



MEETING AGENDA

Public Transportation Advisory Committee

Thursday, March 30, 2017 | 1:00 P.M. (local time)

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)

200 East Riverside Drive, Room 1A.2

Austin, TX 78704

1. Call to Order.

2. Safety Briefing.

3. Introduction of Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) members and comments from PTAC members.

4. Approval of minutes from January 26, 2017 meeting. (Action)

5. TxDOT's Public Transportation Division Director's report to the committee regarding public transportation matters.

6. Review and discussion of areas of Texas Administrative Code under consideration for 2017 rulemaking efforts. Detailed discussion on Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 and Section 5339 programs. (Action)

7. Update and discussion on Regionally Coordinated Public Transportation Efforts. (Action)

8. Discussion and development of PTAC Work Plan based on PTAC's guiding principles and comments made at the January 22, 2015 meeting. (Action)

9. Public Comment – Public comment will only be accepted in person. The public is invited to attend the meeting in person or listen by phone at a listen-in toll-free number: 1-855-437-3563 [US] with attendee access code: 598 304 40. The meeting transcript will be placed on the Internet following the meeting.

10. Propose and discuss agenda items for next meeting; confirm date of next meeting. (Action)

11. Adjourn. (Action)

I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable *Texas Register* filing requirements.

CERTIFYING OFFICIAL: Joanne Wright, Deputy General Counsel, (512) 463-8630.

AGENDA ITEM 4

MINUTES FOR ADOPTION

Public Transportation Advisory Committee – Teleconference Meeting
200 E. Riverside Drive Auditorium, Austin, Texas
January 26, 2017 1:00 P.M.

Committee Members Present and Participating:

Rob Stephens, Chair
John McBeth, Vice Chair
J.R. Salazar
Jim Cline

Committee Members Participating via Teleconference:

Christina Crain
Michelle Bloomer

TxDOT Present and Participating:

Eric Gleason, Director, Public Transportation Division (PTN)
Josh Ribakove, Communications Manager, PTN

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order.

Rob Stephens called the meeting to order at 1:01 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Safety Briefing (taken out of order).

Josh Ribakove gave a safety briefing for attendees at 1:02 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Introduction of all current Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) members.

Rob Stephens opened this item at 1:03 P.M. All attending members provided a brief spoken introduction about themselves.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Approval of minutes from September 27, 2016 meeting (Action).

Rob Stephens opened this item at 1:06 P.M.

MOTION John McBeth moved to approve the September 27, 2016 meeting minutes.

SECOND J.R. Salazar seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously at 1:07 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM 5: TxDOT's Public Transportation Division Director's report to the committee regarding public transportation matters.

Eric Gleason began his report at 1:08 P.M. The report touched on TxDOT's recent business meeting for transit operators, the transit academy in the Rio Grande Valley, federal apportionments, the next steps in the regionally coordinated transportation planning process, and the recently completed §5310 program public workshops and new §5310 scoring process.

Questions and comments from John McBeth and J.R. Salazar.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Update on transit needs assessment work (Action).

Rob Stephens asked Eric Gleason to open this item at 1:15 P.M. Mr. Gleason introduced Michael Walk from the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI), who began his presentation at 1:17 P.M.

Discussion among Rob Stephens, J.R. Salazar, Michael Walk, Eric Gleason, John McBeth, Jim Cline.

MOTION John McBeth moved to include Saturday/Weekend service in the assessment.

SECOND Christina Melton Crain seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously at 1:46 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Review and discussion of areas of Texas Administrative Code under consideration for 2017 rulemaking efforts (Action).

Eric Gleason introduced this item at 1:46 P.M. He identified the pertinent areas of code, examined why those areas were suggested, and proposed a schedule for future discussions.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Discussion and development of PTAC Work Plan based on PTAC's guiding principles and comments made at the January 22, 2015 meeting (Action).

Rob Stephens led this discussion beginning at 1:57 P.M.

No action taken.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Public Comment

Rob Stephens introduced this item at 2 P.M.

Public comment from Judy Telge of Coastal Bend Center for Independent Living. She had positive comments about the §5310 Public Workshop that was held in her area, and she hopes to be engaged in future discussions about options "like Uber" in rural areas.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Propose and Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting; confirm Date of Next Meeting (Action).

Rob Stephens initiated and led this discussion beginning at 2:05 P.M. He suggested that “rules” be included in the next agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 1 P.M. Time and location TBD.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Adjourn (Action).

MOTION John McBeth moved to adjourn.

SECOND J.R. Salazar seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 2:08 P.M.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Josh Ribakove

Rob Stephens, Chair

AGENDA ITEM 6

AGENDA ITEM 7

Agenda Item #7

Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning Public Transportation Advisory Committee March 30, 2017

STATUS OF COORDINATED REGIONAL PLAN UPDATES

- FTA guidance is to update public transit-human services transportation plans every five years
- This involves (1) conducting an inventory of transportation resources, (2) conducting an assessment of gaps and unmet needs, and (3) identifying strategies to address these gaps and needs
- Emphasis is on those deemed most dependent on public transportation, especially individuals with disabilities and seniors
- Lead agencies & stakeholders in each of Texas' 24 planning regions develop their own plan
- Most regions have worked on their plan over the past year or so. Six regions have finished their updated plans; Sixteen regions are nearing completion and plans should be complete April 1; Two regions are on a different cycle and are not updating plans this year

CURRENT CALL FOR PROJECTS

- A call for Innovative Demonstration Projects was posted on Feb. 10; applications are due on March 27
- Projects will study, test & evaluate ways to improve services, products or systems to help achieve strategies identified in the recently developed regional plans
- This call is open to a wide group & not limited to designated lead agencies that manage the regional planning effort
- We anticipate a *statewide* award of between \$500,000 and \$700,000; a minute order should go before the Texas Transportation Commission for approval in June, and; we aim to have contracts in place Sept. 1

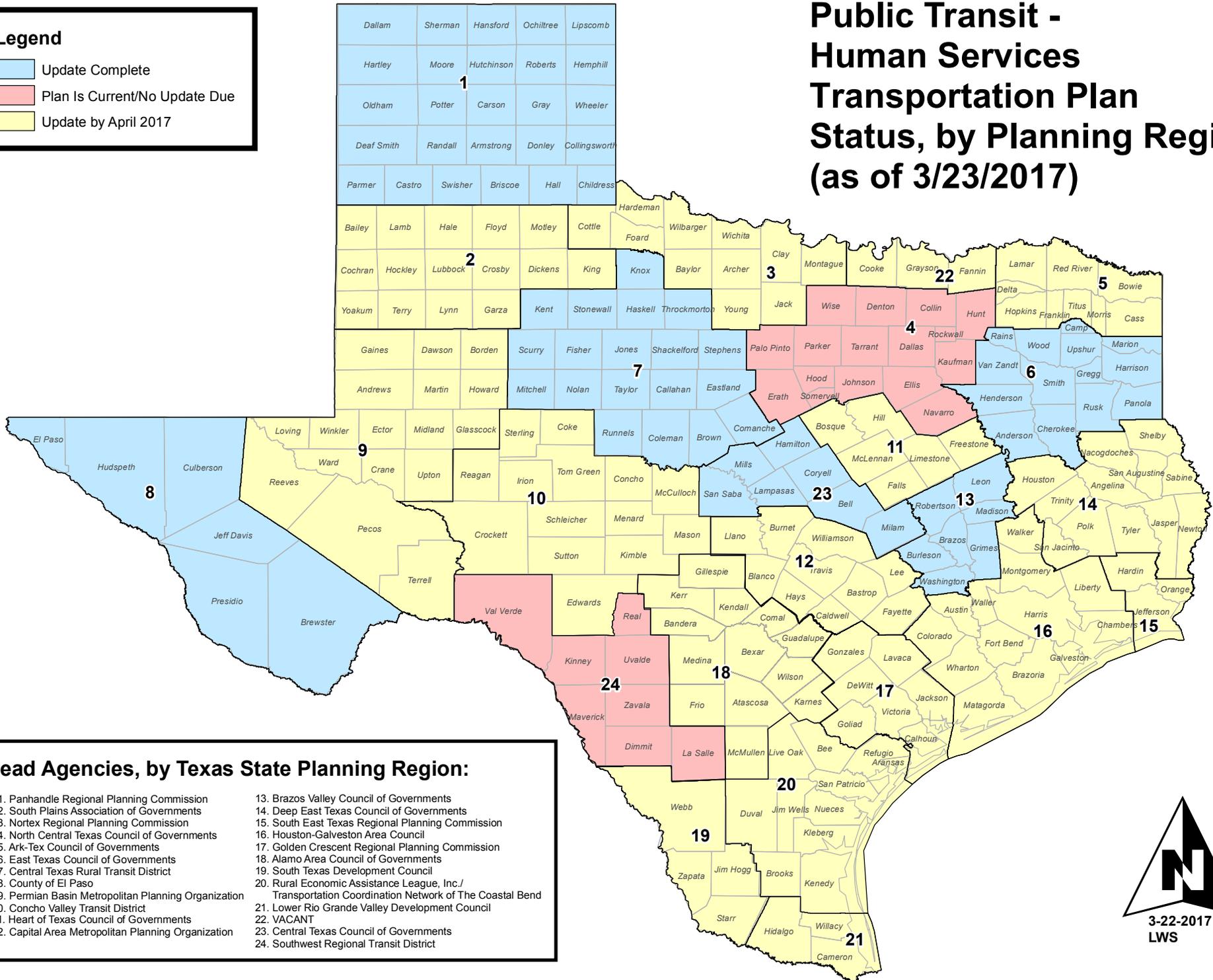
EMERGING ISSUE: CONTINUITY OF LEAD AGENCY EFFORT

- A couple of years ago, PTAC called for an increased emphasis on the *implementation* of regional plans over additional *planning* activities when it comes to use of future regional planning funds.
- The Division then announced plans for a new funding strategy calling for TxDOT to provide (1) continued funding to lead agencies *every five years* to development new or updated plans; and (2) funding during *in-between* years to be used exclusively for demonstration projects to help achieve strategies identified in these plans (instead of reimbursing for routine monthly or quarterly meetings of regional stakeholder planning committees).
- Without funding to support ongoing planning services, a number of lead agencies have elected to discontinue that role

Legend

- Update Complete
- Plan Is Current/No Update Due
- Update by April 2017

Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan Status, by Planning Region (as of 3/23/2017)



Lead Agencies, by Texas State Planning Region:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Panhandle Regional Planning Commission | 13. Brazos Valley Council of Governments |
| 2. South Plains Association of Governments | 14. Deep East Texas Council of Governments |
| 3. Nortex Regional Planning Commission | 15. South East Texas Regional Planning Commission |
| 4. North Central Texas Council of Governments | 16. Houston-Galveston Area Council |
| 5. Ark-Tex Council of Governments | 17. Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission |
| 6. East Texas Council of Governments | 18. Alamo Area Council of Governments |
| 7. Central Texas Rural Transit District | 19. South Texas Development Council |
| 8. County of El Paso | 20. Rural Economic Assistance League, Inc./
Transportation Coordination Network of The Coastal Bend |
| 9. Permian Basin Metropolitan Planning Organization | 21. Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council |
| 10. Concho Valley Transit District | 22. VACANT |
| 11. Heart of Texas Council of Governments | 23. Central Texas Council of Governments |
| 12. Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization | 24. Southwest Regional Transit District |



AGENDA ITEM 8

Public Transportation Advisory Committee

Guiding Principles

Updated February 2012

1. Support Public Transportation

- Goal: Implement an efficient, effective, and sustainable public transportation system.
 - Objective: Strategically leverage all available resources to maximize service provided throughout the state.
 - *Task: Develop consistent and transparent methods to award funds (e.g. §5310 Program, §5311 Program, and Transportation Development Credits.)*
 - Objective: Increase financial stability of the state's transit providers
 - *Task: Identify, develop, and implement options to accommodate the lag in federal funding availability.*
 - *Task: Explore the creation of a reserve fund to provide gap funding, loans, and/or lines of credit.*
- Goal: Support financial sustainability of local, state, and federal investments in the maintenance and expansion of critical transportation assets.
 - Objective: Strategic and aggressive pursuit of competitive federal grant funding.
 - *Task: Develop 3-year list of capitol project needs statewide.*
 - *Task: Develop long-term strategic plans for investment.*
 - Objective: Improve individual and collective planning competencies and financial capacity within agencies.
 - *Task: Develop and implement leadership forum (particularly focused on best practices for financial stability).*
 - Objective: Encourage and support the recruitment, retention, and training of personnel.
 - *Task: Develop innovative financing training/knowledge sharing opportunities.*
- Goal: Conduct regular evaluations of funding initiatives and results to guide future direction and decision-making activities.
 - Objective: Achieve continuous service performance improvements.
 - *Task: Review past program funding, develop best practices and performances metrics for investments that maximize services.*
 - *Task: Review past investments and develop best practices for evaluation of new fund development and its impacts on maintenance and capital.*

2. Promote Coordinated Transportation

- Goal: Increase coordination to maximize the availability and use of transportation resources (funding, services, etc.)
 - Objective: Develop and implement an approach to the coordinated call for projects that exhibits a commitment to coordination.
 - *Task: Review previous §5310, §5311, JARC and New Freedom investments under the coordinated call and evaluate coordination best practices for coordination of funding, services, and/or community participation.*
 - *Task: Develop metrics and funding criteria that promote best practices in coordinated calls for projects.*
 - *Task: Develop advance trainings that build coordinated call applicants' understanding of the desired outcomes, requirements, and suggested approaches for a successful application.*
 - Objective: Develop metrics that will allow evaluation of the funding formula's consistency with the strategic values of regional coordination.
 - *Task: Define strategic values for coordination.*
 - *Task: Develop metrics for coordination.*
 - *Task: Test evaluation of the funding formulas based on coordination metrics.*
- Goal: Encourage and reward innovation.
 - Objective: Develop investment practices and grant management policies that support innovation and entrepreneurial approaches to regional coordination.
 - *Task: Research and review best practices at all levels for innovation and entrepreneurial approaches to regional coordination.*
 - *Task: Establish metrics and goals for TxDOT-implemented best practices.*
- Goal: Support initiatives to create sustainable communities.
 - Objective: Understand what local jurisdictions are doing to promote sustainability and the implications for public transportation in Texas.
 - *Task: Research what local jurisdictions are doing to create sustainable communities.*
 - *Task: Evaluate research to determine possible implications for PTN.*
- Goal: Conduct regular evaluations of funding initiatives to guide future direction and decision-making activities.
 - Objective: Achieve continuous service performance improvements.

- *Task: Review past programs and develop best practices for performance-based evaluation of coordination activities, projects, and programs.*
- *Task: Review past investments and develop best practices for evaluation of investments via the coordinated call for projects.*