



**TEMPO Meeting Summary
March 21, 2007**

TEMPO, the organization of Texas Metropolitan Planning Organization convened on Wednesday, March 21, 2007 at the Thompson Conference Center in Austin, Texas.

The following TEMPO members, Partners and guests were present:

MPO Staff

Robert Allen, Abilene MPO
Harold McDaniel, Amarillo MPO
Michael Aulick, CAMPO
Maureen McCoy Daniel, CAMPO
Art Zamorano, CAMPO
Bob Dickinson, Beaumont – Port Arthur
Mark Lund, Brownsville MPO
Linda LaSut, Bryan-College Station
Tom Niskala, Corpus Christie MPO
Dan Kessler, NCTCOG
Drew Cannon, Lower Rio Grande Valley
Luis Baran, Lower Rio Grande Valley
Eric Pena, Lower Rio Grande Valley

Marabeth Fryman, Lower Rio Grande Valley
Ashby Johnson, Houston - Galveston
Jerry Bobo, Houston - Galveston
Shannon Mattingly, Killeen - Temple
Beth Correa, Killeen - Temple
Sam Woods, Lubbock MPO
E’Lisa Smetana, San Angelo, MPO
Sid Martinez, San Antonio MPO
Jeanne Geiger, San Antonio MPO
Bob Wood, Sherman - Dennison
Brad McCaleb, Texarkana MPO
Chris Evilia, Waco MPO

TEMPO Partners and Guests:

Carolyn Askins, TxDOT, Wichita Falls
Ashley Settles, FHWA
Elizabeth Ascott, TxDOT, San Antonio
Darcie Shipull, TxDOT, San Antonio
Jose Campos, FHWA
Mike Leavy, FHWA
Jessie Balleza, FHWA
Melissa Bechtold, Longview MPO

Bernadette Spitz, Tyler MPO
John Bendele, TxDOT , TPP(S)
Dave Spitz, TxDOT, Tyler
Lori Morel, TPP(S)
Takesh Tirpathi, TxDOT, Houston
Carolyn Bednanwood, TxDOT, Houston
David Miller, TxDOT, Amarillo
Ed Collins, TxDOT, Austin

The first order of business was the election of a TEMPO Deputy Executive Director. This position was left vacant by the resignation of Brain Roe former Midland/Odessa MPO Director. Nominations were taken from the floor. Ashby Johnson from HGAC, was nominated by Michael Aulick, CAMPO and seconded by Sam Woods, Lubbock MPO, Bob Dickinson, Beaumont/Port Arthur was nominated by E'lisa Smetana, San Angelo MPO and seconded by Chris Evilia, Waco MPO. Ashby Johnson was elected by a majority vote as the TEMPO Deputy Executive Director.

As a result, Ashby Johnson's position on the Executive Committee as a TMA representative is now vacant. Election of a TMA representative to the Executive Committee will occur at the TEMPO summer meeting.

Presentations were then made to TEMPO on the following topics:

Metropolitan Transportation Planning SAFETEA- LU Final Rules – Jose Campos, FHWA, a copy of this presentation is available on the TEMPO web site.

State Audit of TxDOT Metropolitan Transportation Planning Grant Program – Dan Kessler, TEMPO Discussion Item

Status Report on JARC/New Freedom/Statewide Transit Initiative Program - Karen Dunlap, TxDOT PTN.

Impact of Recent Federal Rescissions Transportation Funding – Mark Meric, Director TxDOT Design Division

2008 & 2009 UPWP – Status of TPF Funding – John Bendele, TxDOT TP&P

This item included a request by Karen Dunlap, TxDOT PTN for TEMPO to provide input to the TxDOT Public Transportation Division to increase the minimum allocation of FTA Section 5303 planning funds to MPOs in Texas from \$20,000 to \$30,000. After full discussion the motion was made by Tom Niskala, Corpus Christie to make this increase, seconded by Sam Woods, Lubbock, voted on and approved unanimously by TEMPO to support this change. Dan Kessler will work with John Bendele, TxDOT TP&P make the appropriate notation in the TxDOT MPO funding formula and distribute the updated formula to the MPO's. Karen Dunlap also noted the TxDOT is considering providing the required 20 percent match for 5303 funding to MPO's in the form of cash for the FY 2007/2008 as opposed to in-kind as has been done in previous years.

Use of Context Sensitive Solutions – Dan Kessler, NCTCOG, a copy of this presentation is available on the TEMPO web site

AMPO Committee Reports - Policy Committee – Ashby Johnson, HGAC; Technical Committee – Chris Evilia, Waco

TEMPO Summer Meeting - Dan Kessler

TEMPO held a discussion Item on holding a two-day summer meeting with the Goal of holding a series of work sessions that allow for open and meaningful discussion among Texas MPO staff and our agency partners on how we can do things better by learning from each other, using a few expert panelists if needed. Emphasis would be on discussion, interaction and participation consistent with the TEMPO mission. Potential Topics include:

- EPA NEPAassist - a web-based GIS application that draws environmental data dynamically from EPA regions
- Title IV – Environmental Justice Planning
- TIP Programming – Methods and Tools
- Public Participation Plans/Innovative Communication
- Travel Forecasting – State of the Practice in Texas
- MPO Freight Planning
- MPO Safety Planning
- Environmental Streamlining MPO Role
- Innovative Finance

TEMPO Executive Director Report – Dan Kessler, Executive Director

- Executive Committee Meetings
- TEMPO Website
- TEMPO Funds
- TMA Delegation Appearances

Upcoming Border-To-Border Conference – Andrew Cannon, Hidalgo MPO

Report on the Status of Toll Road, Managed Lane and Pass-Through Toll Initiatives – Opportunity for Each MPO to Comment on Status of Activities in Your Area. A copy of the presentation made by CAMPO regarding toll road status in the Austin Area is available on the TEMPO website.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.