texas Dept. of Transportation, Waco District
Everett "Bo" Thomas	City Manager, City of Hewitt

Policy Board Members Absent:

Scott Felton	County Judge, McLennan County
Yost Zakhary	City Manager, City of Bellmead

Staff Present:

Mukesh Kumar	Director, Waco MPO
Arthur Chambers	Senior Planner, Waco MPO
Annette Polk	Senior Planner, Waco MPO
Nora Roy	Senior Planner, Waco MPO
Devon Legare	Administrative Assistant, Waco MPO

Others Present:

Amy Burlarley-Hyland	Assistant County Engineer, McLennan County
Jennifer Boen	Waco Area Group Leader, STV
Victor Goebel*	Director of Transportation Planning & Development, TxDOT Waco District
Kyla Wilson	ACLVC
Suzette May	Mobilize Waco
James Kuhr	STV
Bobby Poitevint	KXXV
Clayton Zacha	Waco Area Engineer, TxDOT Waco District

*Attended Virtually

1. Call to Order, Proof of Posting.

Chair Everett “Bo” Thomas called the April 17, 2025, meeting of the MPO Policy Board to order at 1:32 p.m. A quorum of members was met. Waco City Council was also called into session.

Meeting agendas were posted on the MPO website on April 11, 2025 and at the City of Waco website on April 12, 2025 noting a possible quorum of the Waco City Council.

2. Public Hearing regarding any discussion or action item on this agenda.

Visitors were invited to address the Policy Board regarding any action or discussion item identified on this agenda. No visitors approached the Board.

3. Approval of the March 20, 2025 meeting minutes.

Minutes were approved as submitted.

4. Consideration and Possible Action regarding Resolution 2025-9: Waco MPO Policy Board approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Project Listing (APL).

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar.

a. Background**b. Public Hearing**

Chairman Thomas opened the public hearing at 1:37 p.m.
No visitors submitted comments for or against this item.
Chairman Thomas closed the public hearing at 1:37 p.m.

c. **Consideration and Action**

RESULT:	Motion to approve passed with a 16 – 0 vote [Unanimous]
MOVER:	Jacob Bell
SECONDER:	Andrea Barefield

5. **Review, Discussion, and Directive Action** regarding approval of the proposed cost sharing allocation formula for the FY 2024 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) countywide sign inventory.

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar.

RESULT:	Discussed. The Policy Board directed staff to follow the proposed allocation formula.
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6. **Review, Discussion, and Directive Action** regarding submission of a proposal for the FY 2025 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary grant program.

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar. The Policy Board directed staff to submit a proposal for the FY 2025 SS4A grant program.

RESULT:	Discussed. The Policy Board directed staff to follow the proposed allocation formula.
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7. **Review, Discussion, and Directive Action** regarding planning, goals, and date selection for the upcoming 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) debrief.

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar.

RESULT:	Discussed. The Policy Board directed staff to organize 2050 MTP Debrief on 9/26/25 from 9am-2pm.
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8. **Update and Discussion** on current grant efforts.

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar.

RESULT:	Discussed.
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9. Update and Discussion on MPO redesignation.

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar.

RESULT:	Discussed.
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10. Update and Discussion from the Technical Advisory Committee.

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Amy Burlarley-Hyland.

RESULT:	Discussed.
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11. Update and Discussion from the Texas Department of Transportation regarding significant highway construction within the Waco Metropolitan Area.

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Clayton Zacha.

RESULT:	Discussed.
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12. Work Group Updates.

Citizen's Participation Work Group
Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group
Mobility, Land Use and Technology Work Group

For information and discussion only. Updates provided by Jennifer Boen & Kyla Wilson.

RESULT:	Discussed.
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13. MPO Monthly Report.

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar.

RESULT:	Discussed. Directed staff to move Policy Board meeting from 9/18/2025 to 9/11/2025 due to AMPO Conference.
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14. Announcements.

- a. The next meeting of the Waco MPO Policy Board is scheduled for Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 1:30 pm.
- b. No requests received for agenda items to be considered for future meetings.

15. Hearing of visitors regarding any item of MPO business not identified on this agenda.

Did not conduct.

16. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meetings were adjourned at 2:20p.m.

Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board

Meeting Date: May 15, 2025

Agenda Item: Consideration and Possible Action regarding approval of Resolution 2025-10: Support for Project Applications from McLennan County for the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects administered by the Texas Department of Transportation.

Comments: TxDOT's Transportation Alternatives (TA) Call for Projects is a competitive statewide initiative providing federal dollars for locally sponsored non-automotive transportation projects. The TA program provides funding to plan for and construct a variety of alternative transportation projects that improve safety and mobility for nonmotorized travelers and mitigate congestion by providing safe alternatives to motor vehicle transport.

Through TxDOT's 2025 TA Call for Projects, TxDOT will select projects for recommendation to the Texas Transportation Commission for anticipated FY 2027-FY 2029 federal appropriations under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and subsequent funding bills, totaling approximately \$250 million. Projects located in all areas of the state, regardless of population size, may be submitted under the current program call.

Preliminary applications were due to TxDOT on February 21, 2025. Several applications were being submitted by Waco MPO member governments. TxDOT notified applicants in mid April whether they were invited to move forward in the process and submit a detailed application. Detailed applications should incorporate feedback received on their preliminary application and must be submitted by June 3, 2025. The Texas Transportation Commission is anticipated to identify funding awards in October 2025.

One requirement for TA funding is an indication of MPO support for the project application and a statement that the MPO will include the project within our Transportation Improvement Program if funding is awarded. Under previous similar programs, the Policy Board chose to support all McLennan County applications provided that the project is consistent with priorities identified within the Active Transportation Plan. Approval of this resolution authorizes the MPO Director to provide letters of support for project applications from McLennan County.

Action Required:

1. Receive presentation on 2025 TA Project Call
2. Conduct Public Hearing
3. Adopt, disapprove or adopt with changes Resolution 2025-10

Motion By:

Seconded:

Content of Motion:

Vote:

Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board

Meeting Date: May 15, 2025

Agenda Item: Consideration and Possible Action regarding approval of Resolution 2025-11: Selection Process for Small Cities Policy Board representatives.

Comments: The bylaws of the Policy Board of the Waco MPO state cities with less than 5,000 population shall nominate and elect three persons to represent their interests on the Policy Board based upon the following geographic assignments:

- Northeast – cities of Gholson, Leroy, Ross and West
- Southeast – cities of Beverly Hills, Hallsburg, Mart and Riesel
- West – cities of Bruceville-Eddy, Crawford, Lorena, and Moody

The bylaws state these positions shall each have one vote on the Policy Board, are subject to all the provisions and responsibilities for other voting members, and that there is no limit to the number of terms a person may serve in this capacity.

The bylaws direct the MPO Director to solicit nominations to fill vacant small city representative positions and conduct an annual election for these positions. However, specifics for conducting this process are vague, and efforts to secure nominations have been problematic.

Many MPOs use a “no objection” approach to recruiting small city representation. Policy Board representatives for small cities can be selected through a process where nominations are submitted and, if no objections are raised against a candidate, the candidate is appointed by a governing body such as the city council or town meeting where the candidate serves. This process is more workable and ensures representation from respective geographic assignments.

Since June 2021, the position of “Small Cities West” representative” has been vacant. The MPO Director wishes to use a “no objection” approach to fill this position, and to select small cities Policy Board representatives in the future. A formal change to Policy Board bylaws clarifying this approach is anticipated within six months of the redesignation decision by the Governor.

Action Required:

1. Receive presentation on small city representation
2. Conduct Public Hearing
3. Adopt, disapprove or adopt with changes Resolution 2025-11

Motion By:

Seconded:

Content of Motion:

Vote:

Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board

Meeting Date: May 15, 2025

Agenda Item: Review, Discussion, and Directive Action regarding the solicitation of public comments on the draft 2026 and 2027 Unified Planning and Work Program (UPWP).

Comments: The UPWP is a federally required document and represents the 2-year budget of the MPO. The UPWP describes the work tasks expected to be performed by both the MPO & Waco Transit using federal planning funds and estimates the cost to perform those tasks. The UPWP incorporates the normal administrative tasks performed each year in addition to the more significant plans or studies proposed.

A draft of the UPWP for 2026 and 2027 has been prepared by MPO staff. It will program an estimated \$1.29 million in federal planning funds for MPO work tasks for the 2-year period; this includes a 2.5% mandated set aside to fund safety activities. The UPWP will program an estimated \$512,208 of FTA Section 5307 funds to be used by the Waco Transit System along with a non-federal match of \$78,400 provided by the Waco Transit System.

The MPO's Public Participation Plan (PPP) prescribes a process for MPO staff to follow to make the draft UPWP available to the public for review and comment for a minimum of 30 days. Upon Policy Board direction, the MPO staff will conduct 2 public information meetings in May 2025, and post a recording of one of those meetings on the MPO website for public viewing with a link to submit comments.

The draft 2026 and 2027 UPWP will be presented to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for review and comment to inform the recommendation to the Policy Board regarding adoption. Public comments received will be provided to the TAC prior to their review.

Action Required:

1. Receive presentation on UPWP
2. Conduct Public Hearing
3. Consideration and action

Motion By:

Seconded:

Content of Motion:

Vote: