

**Meeting Minutes of the  
Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle  
Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

Wednesday, September 1, 2021 at 11:00 AM

Via Microsoft Teams

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting was held VIA Microsoft Teams and called to order by BPAC Chair, Rose Gowen, at 11:02am

**II. ROLL CALL**

RGVBPAC Representatives **PRESENT:**

Organization/Agency	Voting Membership	Alternate Voting Member
Caracara Trails	<b>Chair Commissioner Dr. Rose Gowen</b>	<b>Adrienne Wheatly</b>
At-Large	<b>Vice-Chair</b> <i>Michael McNew</i>	
City of Brownsville	<b>Frank Gudino</b>	<i>Joel Garza</i>
City of Edinburg	<b>Larry Ayala</b>	<i>Valentin Sanchez</i>
City of Harlingen	<b>Andy Vigstol</b>	<i>Javier Mendez</i>
City of McAllen	<i>Marlen Garza</i>	<b>Rosvel Hinojosa</b>
City of Pharr	<i>Omar Anzaldua</i>	<b>Maria Rangel</b>
City of Weslaco	<b>Omar Rodriguez</b>	<i>Rebecca de la Fuente</i>
TxDOT Pharr District	<b>Joseph Leal</b>	<b>Craig Wuensche</b>
Valley Metro	<b>Frank Jaramillo</b>	<i>Tom Logan</i>
Museum of South Texas History	<b>Rene A. Ballesteros</b>	
Bicycle World RGV	<i>Ana Adame</i>	
TPWD Estero Llano Grande SP	<b>Javier de Leon</b>	<i>Kelly Malkowski</i>
USFWS Santa Ana NWR	<b>Christine Donald</b>	<b>Imer de la Garza</b>
At-Large	<i>Eudenia "Eudy" Carrillo</i>	
At-Large	<b>Richard Cavin</b>	
At-Large	<i>Michael Padgett</i>	

Other Attendees:

- Kathleen de Gennaro, Texas Sea Grant
- Shaun Morin, UTRGV
- Rick Carrera, LRGVDC
- Carlos Sanchez, City of Harlingen
- Ana Hernandez, City of Harlingen
- Patty Alexander, with City of Port Isabel
- Lizbeth Campos, with the City of Elsa

BPAC Minutes Approved  
October 6, 2021

**RGVMPO Staff:**

- Andrew Canon, Executive Director
- Luis Díaz, Assistant Director
- Rudy Zamora, Planner II
- Melany Rodriguez, Planner I
- Javier Dominguez, Planner I
- Chris Nelson, Planner I
- Fernando Cantu, GIS Specialist II
- Miguel Arispe, GIS Specialist II
- Nick Cousineau, GIS Specialist I
- Gloria Banda-Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant
- Eva Garcia, Planner III Bike/Ped Program Coordinator

**III. CITIZENS INPUT – NONE.**

**IV. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Minutes of June 2, 2021**

Eva Garcia, RGVMPO BikePed Program Coordinator, presented the Minutes of June 2, 2021. Craig Wuensche (TxDOT) made a **motion to approve** the Minutes of June 2, 2021. The motion was seconded by Omar Rodriguez (City of Weslaco) and upon a vote; the motion **passed unanimously**.

**B. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Minutes of August 4, 2021**

Eva Garcia, RGVMPO BikePed Program Coordinator, notified members that the Minutes of August 4, 2021 had not been completed due to an issue with the meeting recording, and recommended tabling this item until the September 2021 RGVMPO BPAC Meeting. Andy Vigstol (City of Harlingen) made a **motion to table** the Minutes of August 4, 2021. The motion was seconded by Omar Rodriguez (City of Weslaco) and upon a vote; the motion **passed unanimously**.

**C. Discussion & Possible Action regarding the RGVMPO's FY2021-2022 TASA Program**

RGVMPO Staff presented the agenda item objectives, reminded BPAC Members of the Action taken during the August meeting to award/program funding to the three (3) TASA planning project proposals at a pro-rated amount, and reviewed the evaluation and scoring results of the five (5) TASA construction project proposals. BPAC Members engaged in a discussion about the amount of funding available to award to projects. It was determined that the top three (3) ranked projects could be fully awarded their federal funding request and that a balance of \$34,705 would remain. In addition, BPAC Members and TASA Applicants discussion challenges to the program call, project evaluation, scoring criteria and timeline of activities. Input was captured in the meeting presentation.

Frank Gudino (City of Brownsville) made a **motion to recommend the programming of FY2021-2022 TASA Funds to the following projects for the following amounts:**

- Elsa – Getting Connected - \$46,920
- Arroyo Colorado Trail Phase III Planning and Design - \$141,568
- Bridge Street Pedestrian and Bicycle Development - \$70,000
- West Rail Trail - \$900,000
- Freddy Gonzalez Hike-and-Bike Trail - \$699,995.80
- Bejarano-McFarland-Galvan Trail Extension \$435,300

The motion was seconded by Richard Cavin (BikePed Citizen At-Large) and upon a vote; the **motion passed** with City of Harlingen opposing the motion.

**D. Discussion & Possible Action regarding the RGVMPO BPAC Membership**

RGVMPO Staff presented updates to the RGVMPO BPAC Membership website, showed which members needed to identify alternates and make members aware of vacancies. **No action was taken.**

**E. Discussion and Possible Action on FY2019-2020 TASA Projects**

Eva Garcia, RGVMPO BikePed Program Coordinator, provided members with an update on FY2017-2018 and FY2019-2020 TASA Projects. She particularly highlighted that the LRGVDC had shared an interest to de-obligate their previously awarded funds due to the increasing cost of the RGV B-Cycle BikeShare project. Eva explained that, of the projects currently underdeveloped and with an executed AFA, the City of McAllen's Jackson Rd. Trail

TASA Project is the only project that could potentially obligate the funds on time and was already seeking AFA Amendments. Omar Rodriguez (City of Weslaco) made a **motion to support the potential re-programming of TASA Funds from FY2019-2020**. The motion was seconded by Craig Wuensche (TxDOT) and upon a vote; the motion **passed unanimously**.

V. **PROJECT UPDATES**

- A. **RGV Bicycle & Pedestrian Count Data Program** installation training was a success, Eva thanked all those who participated and assisted.
- B. **ADA Compliance Questionnaire** is on the RGVMPPO Website, in coordination with TxDOT.

VI. **NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE**

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the BPAC Committee, Frank Gudino (City of Brownsville) made a motion to adjourn meeting at 12:11 PM. The motion was seconded by Javier de Leon (TPWD), and upon a vote; the motion passed unanimously.