

Policy 1: Guidelines for Funding Planning Studies in the Unified Planning Work Program

A. Development of the Budget Document (Unified Planning Work Program)

As required by federal and state regulations, the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) adopts a document detailing the transportation planning tasks and their budgets for the study area for a given time period. This document is referred to as the Unified Planning Work Program or UPWP. The Alamo Area MPO currently adopts a two-year UPWP.

In February of the UPWP development year, the MPO's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), in coordination with MPO staff, will identify priorities for the upcoming two-year time period. Priorities may include refinements to the MPO's processes; development of databases; or other aspects of multi-modal transportation planning to include demographic development and travel demand modeling; public involvement; analysis of geographic subareas or corridors, transit, bicycle and/or pedestrian, freight, environmental, congestion management or other priorities. These priorities must be sufficiently defined because they will then become planning studies to be considered for funding.

In March, TAC and MPO staff will develop scopes of work (specifically noting data requirements, including data that already exists and data that will need to be collected) and budgets for the priorities identified in February. A recommendation will be made for the work to be performed by MPO staff, partner agency staff or consultants. For each identified planning study, MPO staff will identify previous related work and a reasonable timeframe for completing the scope of work.

Throughout April of the UPWP development year, MPO staff, in consultation with TAC as necessary, will prepare a draft UPWP and present it to TAC for review in May. A draft UPWP is also submitted to TxDOT (Austin) by the required deadline.

Prior to the final deadline established by TxDOT for UPWP submittal, TAC will review the final draft UPWP, make a recommendation on its approval and submit it to the Transportation Policy Board for final adoption.

The Transportation Policy Board gives final approval of studies and budgets for inclusion in the Unified Planning Work Program.

B. Reporting Requirements

Monthly Progress Report

For studies and projects undertaken by either agency staff or consultant, a written monthly progress report (Form "C") will be prepared and submitted to the MPO with each monthly billing package. This monthly progress report will outline specifically the work accomplished under each work element/deliverable and compare that work, specifically with the objectives and tasks outlined to be accomplished. The progress report will specify and delineate any problems that have occurred as well as indicate whether the study will be completed on time and within the

budget as approved. This report will be submitted along with monthly billings and signed in accordance with the agency or consultant's internal procedures.

Annual Performance and Expenditure Report

The annual performance and expenditure report will be prepared by the MPO staff and forwarded to the Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal funding agencies by the required deadline. The annual report work documents work completed for each subtask, and provides a year-to-date funding summary.

Technical Memorandum

A Technical Memorandum is a status report of work completed for one or more work elements/deliverable as outlined in the agency or consultant contract, with a timeframe of less than a complete fiscal year. The effort required for each technical memorandum is dependent on the amount of work performed in the timeframe specified in the contract. The technical memorandum format of those products being reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee will be in report document form. Agencies and consultants will be responsible for providing an electronic version from which to make hardcopies as necessary.

Technical Report

A Technical Report is the documentation of work accomplished within an entire fiscal year for a subtask that extends beyond one fiscal year. This document will fully describe the work performed without a requirement for final recommendations or conclusions. Agencies and consultants will be responsible for providing an electronic version to post on the MPO's website and from which to make hardcopies as necessary.

Final Report

A Final Report is a stand-alone document that states the objective of the study, describes the planning work accomplished, and provides recommendations or conclusions (this report may consist of work accomplishments in more than a single fiscal year). Agencies and consultants will be responsible for providing an electronic version to post on the MPO's website and from which to make hardcopies as necessary.

C. Budget Amendment Approval

The MPO Director is authorized to approve/disapprove agency and consultant line-item budget amendments that stay within the total contract amount.

The following amendments shall be presented to the Technical Advisory Committee and Transportation Policy Board for review and subsequent approval:

- a. Any proposed change in scope of work for any study (Agency or consultant) regardless of dollar amount.
- b. Any request for additional funding.

D. Participation in Planning Studies

Transportation Policy Board members, Technical Advisory Committee members and MPO staff shall not be eligible to participate in contracted work for a period of one year following their departure from one of the aforementioned entities. Any violations of this policy will result in the disqualification of the consulting team from the procurement process for that project.

Member agencies of the MPO are ineligible to compete for studies identified in the UPWP as consultant studies.

Adopted: December 4, 2017

Policy 2: Public Participation Plan

This text is the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (AAMPO) plan to involve the public. It is called a Public Participation Plan (PPP) and is required by law. People were able to comment on the plan for 45 days. This comment period took place prior to adoption of the plan.

Purpose of the Public Participation Plan

This plan provides a guide for how MPO staff can involve the public. It includes goals, procedures, and tools the MPO will use. It also includes metrics used to measure and evaluate plan performance.

AAMPO's Commitment to Public Participation

People should have a say in transportation decisions that affect their lives. To help make this possible, the AAMPO commits to:

1. Welcome all people into the planning process.
2. Identify people affected and involve them in the process.
3. Get people involved early and keep them involved throughout in the process.
4. Provide people with a variety of ways to participate.
5. Hold meetings at convenient dates, times, and locations.
6. Hold meetings at accessible places (see attachment 1).
7. Make meetings accessible for people with disabilities.
8. Provide interpreters (spoken or sign) if requested at least five (5) working days in advance of a meeting.
9. Use information and graphics that are easy to understand.
10. Talk to people and record their comments.
11. Consider comments in the planning process.

Public Participation Goals

- Goal 1**
 - The MPO will **engage people in the transportation planning process**. The MPO will do this **according to the goals in this plan and applicable laws**.
- Goal 2**
 - The MPO will **keep people informed** of transportation news.
- Goal 3**
 - The MPO will **encourage the everyone in the study area to get involved**. This includes those traditionally underserved.
- Goal 4**
 - The MPO will **strive to improve** public participation.
- Goal 5**
 - The MPO will **work closely with other transportation agencies**.

Federal and State Requirements

This plan reflects the AAMPO commitment to the public. It also outlines their role in the regional planning process. It follows the federal and local laws listed below.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

Federal rules for metropolitan transportation planning (23 CFR 450.316) and FHWA guidelines say that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) shall develop and use a documented participation plan. The plan defines a process for providing citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties with reasonable opportunities to be involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process. AAMPO complies with the ten MPO requirements listed in 23 CFR 450.316.

Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act)

The current transportation bill is the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. It was passed by Congress and signed by President Obama on December 4, 2015. The FAST Act authorizes \$305 billion nationwide over fiscal years 2016 through 2020 for transportation spending. It is the first law enacted in over ten years that provides long-term funding certainty for surface transportation.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) stipulates involving the community, particularly those with disabilities in the development and improvement of services.

The Age Discrimination Act of 1975

The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 prohibits discrimination based on age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. The Act prohibits recipients of Federal financial assistance from taking actions that result in denying or limiting services or otherwise discriminating based on age.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Title VI states that "No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." Title VI serves as the legal foundation for what is today referred to as environmental justice. AAMPO adheres to Title VI and environmental justice principles.

Executive Order 13166 – Limited English Proficiency

Executive Order 13166 was created to "... improve access to federally conducted and federally assisted programs and activities for persons who, as a result of national origin, are limited in their English proficiency ..." Federal agencies were directed to provide guidance and technical

assistance to recipients of federal funds as to how they can provide meaningful access to limited English proficient users of federal programs. Consistent with Executive Order 13166 and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) guidance, AAMPO has developed a Limited English Proficiency Plan } in order to ensure meaningful input opportunities for persons with limited English proficiency. The AAMPO LEP plan is available on the AAMPO website (www.alamoareampo.org) and calls for translations of vital documents, such as public notices, into Spanish. AAMPO may, at its discretion, translate documents into additional languages if the nature of the document and the character of the document's target audience justify additional translation. The LEP plan provides further guidance for serving limited English-speaking populations.

Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice

This order was signed by President Clinton in 1994. It reinforced the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that focused federal attention on the environmental and human health condition in minority and low-income communities:

Each federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.

Executive Order 13175 – Consultation and Coordination with Tribal Governments

Executive Order 13175 states that “in formulating or implementing policies that have tribal implications, agencies shall establish regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials to reduce the imposition of unfunded mandates upon Indian tribes.”

At least one American Indian tribe has expressed an interest in being notified of activities throughout the state of Texas. Though there are no tribal governments located in the Alamo Area MPO study area, the MPO will actively seek to keep tribal governments informed of major decisions affecting the region. The MPO will continue to communicate with Native American Indian tribal leaders on an ongoing basis to identify issues of common concern.

Disclaimers

In order to share appropriate requirements with the public related to various laws and regulations, the MPO regularly uses the following disclaimers. Their purpose and use is described below.

American's with Disabilities Act Statement

The following disclaimer will be included on public meeting notices as appropriate:

All MPO meetings will be conducted in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and are accessible to persons with disabilities. Arrangements for special assistance or an interpreter can be made by calling the Metropolitan Planning Organization office at (210)-227-8651, or Relay Texas at 1-800-735-2989 at least five (5) business days in advance. The meeting facilities will also be within a reasonable distance of a transit route in counties where transit service is readily available.

Title VI and Environmental Justice Statement

The following MPO Title VI and Environmental Justice Nondiscrimination Statement will be included in informational items and collateral materials as appropriate:

The Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), as a recipient of Federal funding and under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and related statutes, ensures that no person shall on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age or disability be excluded from participation in, denied benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against by any MPO program or activity.

Report Language

The following language shall be included in all reports published by the MPO:

Prepared in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Transit Administration.

This language shall be displayed on the interior front cover page in a place of prominence in accordance with the contract between TxDOT and the Alamo Area MPO.

Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Language

For newspaper ads in support of the development of the Transportation Improvement Program, by agreement with the transit provider, the language shown below must be included in the ad text itself:

The TIP development process is being used to satisfy the public hearing requirements of FTA's Section 5307 program and this public notice of public involvement activities and time established for public review and comments on the TIP will satisfy the FTA Program of Projects requirements.

Target Audiences

The MPO takes great pride in working with people and other agencies. The AAMPO strongly believes that people should have a say in decisions that impact their lives. The AAMPO staff keeps a contact list on a continuous basis. People and groups that AAMPO targets are listed below. This list is not exclusive. The AAMPO also reaches out to the public at large.

Target Audiences
Airport operators
Board and committee members
Business and trade organizations
Citizens expressing an interest in transportation planning
City and academic libraries
Civic and public interest groups
Community-based associations
Commuters
Disabled populations
Elected local, state and federal officials
Emergency response agencies
Environmental groups
Faith-based organizations
Freight shippers
Higher education faculty, staff, and students
Homeowner, neighborhood and resident associations
Local media outlets
Military Bases
Natural disaster risk reduction agencies
Private transportation organizations and employees
Providers of freight transportation services
Public agencies and staff
Public health organizations
Public ports
Public transportation
School districts
Social service organizations
Tourism industry
Traditionally underserved populations (described in greater detail in the following section)
Transportation advocates
Tribal governments
Users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities
Users of ridesharing services such as Uber and Lyft
Any other interested parties

Diversity and Inclusiveness

AAMPO commits to engage traditionally underserved groups. These groups include low-income and minority populations. Federal laws protect more groups. The AAMPO also protects two more groups. All protected groups are listed here.

Protected Categories

Both Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) and Executive Order 12898 (EO 12898) on Environmental Justice (EO 12898) are specific in the description of the populations they protect. Title VI prohibits discrimination based on race, color and national origin. EO 12898 protects minority and low-income populations. Discrimination against persons based on gender, age, and disability are addressed by other nondiscrimination statutes. Collectively, these populations are often referred to as “traditionally underserved” in the transportation planning process.

Minority

Persons considered minorities are identified by the U.S. Census as people of African, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian, or Alaskan Native origin. Executive Order 12898 and the DOT and FHWA Orders on Environmental Justice consider minority persons as persons belonging to any of the following groups:

- **Black** – a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- **Hispanic** – a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- **Asian** – a person having origins in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent.
- **American Indian and Alaskan Native** – a person having origins in North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

Low Income

A person whose household income (or in the case of a community or group, whose median household income) is at or below the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines. The national poverty guidelines are issued annually by the Department of Health and Human Services and are available at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/poverty.shtml>.

Elderly

Any persons over the age of 65.

People with Disabilities

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, a qualified individual with a disability is a person that 1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; 2) has a record of such an impairment; or 3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

Limited English Proficiency

People who do not speak English as their primary language and have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English may be considered limited English proficient.

Additional Categories

Additionally, AAMPO includes low-literacy populations and those without personal transportation as traditionally underserved populations, although they are not protected by either a federal act or an executive order.

Low Literacy

People who have difficulty using certain reading, writing, and computational skills considered necessary for functioning in everyday life may be considered to have low literacy. Persons with low literacy are generally defined as having less than fifth-grade reading and comprehension skills.

Zero Car Households

Households without cars or access to one.

Board and Committees

The AAMPO board and committees provide one of the most regular and consistent ways for public involvement. Following is a list of committees supported by MPO staff. The table below identifies the day of the month, time, and location of their meetings.

Committee	Date/Time	Location
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) *	First Friday of the month at 1:30 p.m.	TxDOT District Office Building 2 Hearing Room 4615 NW Loop 410 San Antonio, TX 78229
Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (BMAC) *	Second Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.	MPO Conference Room B 825 South Saint Mary's Street San Antonio, TX 78205
Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee (PMAC) *	Third Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.	MPO Conference Room B at 825 South Saint Mary's Street, San Antonio, TX 78205
Transportation Policy Board (TPB) *	Fourth Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m.	VIA Metro Center Community Room 1021 San Pedro San Antonio, TX 78212

* Meeting dates and locations are subject to change. The BMAC and PMAC committees hold joint evening meetings several times a year. Some committees choose to cancel meetings in July and December. For the most current information, please visit www.alamoareampo.org/calendar.

MPO meetings are open to all. For special needs or translator, call 210-227-8651. You can also call TDD 1-800-735-2989 (Relay Texas). Please call at least five working days before the meeting. Meeting dates, times, and locations may change. You can call 210-227-8651 to confirm the meeting. The table below lists the timing of information on the website.

Materials	What is available on the web?	When is it posted on the web?
Meeting agendas and packets	Transportation Policy Board www.alamoareampo.org/Committees/TPB/ Technical Advisory Committee www.alamoareampo.org/Committees/TAC/ Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee www.alamoareampo.org/Committees/BMAC/ Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee www.alamoareampo.org/Committees/PMAC/	One week prior to the meeting

Materials	What is available on the web?	When is it posted on the web?
Meeting Information	Board and committee meeting dates and times www.alamoareampo.org/Calendar/	Online calendar is posted and updated throughout the year, along with board/committee web pages. Meeting information pages updated monthly.
Livestreaming	Transportation Policy Board meetings only www.alamoareampo.org/mpolive	Listen or watch the Transportation Policy Board meetings live or in a searchable archive available 24 hours after the event.
News releases	News and media items, published or broadcast www.alamoareampo.org/news/	Review news releases after sending to the media. Timing of the news release varies depending on the news item or event.

Meeting Notices

The Texas Open Meetings Act requires notice of any public meeting where a decision could be made or that may be attended by more than one elected official. The MPO regularly posts MPO Transportation Policy Board (TPB), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (BMAC) and Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee (PMAC) meetings in the Texas Register, at the Bexar County Courthouse Bulletin Board, and with Comal and Guadalupe counties.

Public Comments

The MPO accepts public comments at every regular meeting of the board and committees. Comments can be spoken or in writing.

Public Participation Toolbox

The MPO communicates with the public in a variety of ways. Information shared covers the MPO’s programs, projects and studies. MPO information materials display the MPO logo and include contacts. This section describes some of the communication tools the MPO uses.

Philosophy of External Communications

Guiding principles for external communications include:


- **Informative:** The MPO will provide information. The MPO does not advocate on issues.
- **Concise:** The MPO will provide clear and concise information.
- **Clear:** The MPO will use easy to understand text and graphics.
- **Engaging:** The MPO will hold meetings that are fun, interactive, and meaningful.

The MPO uses the “Spectrum of Public Participation.” It was developed by the International Association of Public Participation. The spectrum helps identify when to use tools in the process.

IAP2’S PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SPECTRUM



The IAP2 Federation has developed the Spectrum to help groups define the public’s role in any public participation process. The IAP2 Spectrum is quickly becoming an international standard.

		INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION 				
		INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL		To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
	PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

The table shows different communication tools. The last column shows the level of participation. It corresponds to the Spectrum of Participation. Some strategies, such as outreach tools, are solely informational. Others can include multiple points on the spectrum.

Meetings/Events/Speaking Engagements		
Type	Description	Level of Participation
Project Workshops/Open-Houses	This type of public meeting is open and more informal. Team members interact with the public on a one-on-one basis. Short presentations may be given at these meetings. They will be followed by small group exercises or exhibits that people can visit on their own.	Inform Consult Involve Collaborate
MPO Exhibit Tables	MPO staff attend other agency events and man tables or booths. These include activities, maps, charts and informational brochures. Exhibit tables may also be used at malls or other public venues.	Inform Consult
Small Group Meetings	During projects such as planning studies, meetings are held with small groups that have an interest in the project. Meetings could be with homeowners or neighborhood associations, civic groups, special interest groups, or other groups of affected or interested parties.	Inform Consult Involve
Advisory committee meetings	The AAMPO staff supports four committees and several subcommittees. These groups provide input, advice and recommendations to the planning process. Committees work to build consensus on their recommendations before sending them to the board.	Inform Consult Involve Collaborate
Transportation Policy Board	The board is made up of elected officials and representatives from the various cities, counties, and public agencies within the MPO study area. It is the sole decision-making body within the MPO process.	Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower

Online/Electronic Tools		
Type	Description	Level of Participation
AAMPO Website	The website was established in 1998 with basic information about the MPO process, members, meeting times and contact information. The site has been expanded to include information about specific projects undertaken by the MPO. Bicycle, pedestrian and trails information and event schedules are also included. Work products such as the UPWP, TIP and MTP are available from the website. The site provides many links to other transportation related sites from the local to national level. The site is continually maintained and updated by MPO staff and is used to promote regular and special meetings, planning studies, bicycle and pedestrian events, publications and work products.	Inform
FastTrack E-Newsletter	The MPO publishes an electronic newsletter on a bi-weekly basis and distributes it according to the database e-mail list. Citizens are added to the distribution list at their own request. Opportunities to be added to the list occur during public meetings hosted by the MPO, during public events attended by the MPO, on the MPO website, and when citizens contact MPO staff. Each issue of the newsletter includes staff contact information, upcoming meeting schedules, the MPO website address, project highlights, and current planning project status reports. Information regarding significant transportation issues, MPO awards, and other one-time activities are also included.	Inform Consult
Social Media	The MPO will utilize appropriate social media avenues to post pertinent information and notices on a frequent basis. This also provides another opportunity for the public to provide public input to the MPO's on-going planning process.	Inform Consult Involve
Project-specific Web Sites	For individual projects, project-specific websites may be used. These sites are used when project information is too extensive to be included on the MPO site. Project websites can contain study area maps, meeting announcements, descriptions of alternatives, comment forms, user surveys and project team contact information. Links to project sites are provided from the MPO site.	Inform Consult Involve

Online/Electronic Tools		
Type	Description	Level of Participation
Crowdsourcing	The MPO will utilize different online tools to solicit input, ideas, and suggestions from the public. This could be in the form of comments on a map or submitted via an online form.	Inform Consult
Online meetings	The MPO will provide online participation opportunities as appropriate. These opportunities will include webinar options for participation during the day or virtual public meetings. These will be advertised at the same time as the public meetings.	Inform Consult Involve

Public Notice Delivery Tools		
Type	Description	Level of Participation
US Postal Service	Traditional mail service is used for formal public hearing notices, as well as to publicize public meetings/workshops.	Inform
Email	Email blasts are used in addition to traditional mailing to stakeholders and community members. Recipients have previously opted in to communications by providing their email addresses.	Inform Consult
Location Placement	Meeting notices are posted in high-traffic gathering places, including but not limited to: schools, parks, libraries, community centers, and other such gathering places.	Inform
Transit	Meeting flyers and related collateral material may also be available on buses, notifying riders of upcoming meetings.	Inform

Print and Broadcast Media Tools		
Type	Description	Level of Participation
Display Ads	These ads are used to promote meetings that are not regularly scheduled, such as corridor or subarea workshops, project specific meetings, open houses or	Inform

Print and Broadcast Media Tools		
Type	Description	Level of Participation
	hearings. They are published in local/regional newspapers that provide the best coverage at an economical price.	
Press Releases	Formal press releases are sent to local media (newspaper, TV and radio) to announce upcoming meetings and activities and to provide information on specific issues being considered by MPO committees.	Inform
TV and Radio Public Affairs Shows	MPO staff will solicit radio and talk show appearances to provide information or to promote events and topics as appropriate.	Inform
Video and Audio Public Service Announcements	MPO staff will produce audio and video public service announcements for selected events and distribute them to the appropriate metro area radio, TV and cable stations.	Inform

Multimedia Tools		
Type	Description	Level of Participation
Printed Newsletter	The MPO publishes a quarterly hardcopy newsletter that is mailed to the contact mailing list and e-mailed to the electronic contact list. Included are feature stories about the transportation planning process as well as ongoing studies, projects and issues. A Spanish version is also available upon request.	Inform
Project Newsletters	For individual projects, such as corridor or subarea studies, that are typically performed using consulting services, newsletters are often used to address specific project issues. These newsletters are mailed to targeted residents, businesses and property owners in the area affected by a particular study. Information regarding upcoming project meetings, alternatives being proposed in the area, and other project news is reported in these newsletters.	Inform
Other Newsletters	When project-specific newsletters are not used, articles may be prepared for publication in other newsletters produced by municipalities, homeowner associations,	Inform

Multimedia Tools		
Type	Description	Level of Participation
	church groups, civic groups, or others that may have an interest in the project. These articles are subject to the publication dates and space restrictions of publishers.	
Video Blogs	On a monthly basis, the MPO produces, in English and Spanish, a brief video blog called V-News. V-News highlights upcoming meetings of MPO standing committees, special project meetings or public events being undertaken by the MPO, and may include useful information related to various planning issues, such as air quality, safety, and transportation options.	Inform
Flyers, Posters and Fact Sheets	To provide summary information regarding MPO policy, programs and projects, flyers, posters and fact sheets may be distributed at public meetings, posted on the MPO web site, and displayed in public places such as libraries and community centers. Individuals and special interest groups can also request fact sheets directly from the MPO staff office.	Inform
Bus Placards	The MPO will use advertising space in VIA buses whenever possible as provided by VIA Metropolitan Transit for various MPO events.	Inform
Banners	The MPO will consider using banner advertising such as physical street banners and internet page banners as appropriate for MPO events and activities.	Inform

Partner Agency Collaboration

MPO staff will attend and participate in as many transportation partner public participation activities as is feasible to enhance public consideration of transportation issues, plans, and programs and to reduce redundancies and costs.

Public Participation Procedures

The MPO generates major planning documents that require public input and community consensus. As a result, they are made available for public comment using various outreach strategies. Members of the public can view all of the required documents, and any amendments, on the MPO website at www.alamoareampo.org or call 210-230-6929 to receive a copy. Following is a list of the major planning documents produced by the MPO.

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan, or long-range plan
- Transportation Improvement Program, or short-range plan
- Unified Planning Work Program
- Public Participation Plan
- Performance Measures Report
- Transportation Conformity Document (if/when needed)

The Transportation Policy Board has set different approval processes depending on the item agendized for action. The two-step approval process is for new TIP, MTP and Transportation Conformity documents, as well as amendments to the TIP and MTP. The two-step process means that items will be presented to the Transportation Policy Board one month with action scheduled for the following month, allowing for an approximate public comment period of 30 days.

The MPO also has a process for an expedited, or one-step process for TIP and MTP amendments, that allows the board to hear the item presented and take action within one meeting.

Other items such as amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program, consultant contract awards and resolutions of support, as examples, are acted upon by the Transportation Policy Board in a one-step approval process.

Below, please find a description of the two-step and expedited one-step processes. The following page identifies the planning steps required for each planning document produced by the MPO along with the minimum outreach strategies recommended for each. Whenever possible, the MPO will strive to go beyond the minimum outreach strategies.

Two-Step Approval Process

1. Present, for informational purposes, the Proposed Action to the Technical Advisory Committee/Transportation Policy Board in month one
2. Present, for Action, to the Technical Advisory Committee/Transportation Policy Board in month two

Expedited One-Step Approval Process (for TIP and MTP Amendments only)

- Transportation Policy Board hears a presentation and takes action at one meeting as opposed to two board meetings

- Reserved for items requiring quick action due to impending federal or state requirements or deadlines (or for other reasons deemed in the community's best interest)
- Requires a 75% vote by the Transportation Policy Board to enter into a time certain public hearing and the Board will solicit input into the amendment(s) prior to taking action

	Approval Process						Minimum Outreach Activities						
	Two-Step Approval Process	One-Step Approval Process	Expedited One-Step Process w/ 75% Board Vote for public hearing	30 Day Comment Period	45 Day Comment Period	60 Day Comment Period	Partner Agency Coordination	News release	Newspaper Ads	Social media	E-newsletter	Video	Neighborhood presentations
TIP/MTP Development Process & Adoption of the TIP/MTP	★			★			★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Routine amendments to the TIP/MTP occurring between annual updates	★			★			★						
Expedited process, urgent amendments to the TIP/MTP			★				★						
Adoption of the Unified Planning Work Program	★			★			★						
Amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program		★					★						
Public Participation Plan	★				★		★		★	★			
Consultant Contract Award		★					★						
Performance Measures and Targets	★			★			★						
Transportation Conformity						★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★

Note: this list is illustrative and may not reflect all the items the Transportation Policy Board may consider for action.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This PPP will be reviewed and adopted, with revisions if necessary, at least every three (3) years. The following performance measures will be recorded by staff on a continuous basis to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of participation strategies. Where appropriate, the Deputy Director and the Planning/Public Involvement Program Manager will set yearly targets. Adjustments to strategies will be made as needed to meet the public involvement plan goals.

Goals Addressed	Public Involvement Tool	Evaluation Method
Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5	Public Participation Plan	To be reviewed every three years
Goal 2	AAMPO Website	Number of New Users Number of Returning users Page Views Sessions
Goal 2	FastTrack E-Newsletter	Number of Subscribers Number of Emails Accepted Unique/Total Views
Goals 1, 2, and 3	Open Houses, Meetings, Workshops, and Public Hearings	Number of Attendees
Goals 1, 2, and 3	Newspaper Advertisements	Sign-in sheets – “How did you hear about this meeting?”
Goals 1, 2, and 3	Direct Mailings	Distribution
Goals 1, 2, and 3	Press Releases	Press Mentions
Goals 1, 2, and 3	Surveys	Number of Responses
Goals 1, 2, and 3	Facebook	Likes Total Daily Reach Total Daily Impressions
Goals 1, 2, and 3	Twitter	Followers Impressions Retweets Likes
Goal 2	Instagram	Followers
Goal 2	YouTube	No measure required
Goals 1, 2, and 3	Webstreaming	Number of people watching
Goal 5	Attend Partner Agency Events	Number of Events

In addition to the measures listed above, the MPO will provide meeting evaluation forms at public meetings, workshops, and hearings to collect qualitative feedback from participants that can be used to improve meeting processes for future events.

Revisions and Amendments

This Public Participation Plan reflects the current policies of the Alamo Area MPO. At a minimum, these policies will be reviewed, revised if necessary and adopted every three (3) years.

Administrative amendments to the PPP include changes to the public involvement tools and strategies, revision of references to applicable regulations, misspellings, omissions or typographical errors. Staff performs these updates, with no notification required.

Amendments to the Participation Plan include any other changes that do not fit the administrative definition above. A two-step process and 45 days of public comment are required before adoption. If the document changes significantly due to public comments, an additional 45-day comment period is required.

Development of a new Public Participation Plan follows a two-step process and requires a 45-day comment period.

Enclosure 1: Sample Checklist for Planning an Accessible Meeting

Enclosure 2: Limited English Proficiency Plan

Enclosure 3: Social Media Plan

Enclosure 4: Brand Standards

Adopted: December 4, 2017

Policy 3: Guidelines for Programming Projects in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program

This document constitutes the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's process for programming projects in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program. When considered for amendment, this document shall be subject to a public comment period of approximately 30 days prior to adoption by the Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Board.

A. Purpose

The Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) develops a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that programs projects for a minimum of the following four (4) fiscal years. The TIP is forwarded to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for inclusion into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. The TIP project selection process begins with the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan process. The public is invited to fully participate in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan development process thus assisting in the selection and prioritization of transportation improvement projects. Implementing agencies which include the Alamo Area Council of Governments, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, cities and counties within the MPO study area, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and VIA Metropolitan Transit, participate in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan development process with one of the final products of the process being a prioritized list of transportation projects to be eventually considered for inclusion in the TIP.

Projects in the TIP are either selected by the Transportation Policy Board in consultation with the State (TxDOT) and transit operator (VIA) or selected by the State (TxDOT) in cooperation with the MPO. Projects selected by the Transportation Policy Board are those that are to be funded with Surface Transportation Program - Metro Mobility (STP-MM), Transportation Alternatives (TA), Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ), and any other future U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) or TxDOT funds suballocated to the local level.

B. Project Funding Categories

Project funding categories in the TIP and MTP include but are not limited to:

- Category 1 Preventative Maintenance & Rehabilitation
- Category 2 Metropolitan and Urban Corridor Projects
- Category 3 Non-Traditional Funding
- Category 4 Statewide Connectivity Corridor
- Category 5 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) ¹
- Category 6 Structure Rehabilitation

¹ The Alamo Area MPO does not currently receive this type of funding.

- Category 7 Surface Transportation Program – Metro Mobility or STP-MM
- Category 8 Safety
- Category 9 Transportation Alternatives
- Category 10 Miscellaneous
- Category 11 District Discretionary
- Category 12 Strategic Priority
- Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 (Urbanized Area Formula Grant Program)
- Federal Transit Administration Section 5309 (Capital Grant Program)
- Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 (Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Grant Program)
- Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 (Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program)

C. Use of ‘Grouped’ Control Section Job (CSJ) Numbers

A CSJ (Control Section Job number) is an identifying project number used by the Texas Department of Transportation. The MPO will use ‘Grouped’ CSJs for the following types of projects:

- Preliminary Engineering
- Right-of-Way Acquisition
- Preventive Maintenance and Rehabilitation
- Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation
- Railroad Grade Separations
- Safety
- Landscaping
- Intelligent Transportation Systems Deployment
- Bicycle and Pedestrian
- Safety Rest Areas and Truck Weigh Stations
- Transit Improvements

Projects that fall within these categories will be listed in an appendix of the Transportation Improvement Program. Generally these Grouped CSJs will be used for projects funded under Category 1 (Preventive Maintenance & Rehabilitation), Category 6 (Structure Rehabilitation), Category 8 (Safety), and Category 10 (Miscellaneous). These projects are initially included in an Appendix of a new TIP and are revised or amended administratively as allowed in Section G Administrative Revisions.

Grouped CSJs will not be used for wholly or partially funded Category 2 (Metropolitan and Urban Corridor), Category 5 (CMAQ, when allocated), Category 7 (STP-MM), or Category 9 (Transportation Alternatives) projects.

D. Use of Appendix D - Projects Undergoing Environmental Assessment

The purpose of Appendix D is to identify projects that are undergoing preliminary engineering and environmental analysis (PE/EA) consistent with early project development. The Federal Highway Administration allows these projects to be referenced in the current Transportation Improvement Program in order to facilitate the feasibility and PE/EA phases. This Appendix contains projects that are scheduled for implementation beyond the four years of the TIP time frame, and it in no way implies that these projects are programmed in the TIP. Cost estimates are preliminary and do not represent any commitment of construction funding. Consistency with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan will be verified as alternatives are examined in studies or environmental clearance efforts.

Projects listed in Appendix D will include, at a minimum, MPO ID number, county, sponsoring entity, street name, project limits, project description, estimated let date and preliminary project cost.

E. Quarterly Review of Projects

Category 2 (Metropolitan and Urban Corridor) Projects

The implementing agency will submit amendments to the Category 2 (Metropolitan and Urban Corridor) projects to the MPO in writing. For cost increases greater than 10%, the implementing agency will also submit to the MPO justification for the cost increase and the funding source of the additional amount. For new projects being amended into the TIP that are not part of the current Unified Transportation Program, the implementing agency will also submit to the MPO which other Category 2 projects are being amended to allow for the inclusion of the new project unless the new projects are funded using additional allocation.

Category 7 (STP-MM) and Category 9 (TA) Projects

Every three (3) months, a detailed review of Category 7 (STP-MM) and Category 9 (TA) funded projects in the TIP will be conducted. These projects will be reviewed for progress towards their letting (contract) dates, cost estimates, description and limits. If warranted by the detailed review, projects may be re-prioritized at the discretion of the Transportation Policy Board.

If the quarterly review warrants amendment(s) to the TIP, such amendment(s) will be presented to the Transportation Policy Board for consideration in sufficient time to allow the amendment(s) to be incorporated into the next regularly scheduled quarterly amendment of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

F. Amendment Process

The following changes will require an amendment to the TIP and MTP:

- Adding or deleting project(s)
- Revising the project scope of work
- Revising the project cost
- Revising funding categories
- Revising the phase of work (ex: from P.E. to construction)
- Revising project limits

Amendments to the TIP and MTP require a two-step process. To permit adequate public review and comment, amendments to the TIP and MTP will be presented at a Transportation Policy Board meeting with action on the amendment occurring at the following Transportation Policy Board meeting (approximately 30 days after initial presentation). TIP and MTP amendments are provided in the meeting package which is posted on the MPOs website a week prior to TAC and TPB meetings. Amendments to both the TIP and the MTP may be initiated concurrently.

Amendments to the TIP or the MTP requiring quick action due to impending federal or state requirements or deadlines (or for other reasons deemed in the community's best interest) may be accomplished by a 75% vote of the TPB quorum present to waive the routine two-step process. In these cases, the Transportation Policy Board will hold a special public hearing within their normal meeting agenda to specifically solicit public comment on the proposed TIP or MTP amendment. These actions will be emphasized on the meeting agenda that is both mailed and e-mailed out ten (10) days prior to the Transportation Policy Board meeting. This will alert the public and permit special attendance to comment on the action prior to adoption by the Transportation Policy Board.

Governing bodies of the sponsoring agencies will promptly notify the MPO in writing of any currently programmed projects that are proposed to be deleted from the TIP. The governing body of the sponsoring agency shall state its preference for project replacement in the written notification. The Transportation Policy Board will provide direction and/or may consider action at the next appropriate meeting with respect to amending the TIP.

To the extent possible, any project amended outside the timeframe of the current TIP due to funding limitations will have priority consideration in being amended back into the TIP when additional funding becomes available.

G. Administrative Revisions

The MPO Director is authorized to approve certain "administrative changes" to the TIP with the notification of such to the appropriate transportation planning partners. The intent of this section is not to circumvent the public process for amending the TIP, but to allow for minor corrections to the TIP that do not materially change a project's function including minor revisions to project limits, scope or cost.

H. Category 7 (STP-MM) Projects

Basic Requirements for STP-MM Projects

All projects submitted for consideration for funding through normal Category 7 (STP-MM) program allocations will compete through a standard project call when a new TIP is being developed. The Transportation Policy Board will approve a schedule, parameters and project selection criteria prior to the formal project call. Submitted projects must meet the following basic requirements:

1. Projects will be submitted to the MPO through an implementing agency (Alamo Area Council of Governments, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, Texas Department of Transportation, VIA Metropolitan Transit and cities and counties within the MPO Study Area) and appropriate commitments of local match shall be made. Approval of the commitment of the local match from the Texas Department of Transportation District Engineer or the policy body of the local agency submitting the project for consideration will be obtained and submitted to the MPO. An 'in-kind' match is not allowed for construction projects.
2. All submitted projects shall be developed in accordance with minimum standards as defined by AASHTO and/or NACTO, as applicable.
3. Each implementing agency is encouraged to address Title VI and Environmental Justice considerations in submitting projects to the MPO for consideration.
4. Agencies should consider the transit service area when submitting projects.
5. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities will be included in all future transportation improvement projects. Any exceptions will need to be adequately justified by management of the implementing entity. Bicycle and pedestrian components included in a funded project may not be deleted from the project at a future date.
6. Funded STP-MM projects will also be included in the MTP. Note: Amendments to the MTP and the TIP are made through the amendment process at the discretion of the Transportation Policy Board. Amendments to the MTP and TIP, can be made simultaneously.
7. A roadway project submitted for consideration in the TIP must be on a functionally classified facility as defined by the MPO and approved by Federal Highway Administration through the State. Roadway projects on facilities classified as a local street or minor collector do NOT qualify for Federal funding.
8. All deadlines set by the MPO are firm.

STP-MM Call for Projects Process

Prior to each STP-MM project call, MPO staff will develop the schedule, submittal form and call for projects process, to include workshop(s) jointly hosted by the MPO and TxDOT. These items will be reviewed and acted upon by the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (BMAC), Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee (PMAC), and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with final action by the Transportation Policy Board.

MPO staff will be responsible for assembling data for the technical scoring process. A subcommittee of BMAC and PMAC will score standalone bicycle and pedestrian projects. A subcommittee of TAC will score added capacity and operational projects.

STP-MM Project Selection

The TAC will review the technical scoring, public input, project readiness and agency priorities and make a recommendation to the MPO's Executive Committee on a slate of projects to be funded. The Executive Committee will make a recommendation to the Transportation Policy Board. The TAC may request presentations by implementing agencies.

STP-MM Project Implementation

1. Unless allocated a fixed amount, each STP-MM project will have a cost figure in the approved TIP that is an estimate. This TIP "Estimated Construction Bid" shall include all construction costs at 100% and shall designate what percent match is required by the local agency.

"Estimated Construction Bid" is defined as all anticipated bid item costs of the improvement project, other than for right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation or betterment, preliminary engineering, environmental analysis/clearance, contingency, change orders and construction engineering. The amount programmed as the "Construction Cost" in the TIP shall equal the "Estimated Construction Bid".

2. Unless allocated a fixed amount, each selected STP-MM project may be adjusted when bids are approved.
 - a. If bids are higher than the TIP Construction Cost, the TIP estimate shall become a fixed construction funding cap.
 - b. If the Approved Construction Bid is lower than the TIP Construction Cost, the TIP shall be administratively revised by MPO staff to reflect the approved Construction bid (excludes any right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation or betterment, preliminary engineering, environmental analysis/clearance, contingency, and construction engineering)

- c. Following the establishment of the project construction amount in items 2a and 2b above, the sponsoring entity is then eligible for up to 10% contingency of STP-MM project funding towards eligible change orders and up to 11% of STP-MM project funding towards eligible construction engineering and construction management costs. An under run in contingency cannot cover an over run in construction engineering/construction management and vice versa.

As these eligible change orders and eligible construction engineering costs are potential costs, they are not specifically programmed in the TIP towards the STP-MM. These costs, if incurred, would impact future fiscal allocations and it must be acknowledged that this could require the delay and/or re-scoping of existing TIP projects to remain fiscally constrained by fiscal year.

3. Once a project is included in the TIP, TxDOT and the local governmental entity (implementing agency) shall execute a Funding Agreement.
 - a. Prior to letting, the executed Funding Agreement will be based on the Estimated Construction Bid (identified as Construction Cost in the TIP) and reflect:

Estimated Construction Bid + maximum 10% contingency of STP-MM project funding for eligible change orders + maximum 11% of STP-MM funding for eligible construction engineering and construction management costs.

- b. Post Letting, if the Approved Construction Bid (excluding any right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation or betterment, preliminary engineering, environmental analysis/clearance, contingency, and construction engineering) is lower than the TIP Construction Cost, the Funding Agreement will be amended and re-executed to reflect:

Approved Construction Bid + maximum 10% contingency of STP-MM project funding for eligible change orders + maximum 11% of STP-MM funding for eligible construction engineering and construction management costs.

4. Owner requested change orders will be covered 100% by the local agency. Owner requested change orders are the result of changes requested by the local agency, not included in the original TPB approved scope of work.

I. Category 9 (TA) Projects

Basic Requirements for TA Projects

The MPO will hold a competitive call for projects for TA funding. The Transportation Policy Board will approve a schedule, parameters and project selection criteria prior to the formal project call. Submitted projects must meet the following basic requirements:

1. Projects will be submitted to the MPO through an implementing agency and appropriate commitments of local match shall be made. Approval of the commitment of the local match from the agency submitting the project for consideration will be obtained and submitted to the MPO. An 'in-kind' match is not allowed for construction projects.
2. All submitted projects shall be developed in accordance with minimum standards as defined by AASHTO and/or NACTO, as applicable.
3. Each implementing agency is encouraged to address Title VI and Environmental Justice considerations in submitting projects to the MPO for consideration.
4. Agencies should consider the transit service area when submitting projects.
5. Funded TA projects will also be included in the MTP. Note: Amendments to the MTP and the TIP are made through the amendment process at the discretion of the Transportation Policy Board. Amendments to the MTP and TIP, can be made simultaneously.
6. All deadlines set by the MPO are firm.

TA Call for Projects Process

Prior to each TA project call, MPO staff will develop the schedule, submittal form and call for projects process. These items will be reviewed and acted upon by the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (BMAC), Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee (PMAC), and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with final action by the Transportation Policy Board.

MPO staff will be responsible for assembling data for the technical scoring process. A subcommittee of BMAC and PMAC will score TA projects.

TA Project Selection

BMAC and PMAC will review the technical scoring, public input, project readiness and agency priorities and make a recommendation to the Technical Advisory Committee on a slate of projects to be funded. The TAC may request project presentations by implementing agencies and will make a recommendation to the MPO's Executive or Transportation Policy Board, as directed by the approved call for projects process.

J. Public Involvement

The MPO commits to a public involvement process that includes the provision of timely information, provides reasonable public access to technical and policy information, provides adequate public notice, seeks out and considers traditionally underserved populations, and documents significant comments. Please see the MPO Policy 2: Public Participation Plan for additional information on public involvement.

Adopted: December 4, 2017

Policy 4: Ethics Policy

A. Purpose

The Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is committed to conducting its business in an ethical and open manner. To ensure ethical conduct by members of the Transportation Policy Board and its employees, and to ensure compliance with the Transportation Code and other provisions under state law.

B. Rules

The following rules have been adopted:

I. Chapter 472. Transportation Code Requirements:

- a) No policy board member or employee of the MPO may accept or solicit any gift, favor or service that might reasonably tend to influence the member or employee in the discharge of official duties or that the member or employee knows or should know is being offered with the intent to influence the member's or employee's official conduct.
- b) No policy board member or employee of the MPO may accept other employment or engage in a business or professional activity that the member or employee might reasonably expect would require or induce the member or employee to disclose confidential information acquired by reason of the official position.
- c) No policy board member or employee of the MPO may accept other employment or compensation that could reasonably be expected to impair the member's or employee's independence of judgment in the performance of official duties.
- d) No policy board member or employee of the MPO may make personal investments that could reasonably be expected to create a conflict between the member's or employee's private interest and the public interest.
- e) No policy board member or employee of the MPO may intentionally or knowingly solicit, accept, or agree to accept any benefit for having exercised official powers or performed the official duties in favor of another.

II. Chapter 171. Local Government Code Requirements:

- a) If a policy board member has a substantial interest in a business entity or in real property, the policy board member shall file, before a vote or decision on any matter involving the business entity or the real property, an affidavit stating the nature and extent of the interest and shall abstain from further participation in the matter if:

(1) in the case of a substantial interest in a business entity, the action on the matter will have a special economic effect on the business entity that is distinguishable from the effect on the public; or

(2) in the case of a substantial interest in real property, it is reasonably foreseeable that an action on the matter will have a special economic effect on the value of the property, distinguishable from its effect on the public.

b) If a policy board member is required to file and does file an affidavit, the policy board member is not required to abstain from further participation in the matter requiring the affidavit if a majority of the policy board members are likewise required to file and do file affidavits of similar interests on the same official action.

c) A person has a substantial interest in a business entity if:

(1) the person owns 10 percent or more of the voting stock or shares of the business entity or owns 10 percent or more or \$15,000 or more of the fair market value of the business entity; or

(2) funds received by the person from the business entity exceed 10 percent of the person's gross income for the previous year.

d) A person has a substantial interest in real property if the interest is an equitable or legal ownership with a fair market value of \$2,500 or more.

e) A policy board member is considered to have a substantial interest in a person related to the policy board member in the first degree by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, has a substantial interest.

C Incorporation of Statutes

All provisions of Section 472.034 of the Transportation Code and Chapter 171, Local Government Code, are intended to be incorporated into this ethics policy. In the case of any uncertainty as to the applicability of any of these statutes, the policy board member or employee should refer to the actual statutes.

D. Penalties

Any employee who violates the Ethics Policy is subject to termination or other employment related sanctions per personnel policy. Any board member or employee of the MPO who violates the Ethics Policy is subject to applicable civil or criminal penalty if the violation also constitutes a violation of a state statute.

E. Distribution

Upon adoption of the Ethics Policy by the Transportation Policy Board, a copy shall be distributed to each policy board member and MPO employee. Each policy board member and employee will acknowledge receipt of the Ethics Policy. The Ethics Policy adopted by the Transportation Policy Board shall be provided to each new employee no later than three (3) business days after the date on

which the person begins employment. The Ethics Policy adopted by the Transportation Policy Board shall be provided to each new board member no later than three (3) business days after the person qualifies for office.

F. Policy Amendment

When considered for amendment, this policy shall be subject to the MPO's two-step approval process which allows for a public comment period of approximately 30 days prior to adoption by the Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Board.

Adopted: April 28, 2014

Policy 5: Technical Advisory Committee

Roles and responsibilities

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is a standing committee. The role of the TAC is to provide technical advice to the Transportation Policy Board on elements of the transportation planning process. Any changes to this policy are subject to majority approval by the Transportation Policy Board.

At a minimum, the TAC provides technical, planning and policy review and recommendations and/or action on:

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan and amendments
- Transportation Improvement Program and amendments
- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and amendments
- Final reports, technical reports, and technical memoranda resulting from studies undertaken with planning funds programmed in the UPWP

In addition, the TAC provides other technical recommendations as requested by the Transportation Policy Board.

Membership

The voting membership of TAC shall be structured as follows:

Advanced Transportation District	1 representative
Alamo Area Council of Governments:	1 representative
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority	1 representative
Bexar County	1 representative
City of New Braunfels	1 representative
City of San Antonio	3 representatives
City of Seguin	1 representative
Comal County	1 representative
Greater Bexar County Council of Cities	1 representative
Guadalupe County	1 representative
Kendall County Geographic Area	1 representative
MPO Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee	1 representative
MPO Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee	1 representative
Northeast Partnership	1 representative
Private Transportation Providers	1 representative
Texas Department of Transportation	1 representative
VIA Metropolitan Transit	1 representative

The representative(s) and alternate(s) of each governmental agency on the TAC will be designated in writing through each agency's/entity's internal procedures. A member of the Transportation Policy Board may not simultaneously serve on the Technical Advisory Committee. The Private Transportation Providers representative will be selected for recommendation by the TAC. The representative from

the Northeast Partnership and the Suburban Cities will be nominated through letters to the MPO from the Transportation Policy Board representative from the Northeast Partnership and the Chairman of the Greater Bexar County Council of Cities, respectively.

Each agency/entity on the TAC will be allowed to designate one alternate from within the same agency or entity for each representative serving on the TAC. If the representative cannot attend the TAC meeting, the designated alternate may attend and vote as the representative of the agency or entity. Proxies will not be allowed. Members (both primary and alternate) may not represent more than one entity at a time.

A primary member of the Transportation Policy Board may not serve simultaneously on the TAC, however, alternate Transportation Policy Board members may serve on the TAC.

In addition to the voting and ex-officio members, the TAC recognizes individuals and organizations within the community can provide meaningful input into the transportation planning process. These resources will be informed of TAC meetings and invited to provide input in a non-voting capacity as appropriate.

Ex-Officio Membership

Ex-officio members shall hold non-voting status on the TAC:

Texas Dept. of Transportation - Transportation Planning and Programming Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Utility Coordination Council

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Every two years, the TAC will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from its current membership. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by a majority of the members present at the meeting. Elections of Chair and Vice-Chair will occur in June 2014 and then in June of every even year.

Chair and/or Vice Chair Vacancies

Vacancies in Chair and/or Vice-Chair whether created by resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by election of the TAC for the remainder of the unexpired term and election to be held at the next regular TAC meeting.

Quorum

A quorum for meetings will consist of fifty (50) percent plus one or greater of the voting members or designated alternates of the TAC. Vacancies are defined as positions on the TAC that are not filled. Vacancies on the TAC will not count against the quorum.

Committees

The TAC will have the following committees:

A. Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee

The role of the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (BMAC) is to improve bicycle mobility within the Alamo Area MPO Study Area. BMAC will provide bold and visionary leadership in all matters affecting bicycle mobility in the MPO study area and be expansive in its vision with its mission throughout the entire region. BMAC will adopt Committee By-laws to outline its goals, desired membership and procedures. BMAC by-laws will be approved by the TAC and the Transportation Policy Board.

B. Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee

The role of the Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee (PMAC) is to improve pedestrian mobility within the Alamo Area MPO Study Area. PMAC will provide bold and visionary leadership in all matters affecting pedestrian mobility in the MPO study area and be expansive in its vision with its mission throughout the entire region. PMAC will adopt Committee By-laws to outline its goals, desired membership and procedures. PMAC by-laws will be approved by the TAC and the Transportation Policy Board.

Both BMAC and PMAC are advisory committees, and subject to this Policy, will directly advise the TAC on technical matters and the Transportation Policy Board on relevant bicycle and pedestrian-related policy issues.

C. Land Use and Regional Thoroughfare Planning Committee

The role of the Land Use and Regional Thoroughfare Planning Committee is to oversee the development and monitoring of the selected land use (growth) scenario for use in the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and will provide input into the development of a Regional Thoroughfare Plan. The committee will operate on an informal basis and will meet as needed.

D. Freight, Rail and Transit Committee

The role of the Freight, Rail and Transit Committee is to review and provide input on regional freight, passenger rail, and transit initiatives as requested. The committee will operate on an informal basis and will meet as needed.

E. Traffic Incident Management Committee

The role of the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Subcommittee is to consider input from the regional TIM group, provide direction as necessary, incorporate TIM into regional transportation planning practices, and to foster partnerships and agreements where possible. The committee will operate on an informal basis and will meet as needed.

