

Meeting of the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
SPECIAL POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Friday December 5, 2025 – 1:30 PM
Presiding: Chair Mayor John Cowen

Call to Order

Chair Mayor John Cowen 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.

Roll Call

RGVMPO Transportation Policy Board Representatives in attendance were as follows:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:
NONE

DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Approval of minutes for October 24, 2025.

Presenter: Chairperson

Ramon Navarro from Hidalgo County RMA made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Frank Parker Jr. from Cameron County RMA and passed unanimously with correction.

2. Discussion, consider and possible action authorizing the Chair to sign a Resolution 2025-14 in support of designating a U.S. Bicycle Route System in the Rio Grande Valley.

Presenter: RGVMPPO Staff

Frank Parker Jr. from Cameron County RMA made a motion to approve item as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Everaldo Villarreal with Hidalgo County. The item was unanimously approved.

3. Discussion, consideration, and possible action authorizing the Chair to sign Resolution 2025-15 adopting the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program, and the responses to comments from the corresponding 30-day public comment period.

Presenter: TAC Chair and RGVMPPO Staff

Isaac Tawil from the City of McAllen made a motion to approve item as presented. The motion was seconded by Frank Parker Jr. from the Cameron County RMA. The item was unanimously approved.

4. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to authorize the RGVMPPO Executive Director to coordinate a regional tour of Transportation Policy Board meetings, allowing the RGVMPPO Policy Board to convene in communities throughout the Rio Grande Valley.

Presenter: RGVMPPO Staff

Judge Eddie Trevino Jr. from Cameron County made a motion to approve item presented. The motion was seconded by Ramiro Sarabia from Starr County. The item was approved.

5. Discussion, consideration, and possible action adopting the RGVMPPO Policy Board Calendar meeting dates for 2026.

Presenter: RGVMPPO Staff

Isaac Tawil from the City of McAllen made a motion to approve item. The motion was seconded by Mayor Norie Gonzalez-Garza from the City of Mission. The item was approved.

6. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to establish an Executive Committee pursuant to RGVMPPO Bylaws §1.06(f), to designate the committee's one-year duration, and to nominate and appoint members to serve for that term.

Presenter: RGVMPPO Staff

Judge Eddie Treviño Jr. from Cameron County moved to table the item, requesting that it be brought back to the Board alongside a Bylaws proposal and/or more detailed information. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Everardo Villarreal from Hidalgo County; the item was tabled pending further details.

7. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to direct the Executive Committee to review and recommend potential revision of the RGVMPO Bylaws.

Presenter: RGVMPO Staff

Ramon Navarro from Hidalgo County RMA moved to table the item for consistency with Item 6. The motion was seconded by Mission Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza and carried; the item was tabled.

8. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to approve the Draft 2027 Unified Transportation Program Category 2 Project list submission.

Presenter: TxDOT Pharr District

Isaac Tawil from the City of McAllen made a motion to approve item. The motion was seconded by Ramiro Sarabia from Starr County. The item was approved.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

9. MPO Reports

- 1) Functional Classification Pilot Program
- 2) Category 10 Carbon Reduction Program call update

10. Agencies Reports

- 1) TxDOT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

11. Closed Session:

None

12. Open Session:

N/A

13. ADJOURNMENT

Ramiro Sarabia with Starr County made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Maria Rangel from the City of Pharr. Adjournment at 2:41 p.m.

Minutes Approved: January 21, 2026