

Meeting of the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 28, 2025 – 1:30 PM
Presiding: Chair Commissioner Ellie Torres (Hidalgo County Pct. 4)

1. Call to Order

Chair Hidalgo County Commissioner Ellie Torres called the Transportation Policy Board meeting to order at 1:30 P.M., and a quorum was established. The Meeting was held in person with members present.

2. Roll Call

RGVMPO Transportation Policy Board Representatives in attendance were as follows:

| Members Present: | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Entity | Individual |
| Hidalgo County | Comm. Ellie Torres (Chair) – PRESENT Comm. Everardo Villarreal (Alternate) |
| City of Brownsville | Mayor John Cowen (Vice-Chair) – ABSENT Comm. Pedro Cardenas (Alternate) |
| Cameron County | Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr. Com. David A. Garza (Alternate) - PRESENT |
| City of McAllen | Mayor Javier Villalobos (Designee) Eduardo Mendoza (Proxy) - PRESENT |
| City of Edinburg | Mayor Ramiro Garza (Designee) - PRESENT Comm. Daniel “Dan” Diaz (Alternate) |
| City of Mission | Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza (Designee) Assistant City Manager Juan Pablo “JP” Terrazas - PRESENT |
| City of Harlingen | Mayor Norma Sepulveda (Designee) - PRESENT City Manager Gabriel Gonzalez (Alternate) – PRESENT |
| City of Pharr | Mayor Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez (Designee) Maria Rangel (Proxy) – PRESENT |
| Starr County | Judge Eloy Vera (Designee) - ABSENT Reyna Guerra (Proxy) |
| City of San Benito | Mayor Ricardo “Rick” Guerra (Designee) - ABSENT Tom Goodman (Proxy) |
| Cameron County RMA | Frank Parker, Jr. (Designee) – PRESENT Arturo A. Nelson (Alternate) |
| Hidalgo County RMA | Robert L. Lozano (Designee) – PRESENT Ezequiel Reyna Jr. (Alternate) |
| Valley Metro | Tom Logan (Designee) - PRESENT Nancy Sanchez (Alternate) |
| TxDOT Pharr District | Pedro “Pete” Alvarez (Designee) - PRESENT Rex A. Costley (Alternate) |
| | |
| EX-OFFICIO | |
| LRGVDC | Manuel Cruz |
| | |
| Others Present: | |
| RGVMPO Executive Director | Michael Medina |
| Caso Law Firm | Jose Caso |
| RGVMPO Staff | |
| | |

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Jorge Cruz Saenz

DISCUSSION AND ACTION

4. Approval of minutes for April 30, 2025.

Presenter: Commissioner Ellie Torres (RGVMPO Chair)

David A. Garza from Cameron County made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Pedro Alvarez from TxDOT. The item was unanimously approved.

5. Discussion and Action to recommend the approval of the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Call for Fiscal Years 2025-2027 Call for Projects

Presenter: Ben Worsham, TAC Chair

Gabriel Gonzalez from the City of Harlingen made a motion to approve the item. The motion was seconded by Tom Logan from Valley Metro. The item was unanimously approved.

6. Discussion and Action to recommend a Category 7 Call for Projects for Fiscal Year 2026 and Category 10 Carbon Reduction Program for Fiscal Year 2028.

Presenter: Ben Worsham, TAC Chair

David A. Garza from Cameron County made a motion to approve the item. The motion was seconded by Mayor Ramiro Garza from the City of Edinburg. The item was unanimously approved.

7. Discussion and Action to recommend the May STIP Revisions.

Presenter: Ben Worsham, TAC Chair/ RGVMPO Staff

Mayor Norie Gonzalez-Garza from the City of Mission made a motion to approve the item. The motion was seconded by David A. Garza from Cameron County. The item was unanimously approved.

8. Discussion and Action to recommend the appointment of Michael Medina, MPO Executive Director to the Border Trade Advisory Committee.

Presenter: Commissioner Ellie Torres, Chair

Gabriel Gonzalez from the City of Harlingen made a motion to approve the item. The motion was seconded by David A. Garza from Cameron County. The item was unanimously approved.

9. Consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign Letters of Support for the local applications for FY 2025 TxDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside project call that are advancing for statewide consideration.

Presenter: Michael Medina, RGVMPO Executive Director

- **Cameron County:**
 - Project Name: **Maverick Road Sidewalks Project**
- **Cameron County:**
 - Project Name: **Santa Maria Sidewalks Improvements Project**
- **City of Progreso:**
 - Project Name: **Progreso TxDOT Walks-Safe Program 2025**
- **City of Alamo:**
 - Project Name: **Alamo Kids Safety First Grant 2025**
- **Hidalgo County:**

- Project Name: **Russell Rd Shared Use Path**
- **City of Primera:**
 - Project Name: **Primera Rd Sidewalks**
- **City of Harlingen:**
 - Project Name: **Loop 499 SUP**
- **City of Brownsville:**
 - Project Name: **Bike Counter City Wide Upgrade**
- **City of Brownsville:**
 - Project Name: **West Rail Trail Extension Project**

Pedro R. Alvarez from TxDOT made a motion to approve the item. The motion was seconded by David A. Garza from Cameron County. The item was unanimously approved.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

10. Executive Director’s Report.
Presenter: Michael Medina, RGVMPPO Executive Director

11. Agencies Reports
 1. **TxDOT**
Presenter: TxDOT Pharr District TP&D Staff
 2. **CCRMA**
Presenter: Eric Davila, Cameron County RMA Chief Development Engineer

The **next meeting** of the TPB is scheduled for **1:30pm** on **June 25, 2025**, at the Ken Jones Executive Board Room, 301 W. Railroad Street, Building B Weslaco, TX 78596

OTHER BUSINESS:

Pedro R. Alvarez from TxDOT suggested to the Board to have the Agencies Reports (RMAs and Transit) presented on a quarterly basis. The board concurred with this proposal, establishing the new reporting schedule for April, July, October, and December.

ADJOURNMENT

Pedro R. Alvarez from TxDOT made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Frank Parker from Cameron County RMA. Adjournment at 2:23 p.m.

Minutes Approved as to content: Wednesday June 25, 2025.