MPO Policy Board

Thursday, September 10, 2026

South Waco Community Center
Large Conference Room, 1:30 p.m.
2815 Speight Ave, Waco, Texas

Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization

Summary Notes

Policy Board Members Present:

David Olson for Jacob Bell	Citizen Representative, City of Waco
Deidra Emerson for Paul Cain	Assistant City Manager, City of Waco
Calvin Hodde	City Manager, City of Lacy Lakeview
Rick Tullis for Jim Holmes	Mayor, City of Waco
Commissioner DL Wilson for Scott Felton	County Judge, McLennan County
Jim Jaska	Northeast Cities, City of Ross
Will Jones	County Commissioner, Pct. 3, McLennan County
Craig Lemin	City Manager, City of Robinson
Yost Zakhary	City Manager, City of Bellmead
Kevin Neal	City Manager, City of Lorena
Blu Kostelich for George Chase	Council Member District Five, City of Waco
Ashley Nystrom for Darius Ewing	Council Member District Four, City of Waco
Victor Goebel for Stan Swiatek	District Engineer, TXDOT, Waco District
Everett “Bo” Thomas	City Manager, City of Hewitt
Bryan LeMeilleur departed at 2:35pm	Assistant City Manager, City of McGregor
Andrea Barefield	Council Member District One, City of Waco
Adam Niolet	Assistant City Manager, City of Woodway

Policy Board Members Absent:

Nathan Embry	Plan Commissioner, City of Waco

Staff Present:

Mukesh Kumar	Director, Waco MPO
Daniela Gallegos	Public Engagement Specialist, 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:

Kevin St. Jacques	Freese and Nichols

Enrique Perez	City of Waco
Jordan Everhart	HDR
Michael Bolin	TTI
Jim Devlin	City of Hewitt
Jake Smith	TXDOT
Andrew Newar	TXDOT
Mohab Samuel	TXDOT
Abram VanElswyk	TXDOT
Celine Finney	Hlteig Engineers
Lisa Deitemeyer	JMD
Brandy Morse	SIUT
Amy Burlarley-Hyland	McLennan County
Sabrina Camacho	Baylor
Clint Peters	City of Waco
Mito Diaz Espinoza	CTHCC
Josh Garcia	Bike and Pedestrian Workgroup
Jim Holmes(arrived at 2:27pm)	Mayor, City of Waco
David Shaw	Haley and Olson
Brenton Lane*	TXDOT
Ryan Simon*	TTI
Andy Haferkamp*	Unknown

**Attended Virtually*

1. **Call to Order, Proof of Posting.**
   Chair Everett "Bo" Thomas called the September 10, 2026, meeting of the MPO Policy Board to order at 1:34 p.m. A quorum of members was met. No other meetings were called into session.

   Meeting agendas were posted on the MPO website on September 3, 2026 and at the City of Waco website on September 4, 2026 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 June 18, 2026 meeting minutes.

4. **Update and Discussion** on policy issues and considerations of interest to the Policy Board.

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

RESULT:	Discussed discretionary grant proposal and Strategic Planning Workgroup.

5. **Election** of Policy Board Officers for Fiscal Year 2027.

   a. **Review Standards of Conduct**

   b. **Election of Officers**

a. Background

b. Background

Term of office: October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027.

Policy Board Chair Election:

Motion to nominate Ms. Andrea Barefield to serve as Board Chair for FY 2027.

MOVER:	Blu Kostelich for George Chase, Council Member District Five, City of Waco
SECONDER:	Yost Zakhary City Manager, City of Bellmead

No other nominations submitted.

RESULT:	Elected with a vote of 17 - 0 [Unanimous]

Policy Board Vice Chair Election:

Motion to nominate Mr. Yost Zachary to serve as Policy Board Vice Chair for FY 2027.

MOVER:	Kevin Neal, City Manager, City of Lorena
SECONDER:	Bryan LeMeilleur, Assistant City Manager, City of McGregor

No other nominations submitted.

RESULT:	Elected with a vote of 17 - 0 [Unanimous]

6. **Review, Consideration and Possible Action** directing MPO staff to negotiate an engagement agreement with Attorney David Shaw of Haley & Olson to provide legal representation for the Waco Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

a. Background

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar, followed by remarks from David Shaw.

RESULT:	Motion to approve passed with a 17– 0 vote
MOVER:	Kevin Neal, City Manager, City of Lorena
SECONDER:	Will Jones, County Commissioner, Pct. 3, McLennan County

7. **Presentation and Discussion** regarding the BU/US 77 Corridor Access and Circulation Guidelines.

a. Background

For information and discussion only. Mukesh Kumar provided an update, followed by a presentation from Kevin St. Jacques.

RESULT:	Discussed; presentation provided.

8. **Review, Consideration and Possible Action** regarding Resolution 2026-14: Acceptance and Adoption of the BU/US 77 Corridor Access and Circulation Guidelines and Direction to MPO Staff to Prioritize the Advancement and Funding of BU/US 77 Corridor Improvements.

a. Background

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

RESULT:	Motion to approve passed with a 17– 0 vote
MOVER:	Andrea Barefield, Council Member District One, City of Waco
SECONDER:	Deidra Emerson, Assistant City Manager, City of Waco

Chairman Thomas opened and closed the public hearing at 2:15 p.m./2:16 p.m. No visitor comments were submitted.

9. **Review, Consideration and Possible Action** regarding Resolution 2026-15: Adoption of the Waco Area MPO Complete Streets Policy.

a. Background

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

RESULT:	Motion to approve passed with a 17– 0 vote
MOVER:	Will Jones, County Commissioner, Pct. 3, McLennan County
SECONDER:	Calvin Hodde, City Manager, City of Lacy Lakeview

Chairman Thomas opened and closed the public hearing at 2:25 p.m./2:26 p.m. No visitor comments were submitted

10. **Update and Discussion** on current grant efforts.

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

RESULT:	Discussed.

11. **Update and Discussion** from the Technical Advisory Committee.

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

RESULT:	Discussed.

12. **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 Mohab Samuel.

RESULT:	Discussed.

13. **MPO Monthly Report.**

a. Initiative Ownership and Leadership
b. Work Group Updates
c. Organizational Updates
d. Special Recognition
e. Policy Board Member Attendance

For information and discussion only. Update provided by Mukesh Kumar & Josh Garcia. Special Recognition by Andrea Barefield.

RESULT:	Discussed. Presented awards to Everett “Bo” Thomas & Michael Bolin.

14. **Announcements.**

a. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, October 15, 2026
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.

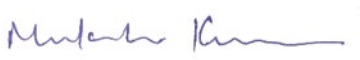
Chairman Thomas opened and closed the public hearing at 2:54 p.m./2:55 p.m. No visitor comments were submitted.

16. **Adjournment.**

There being no further business, the meetings were adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Persons 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 seventy-two (72) 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 _3rd__ day of September 2026.



_____

Mukesh Kumar
Director

Persons who wish to address the MPO Policy Board at a public meeting and need an interpreter may make such a request by calling 254-750-5650 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Persons who need additional information or a translation of this document may submit their request by calling 254-750-5650 or by mail to: P.O. Box 2570, Waco, Texas 76702.

Las personas que deseen dirigirse a la Junta Directiva de la MPO en una reunión pública y necesiten un intérprete pueden solicitarlo llamando al 254-750-5650 al menos con 24 horas de anticipación a la reunión. Las personas que necesiten información adicional o una traducción de este documento pueden enviar su solicitud llamando al 254-750-5650 o por correo postal a: P.O. Box 2570, Waco, Texas 76702.