

Meeting of the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 15, 2026 – 1:30 PM
Presiding: Vice-Chair Commissioner Nurith Galonsky

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Commissioner Nurith Galonsky (City of Brownsville) called the Transportation Policy Board meeting to order at 1:30 PM, 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
City of Brownsville	Mayor John Cowen (Chair) Comm. Nurith Galonsky (proxy) - PRESENT
City of McAllen	Mayor Javier Villalobos (Designee) Engineering Director Eduardo Mendoza (Proxy) - PRESENT
Hidalgo County	Comm. Everardo Villarreal (Designee) - PRESENT Judge Richard F. Cortez (Alternate)
Cameron County	Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr. (Designee) - PRESENT Pete Sepulveda, Jr. (Alternate)
City of Edinburg	Mayor Omar Ochoa (Designee) Tomas Reyna (Proxy) - PRESENT
City of Mission	Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza (Designee) Assistant City Manager Juan Pablo “JP” Terrazas - PRESENT
City of Pharr	Mayor Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez (Designee) Maria Rangel (Proxy) - PRESENT
City of Harlingen	Mayor Norma Sepulveda (Designee) City Manager Gabriel Gonzalez (Alternate) – PRESENT
City of San Benito	Mayor Ricardo “Rick” Guerra (Designee) - PRESENT Tom Goodman (Proxy)
Starr County	Judge Eloy Vera (Designee) Reyna Guerra (Proxy) - PRESENT
Cameron County RMA	Frank Parker, Jr. (Designee) - PRESENT Arturo A. Nelson (Alternate)
Hidalgo County RMA	Robert L. Lozano (Designee) - PRESENT Ramon Navarro (Proxy)
Valley Metro	VACANT (Designee) Nancy Sanchez (Alternate) - PRESENT
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:
NONE

DISCUSSION AND ACTION

4. Approval of minutes for February 18, 2026.

Presenter: MPO Vice-Chairperson

Frank Parker from Cameron County RMA made a motion to approve minutes. The motion was seconded by Reyna Guerra from Starr County. The item was unanimously approved.

5. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to approve an interlocal agreement with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute in the amount of \$559,281.00 to perform a special study identified in the FY 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program as Subtask 5.1: International Border Crossings System-Wide Analysis.

Presenter: MPO Staff

Robert Lozano from Hidalgo County RMA made a motion to approve the item as presented. The motion was seconded by Pedro “Pete” Alvarez from TxDOT Pharr District. The item was unanimously approved.

6. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to approve Resolution 2026-04 in support of amending the FY 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program to include the following subtasks:

Subtask 5.7: City of Harlingen Mobility Master Plan

Subtask 5.8: City of McAllen ITS Master Plan

Subtask 5.9: City of McAllen Active Transportation Plan

Subtask 5.10: City of Mission Comprehensive Assessment for Transportation Alternatives Projects

Presenter: MPO Staff

City of Harlingen Manager, Gabriel Gonzalez made a motion to approve item as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Everardo Villarreal from Hidalgo County. The item was unanimously approved.

7. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on approval of Resolution 2026-05 authorizing submission of a Federal Functional Classification change request for State Loop 195 Phase III to designate it as a Major Collector within the Federal Functional Classification System.

Presenter: TxDOT Pharr District Staff

Cameron County Judge Eddie Trevino made a motion to approve the item as presented. The motion was seconded by Reyna Guerra from Starr County. The item was unanimously approved.

8. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to approve the quarterly update to the Project Readiness Report.

Presenter: MPO Staff

Cameron County Judge Eddie Trevino made a motion to approve the item as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Everardo Villarreal from Hidalgo County. The item was unanimously approved.

9. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to approve the creation of the Executive Committee.

Presenter: MPO Staff

Cameron County Judge Eddie Trevino made a motion to approve the item as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Everardo Villarreal from Hidalgo County. The item was unanimously approved.

10. Discussion, consideration, and possible to authorize the development of an interlocal agreement with the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (fiscal agent).
Presenter: MPO Staff

Reyna Guerra from Starr County made a motion to approve the item as presented. The motion was seconded by TxDOT District Engineer Pedro “Pete” Alvarez. The item was unanimously approved.

11. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to authorize RGVMPPO staff to assist Valley Metro with a Call for Projects as defined in FY 2026-27 Unified Planning Work Program Subtask 3.4 in support of the Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Program Management Plan.
Presenter: MPO Staff

Reyna Guerra from Starr County made a motion to approve the item as presented. The motion was seconded by Maria Rangel from the City of Pharr. The item was unanimously approved.

REPORTS

12. MPO Reports

- A. FY 2026 Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Notice of Funding Opportunity.
- B. Critical Urban Freight Corridor.
- C. Letters of Support.
- D. Draft 2027 Unified Transportation Program.
- E. Draft 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Public Comment Period.

13. Agency Reports

- A. TxDOT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

12. Closed Session:

NONE

13. Open Session:

N/A

14. ADJOURNMENT

Maria Rangel from the City of Pharr made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:31pm. The motion was seconded by Eduardo Mendoza from the City of McAllen.

Minutes Approved: May 20, 2026