

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



AGENDA

MEETING OF THE LRGVDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Notice is hereby provided that the LRGVDC Board of Directors will hold a Regular IN-PERSON Meeting on

Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 12:00 P.M

at 301 W. Railroad St. Weslaco, Texas and provide the public with the ability to view the meeting via Internet

Live-streaming at: [LRGVDC COG - YouTube](#)

Presiding: Mayor Norma Sepulveda, President

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Item #1: Call to Order

- A. Roll Call
- B. Invocation
- C. Pledge of Allegiance

Item #2: Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve February 26 Meeting Minutes.....President

Item #3: Public Comment

Item #4: Administration.....Manuel Cruz
Executive Director

- A. Consideration **RATIFICATION** of Executive Committee **ACTION** on the following item.
 - 1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Prioritized Lists and Resolution for FY 2025-26 Homeland Security Grants Division Regional Grant Applications.
- B. Executive Director Report
 - 1. Introduction of New Staff Members
 - 2. Updates on Regional News, Funding Opportunities, Training, and Legislation

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Community & Economic Development.....Melisa Gonzalez
Assistant Director

- 1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Resolution 2025-01 Proclaiming April as National Fair Housing Month and Supporting the Awareness of Fair Housing.
- 2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve the LRGVDC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Program Status Reports

- Economic Development Administration
- Regional Small Cities Coalition
- Community & Economic Development Assistance Fund
- Solid Waste Management Program
- Water Quality Program
- Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee
- Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group (Region M)
- Reservoir Levels

B. Health & Human Services.....Margarita Lopez
Director

- 1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve Vendor Arise Home Health Care, Inc. request to Amend contract Rates from \$12.59 to \$15.59 per hour.
- 2. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve Vendor A Healing Touch Home Health request to Amend Contract Rates. The agency proposes adjusting the homemaker service rate from \$17.50 to \$15.00 and the caregiver respite rate from \$18.50 to \$15.00.

Program Status Reports

- Direct Consumer Services
- Care Coordination Services
- Senior Subrecipient & Senior Center Operations
- Home Delivered and Congregate Meal Program
- Special Services
- Care Transition Program
- Ombudsman Program
- Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)
- Housing Navigator
- Special Initiatives Report
- Information Referral & Assistance

C. Public Safety.....Manuel Cruz
Executive Director

Criminal Justice & Homeland Security..... Cesar Merla
Assistant Director

- 1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Appointed Frank Garcia Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Member.

Program Status Reports

Police Academy Program.....Javier Solis
Assistant Director

- 1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Utilization of LRGV Academy GPI funds in the amount of \$54,858.00 for the purpose of a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado.

Program Status Reports_

Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District..... Dennis Moreno
Assistant Director

Program Status Reports

- GIS Division
- 9-1-1 Information Technology
- Community Engagement Division

D. Transportation Valley Metro.....Tom Logan
Director

- 1. Discussion and **ACTION** on approval of Resolution #2025-03, authorizing the acceptance of MCI Coach Buses to be transferred from Green Mountain Transit.
- 2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Expansion and Renovation expenses in relation to TX-2010-125, Harlingen Cares Act at 100% Federal funding with no local match.

Valley Metro Status Reports

- Ridership Report

Rio Grande Valley MPO Status Report Michael Medina
Executive Director

Item #6 New or Unfinished Business

Item #7 Adjourn

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

12:00 Noon

Agenda items may be considered, deliberated, and/or acted upon in a different order than those numbered above. The Board of Directors of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council reserves the right to adjourn into an Executive (Closed) session at any time during this meeting to discuss any of the items listed on this agenda as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapters 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and 551.075, Texas Government Code. No final action will be taken in the Executive Session.

PUBLIC INPUT POLICY:

"At the beginning of each LRGVDC meeting, the LRGVDC will allow for an open public forum/comment period. This comment period shall not exceed one-half (1/2) hour, and each speaker will be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes to speak. All individuals desiring to address the LRGVDC must sign up to do so before the open comment period. The purpose of this comment period is to provide the public with an opportunity to address issues or topics under the jurisdiction of the LRGVDC. For issues or topics that are not otherwise part of the posted agenda for the meeting, LRGVDC members may direct staff to investigate the issue or topic further. No action or discussion shall be taken on issues or topics which are not part of the posted agenda for the meeting. Members of the public may be recognized on posted agenda items deemed appropriate by the Chair as these items are considered, and the same 3minut

ITEM #2

MEETING

MINUTES

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

12:00PM WEDNESDAY, February 26, 2025

HELD IN-PERSON AND VIA THE GLOBAL GOTOMEETING VIDEO CONFERENCE
PLATFORM INITIATED AND CHAIRED FROM
LRGVDC MAIN CAMPUS - 301 W. RAILROAD STREET, WESLACO, TEXAS
BUILDING B, KEN JONES EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM

PRESIDING: Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza

Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. Roll Call was taken, and as of 12:06 pm quorum was attained.

Present: Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza

Judge Aurelio Guerra, Willacy County
Mayor John Cowen, City of Brownsville
Mayor Ramiro Garza, City of Edinburg
Commissioner Pete Garcia, City of Weslaco
Commissioner Ellie Torres, Hidalgo County
Mayor Alma Salinas, Sullivan City
Mayor George Guadiana, City San Perlita
Mayor Gilbert Gonzales, City of Raymondville
Commissioner Tom Goodman, City of San Benito
Mr. Ron Garza, UTRGV Edinburg
Mr. Paul Hernandez, South Texas College
Mr. Luke Lucio, TSTC
Mr. Jim Darling, Member at Large
Mr. Tony Chavez, Member at Large
Mrs. Ann Williams Cass, Member at Large

Absent :

Mayor Norma Sepulveda, City of Harlingen
David Garza, Cameron County
Mayor JR Garza, City of Alamo
Mayor David Moreno, City of Donna
Mayor Alejandro Flores, City of Los Fresnos
Mayor Javier Villalobos, City of McAllen
Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez City of Pharr
Commissioner Marco Villegas, City of San Juan
Mr. Troy Allen, Delta Lake ID
Mr. Ronald Mills, Willacy County Nav Dist.
Mr. Lupita Sanchez Martinez, Grassroots Org

Without any questions from the board, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to Item #2

Item #2: 1. Consideration and ACTION to approve Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for January 29. ***Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve Meeting Minutes for January 29, 2025. Jim Darling seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

Item #3: Public Comment- No Public Comment

With no further comments and questions, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to Item #4.

Item #4: Administration

Mr. Cruz introduced Mr. Javier Dominguez to present action item. The purpose of this document is to provide an opportunity for all sister organizations and programs directly associated with the COG to outline their goals and strategic objectives for the next five years. It also includes some high-level objectives on our part, such as preparing for the census, conducting research on the mergers of the MSA, exploring the potential benefits of such mergers, and evaluating the Regional Transit Authority.

We opened a two-week window for feedback, and we received valuable input. Mr. Garza from UTRGV recommended that we reach out to the partnership to explore their legislative priorities. Upon doing so, we found significant overlap with many of our own programs, which is encouraging. As a COG, we also recognize the importance of the items mentioned in this document, and we plan to incorporate these recommendations into our future research.

At this point, I'm open to any questions. Otherwise, we would just need your approval to finalize and adopt this draft, making it official for the next five years. One final point, and I apologize for the oversight. In the past, we've looked at updating this document every two years. As we mentioned last month, we've been committed to revisiting this document in two years to see whether any changes or updates are necessary at that time.

4A. Consideration and ACTION to approve LRGVDC 2025-2030 Strategic Plan. ***Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan. Judge Aurelio Guerra seconded the motion, upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

With no further questions or comments, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza then moved on to the next item on the agenda.

Executive Report: Mr. Cruz introduced all new staff to the board. Then Mr. Cruz moved on to Updates on Regional News, Funding Opportunities, Training, and Legislation. Before I begin, I'd like to thank Mr. Jim Darling for attending the Texas Association of Regional Councils' bi-annual meeting and training. It was very informative. Mr. Darling, I'd like to give you the opportunity to share any additional comments or insights on other items you found noteworthy or worth discussing.

Mr. Darling: Yes, they covered a broad agenda, including topics that align with many of the programs we have, but on a statewide level. Some of the important legislation that will impact us was discussed, and I will make sure to share updates as we receive them. I've always recognized the value of COGs; I was with the first COG, the Houston-Galveston Area Council, back in 1978 when they first signed contracts for Motorola radios. So, I truly understand how important COGs are in a statewide context. It's an exciting time, and while the upcoming legislative session will be challenging, I remain optimistic.

Mr. Cruz stated that he previously shared a report with several links, and it is still available on our website for anyone interested in exploring it. These links cover the items we discuss at the state level during our annual meetings with state and federal partners. They provide the latest updates, especially for 2025. Given the change in administration, much work has been underway, both positive and negative. However, currently, we do not foresee any impact on our grant funds, particularly those from the federal government to the state, if we comply with the new administration's standards.

I've thoroughly reviewed each of the programs we have at the COG, and none of them appear to conflict with the new federal agenda. Everything is aligned with the current administration's priorities, so we do not anticipate any program disruptions currently. As always, I will keep you informed as new information becomes available.

As previously mentioned, aging programs, such as Meals on Wheels and senior services, which are federally funded, could be impacted if there are cuts or cancellation in funding. Additionally, transportation, which is a large component of our work, is also federally funded. We have not received any updates from the Federal Transit Administration, so it remains business as usual.

Finally, yesterday we had the honor of unveiling the RGV Broadband Regional Plan. Mayor Sepulveda attended and spoke on behalf of the LRGVDC Board of Directors as we officially endorsed the plan. This is a comprehensive, collaborative effort involving all partners who are willing to participate. The plan is a living document, subject to annual updates based on federal or state requirements.

This regional plan addresses the digital divide, and it is well-crafted. We are excited about the opportunity to apply for funding, not only for our organization but also for cities of all sizes and counties. There are still two county plans pending: Willacy County and Starr County. As these plans come online, they will be incorporated into the regional plan, providing a clear overview of broadband access across the region.

Additionally, we have received preliminary notice that we, as the COG's, may be eligible for funding to address broadband literacy, particularly for the elderly. While this is still in the early stages, we are optimistic about receiving these funds and using them to support our community.

No questions or comments, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza then moved on to Item #5 Department Reports.

A. Community & Economic Development: Melisa Gonzalez had no Action items on the agenda for her department.

Status Reports: Mrs. Gonzales had some announcements. Thank you, Manuel, for the great introduction to the digital broadband plan. It's an excellent plan, and we are proud to be part of it. It's exciting to see that, hopefully soon, the RGV will have no communities without internet access, that's the goal.

Today, I don't have any action items, just a few announcements.

First, we are working on finalizing the updates to our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. These updates are nearly complete, and we plan to present them to our Economic Development Advisory Committee in the second week of March. Following their review and any suggested changes, we aim to bring the finalized strategy to the board for approval at the March board meeting, scheduled for March 25th.

Second, we will be hosting a workshop for the South Texas Clean City Coalition on March 27th. This workshop will bring together our committee members to finalize the bylaws, elect officers, and establish a meeting schedule. Once these items are finalized, I will present the bylaws to the board for approval so that we can continue moving forward with the STC-4.

Lastly, I want to announce that our tire recycling event, "The Road to Recycling," is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23rd. We've decided to hold it on a weekday to accommodate smaller cities that may not have weekend staff. We are finalizing the logistics, including contributions for transportation and disposal costs per community. We'll have more concrete details after our meeting with the vendors on Friday, and we'll share the final logistics with you as soon as possible.

No further Questions or comments, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza then moved to Health & Human Services

B. Health & Human Services: Margarita Lopez had no Action items on the agenda.

Status Reports: Ms. Lopez let the board know that all she had for them today was a couple of announcements. I don't have any action items today, but I do want to highlight a series of impactful events that I encourage you to review—not only as leaders in your community but also as individuals who, like everyone else, have personal needs. Each of you has a folder with specific details for these events, and I invite you to look at them.

The first event I'd like to announce is the **LIIFE Conference**, taking place next Wednesday. This is the third time we've hosted this event. At the conference, we will offer sessions on several important topics. These include empowering siblings and individuals with disabilities, as many people worry about caregiving for aging parents, but often adults also have siblings with disabilities who need care. We'll address this issue and provide support for those who may have increased responsibilities due to life events.

Additional sessions will cover basic budgeting and financial wellness, parent-teacher collaboration during assessment stages, stress management and mindfulness for caregivers and leaders, and applying for disability benefits, which will be hosted by our Benefit Counseling Department. We'll also have a session on recruiting family members for childcare support and strategies for anger management for parents. For professionals attending the conference, we will offer up to **four CEUs**.

The second event I want to highlight is on **April 15th**, which is specifically designed for professionals: **Future Planning for Professionals**, focusing on navigating benefits, retirement, and advanced care. This event will be in-person only, and we are limiting attendance to **15 individuals** due to the sensitive nature of the topics being discussed. Our goal is to ensure everyone feels comfortable asking personal questions and receiving more individualized answers.

This session, led by our benefit counselors, will include three key topics:

1. **Retirement Planning** – covering Social Security, Medicare, early retirement considerations, and long-term financial stability.
2. **Applying for Disability Benefits** – including information on SSI, SSDI, Medicaid waivers, and how to navigate the application process.
3. **Hospice Care and Advanced Directives** – helping professionals understand end-of-life planning, legal considerations, and making informed healthcare decisions.

This event is specifically designed for professionals in the community. If you can't attend on April 15th but have a group of **10 to 15 people** who would benefit from this training, we can bring this session to your organization or community. If you have a space with a podium or microphone, we'll be happy to come to you and share this important information.

Other upcoming events include **Military Cultural Competency Training** and **ASK Training**, which focuses on suicide prevention skills.

Please take a moment to review the details in your folder, sign up if you're interested, or let us know if you'd like us to come to your community or organization. Feel free to share this information with anyone who might benefit from it. Lastly, you have my report on our performance during the month of January in the packet provided.

No further questions or comments Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to Public Safety.

C. Public Safety: Criminal Justice & Homeland Security. Mr. Cesar Merla was recognized and stated, one action item for today is the consideration and approval of a new Homeland Security Advisory Committee member. In February, Michael Kester, the previous member representing the city of Harlingen, retired. As per the bylaws, Deputy Chief Alfredo Arias has been appointed as the new representative for Harlingen, and this appointment requires board approval.

C1. Consideration and Action to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Member. ***Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Member. Mr. Ron Garza seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

Status Reports: Additionally, along with the report, my department, in collaboration with the City of Pharr Office of Emergency Management, will be hosting a three-day eGrants training next week, March 4th, 5th, and 6th, at the Pharr One Center. This training is aimed at jurisdictions in the area that use the eGrants system, which is utilized by the Governor's office to prioritize and manage the public safety grants distributed each year. This is an excellent opportunity for grant managers to learn how to navigate the system. If you have a grant manager or someone new to the process, please encourage them to register. The room has been expanded to accommodate up to 80 individuals each day. A big thank you to the City of Pharr Office of Emergency Management for their support, and we look forward to seeing you all at the training next week.

Mr. Cruz then stated, one upcoming item is that the Executive Committee will need to convene, either virtually or via email, to address the Homeland Security grant prioritizations. The state is releasing the applications, and the release date does not align with the board meeting schedule. The applications are expected to be available to us by March 6th. We will have a few days to prioritize and ensure everything is in order. The Homeland Security Advisory Committee will meet on Friday, March 14th, and the list of priorities is due by March 19th, which means there is a very quick turnaround. Therefore, we will need to convene the Executive Committee and then ratify the item at the next Board of Directors meeting.

No further questions or comments Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to LRGV Police Academy.

C.2 LRGV Police Academy: Mr. Javier Solis had no Action Items on the Agenda.

Status Reports:

1. Police Academy Enrollment & Updates:

- Currently, there are 43 cadets enrolled across two separate police academies:
 - **228th Academy** hosted by the City of Mission
 - **129th Academy** hosted by LRGV Academy
- The police academy project in **Starr County** has been completed.
 - This will be the first-ever academy hosted in Starr County, in partnership with the **Rio Grande City Police Department**.

6. Conclusion:

- The academy is excited about the mental health program and looks forward to the potential positive impact it will have on law enforcement officers. The initiative is not about recognition but about making a difference and saving lives.

No further questions or comments Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to the Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District.

Status Reports: Mr. Dennis Moreno started off with no action items on Agenda but wanted to give an update. **Texas Public Safety Conference:**

- The **Texas Public Safety Conference** will be held from **April 2nd to April 5th** at the **McAllen Convention Center**.
- This is a **week-long conference** focused on **telecommunications** and **dispatchers**, who are often the first responders to emergencies.
- The conference will cover a variety of topics, including **wellness**, **action during emergency calls**, and other key areas related to the role of telecommunicators.
- This conference is the largest of its kind in Texas and is a great opportunity for staff and Valley personnel to learn and network.
- It is the **first year** the event will be hosted at the McAllen Convention Center, and the goal is to continue hosting it in the region for another 2 or 3 years.
- It is encouraged to share this information with your team and staff to promote attendance and participation.

No questions or comments, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza proceeded to Item D Valley Metro.

D. Transportation Valley Metro: Mr. Tom states good afternoon, honorable board. There are **three action items** for discussion.

D.1. Consideration and Action to Approve Executive Director to Initiate and enter into an agreement between LRGVDC Valley Metro and Edinburg Economic Development Corporation, along with the procurement procedures for the completion of Edinburg Transit Terminal Phase III. **Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve Executive Director to Initiate and enter into an agreement between LRGVDC Valley Metro and Edinburg Economic Development Corporation, along with the Procurement for procedures for the completion of Edinburg Transit Terminal Phase III. Jim Darling seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.**

D.2. Discussion and Action on Approve Executive Director to Initiate and submit a grant application to the Texas Department of Transportation TXDOT. **Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve the Executive Director to Initiate and submit a grant application to the Texas Department of Transportation TXDOT. Paul Hernandez seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.**

D.3. Discussion and Action on approval of Resolution #2025-02 Authorizing the Executive Director to execute a Resolution authorizing the filing of applications with the Federal Transit Administration. **Mayor Alma Salinas made a motion to approve the Resolution #2025-02, authorizing the Executive Director to execute Resolution authorizing the filing of applications with the Federal Transit Administration. Mayor Gilbert Gonzalez seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.**

Status Reports: Lastly Mr. Logan then stated, Year-to-date ridership is at **390,000**, showing a continued increase, indicating strong demand. Services are being run as scheduled. A special thanks to the **City of McAllen** for hosting the **Texas Transit Association Annual Conference and Expo** and **Bus Rodeo** next month. **Valley Metro/LRGVDC** will have employees participating, with **two teams of mechanics** and **two drivers** competing in the event.

No further Questions or comments, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza then moved to Rio Grande Valley MPO.

RGV MPO was not able to attend the meeting. No status reports for them currently.

No further questions or comments Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to Item #6

Item #6 Executive Session:

1. Personal matters under section 551-074 (1) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee RE: Executive Director Annual Performance Evaluation. ***Mayor Ramiro Garza made a motion to approve Personal matters under section 551-074 (1) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee RE: Executive Director Annual Performance Evaluation. Commissioner Ellie Torres seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously***

All board members stayed in the Ken Jones board room and all staff and attendees stepped out of board room, while executive Session was in session.

2. Reconvene into an Open Session to consider Action, if any questions on items related to the Executive Session as described above. ***Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve, Mayor Alma Salinas seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

#7 New & Unfinished Business: At this time there was no New & Unfinished Business.

With no further questions or concerns, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to Item #8.

#8 Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the board, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to adjourn at 1:15 PM

President, Norma Sepulveda

ATTEST:

Liza Alfaro, Recording Secretary

ITEM #3

PUBLIC

COMMENT

ITEM #4.

ADMINISTRATION

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #4: Administration

Program Action Item

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Prioritized Lists for FY2025-26 Homeland Security Grants Division Regional Grant Applications.

The Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) met on March 14, 2025, and recommends approval of the attached prioritization lists for FY 2025-2026 Homeland Security Grants Division Regional Grant Applications of State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Regular Projects and Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA) Projects, in accordance with the FY 2025 Interlocal Agreement between the LRGVDC Public Safety Division and the Office of the Governor. Homeland Security prioritization are due 14 calendar days from the date they were batched out from the Public Safety Office. All applications were batched to all stakeholders on March 5, 2025, and are to be turned into the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office (OOG-PSO) once the local governing body approves the prioritization lists, no later than March 19, 2025.



LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Resolution: Approval of Prioritization List of State Homeland Security Regional Projects

WHEREAS, the LRGVDC Board of Directors Executive Committee convened on March 17, 2025 to review the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Regular and Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA) prioritization list that was submitted for ratification for the LRGVDC Homeland Security Advisory Committee.

WHEREAS, the LRGVDC Board of Directors Executive Committee received the recommended prioritization list containing a total of \$599,136.91 (Regular: \$389,438.99 and LETPA: \$209,697.92) in funding for regional projects

WHEREAS, the LRGVDC Board of Directors Executive Committee submitted approved through written correspondence of the prioritization list with no changes made.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the LRGVDC Board of Directors Executive Committee approved the LRGVDC Homeland Security Advisory Committee prioritization list as submitted.

Passed and approved this 19th day of March 2025.

Signed by:

Mayor Norma Sepulveda, LRGVDC President

(FY2025 R.B.E) Total	\$599,136.91
SHSP:	\$389,438.99
LETPA: 35%	\$209,697.92

Rank	Score	Grant #	Name	Project Title	Subfund ID	Requested Amount	Conditionally Approved Amt.	Peer Review Notes
3	64.00	5493801	City of Penitas	Penitas LETPA Project	HS25S45060L	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	Scalable: 30,000.00 fund trailer
5	62.85	5422001	City of Brownsville	LETPA 2025	HS25S45060L	\$ 252,374.00	\$ 70,475.00	Scalable: fund portabe x-ray machine
10	62.07	5508001	City of Alamo	Homeland Security Computers Radio Project FY2025-2026	HS25S45060L	\$ 159,860.00	\$ 30,000.00	Scalable: Fund only radios
11	61.78	4707802	City of Donna	SkyCop Upgrade Program	HS25S45060L	\$ 102,435.75	\$ 7,200.00	Scalable: Fund 1 upgrade
12	61.71	5366201	City of Harlingen	HPD SWAT Upgrades	HS25S45060L	\$ 49,544.00	\$ 25,000.00	Scalable: Fund only helmt set up
18	60.42	5413701	Cameron County	Sheriff's LEPTA Project	HS25S45060L	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	multiple equipment in region that can be used
20	59.21	5510301	City of Palmview	Mobile Identification Equipment Project	HS25S45060L	\$ 24,000.00	\$ -	not regional
21	58.92	5396701	City of Mission	Mission Police License Plate Reader System	HS25S45060L	\$ 73,058.30	\$ 35,000.00	Scalable: fund only 2 LP readers
23	58.50	5344701	City of San Juan	LEERT Armored Vehicle	HS25S45060L	\$ 320,604.00	\$ -	no scalable
28	55.50	5361001	City of Edinburg	City of Edinburg SHSP LETPA Project	HS25S45060L	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 12,022.92	Scalable: upgrade 1 trailer
31	54.71	5418201	City of Weslaco	FY2025 Weslaco LETPA	HS25S45060L	\$ 73,963.67	\$ -	Scalable: if funding is available, fund ALEERT over Shelter
35	52.07	5522401	City of Sullivan City	Homeland Security Border Equipment Fy 2025-26	HS25S45060L	\$ 33,750.00	\$ -	Not Scable
					Total	\$ 1,270,589.72	\$ 209,697.92	
					Total Available for Project	\$	209,697.92	
					Balance	\$	-	

ITEM #4. B

ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE

REPORT

ADMINISTRATION

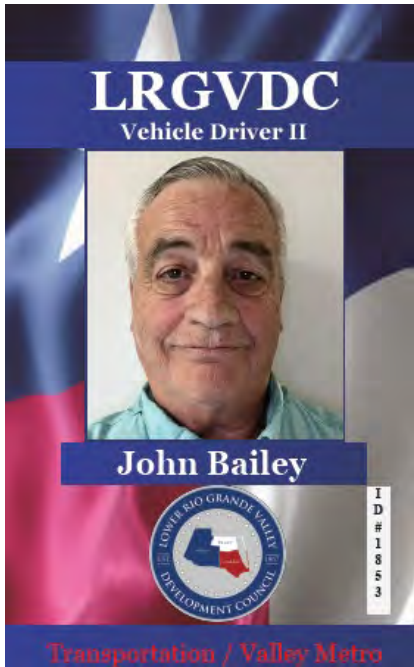
MARCH NEW

HIRES

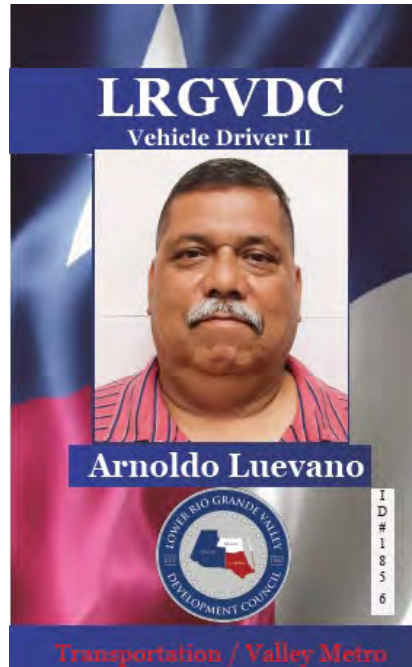
New Hires

Hire Date: March 3, 2025

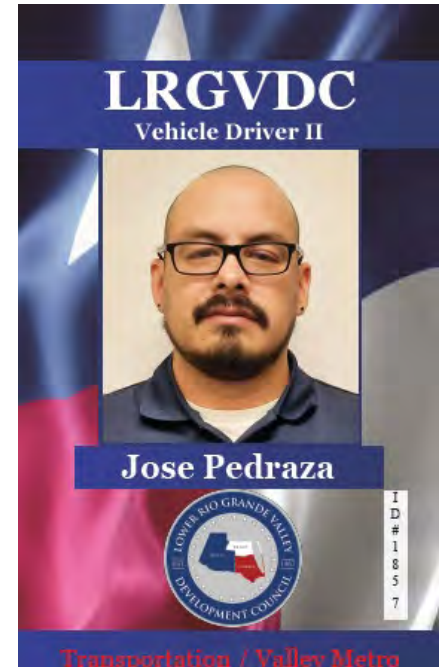
Valley Metro Transportation- Vehicle Driver II



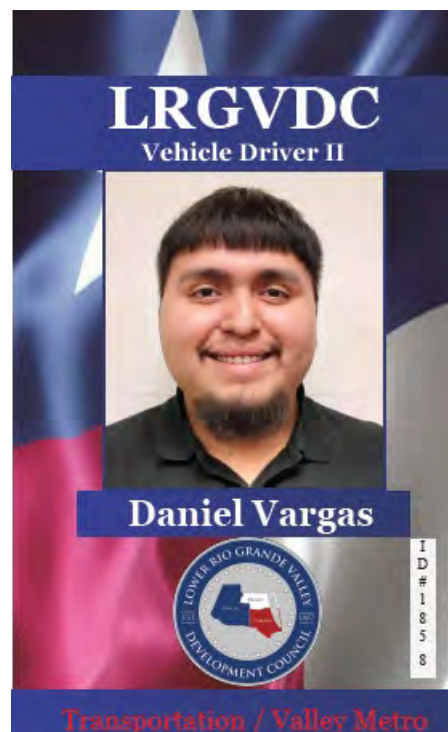
John Bailey



Arnoldo Luevano



Jose Pedraza



Daniel Vargas

NEW HIRES

Hire Date: March 17, 2025

Mario Rodriguez
Transportation – Vehicle Driver II



Cristina Garcia
HR Specialist I



Vanessa Tamez
Public Safety – Administrative Assistant II



NEW HIRES

Promotion: February 17, 2025

Sara Casares
Project Management Specialist I
Public Safety /Regional Police Academy



Promotion March 3, 2025

Javier Garza
System Administrator III
Public Safety/RGV ECD-911





LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Office of the Executive Director
301 W. Railroad St.
Weslaco, Texas 78596

Executive Directors Report

LRGVDC Board of Directors Meeting

March 26, 2025

This report contains updates, regional news, funding opportunities training and legislative updates that your local gov't may be interested in. This information is courtesy of the Texas Association and Regional Councils (TARC), State funding agencies and LRGVDC Programs. Hyperlinks to external sources may be found throughout the report for additional and complete details.

Update on 89th Texas Legislature:

The bill filling deadline was on March 14, 2025. Below are total bills that crossed the finish line with 700 bills alone that were filed on Thursday, March 13.

Session	Total
89R	8,606
88R	7,956
87R	6,919

Next Step: Committees will now work towards May 12, the next major **legislative deadline** where all House committees must report out House bills to allow them to continue through the legislative process. Any House bill not reported out of committee by this deadline is effectively dead.

HB 13 On Wednesday, [House State Affairs](#) heard **HB 13** by **Rep. Ken King** (PRPC, PBRPC, SPAG), creating the Texas Interoperability Council and a grant program administered by the council. As introduced, the Texas Interoperability Council would develop and coordinate the implementation of a statewide strategic plan for governing the interoperability of emergency communication equipment and infrastructure in Texas and administer a grant program to assist local governments with acquiring certain interoperable emergency communication equipment and constructing additional emergency communication infrastructure. The council would be comprised of the chief of the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and six appointed members. The source and amount of funds for the grant program is unknown. The bill was left pending.

HB 150 by Rep. Giovanni Capriglione (R-Southlake) **SB 2176** by Sen. Tan Parker (R-Flower Mound), establishing the Texas Cyber Command. This measure is a priority of Governor Abbott and was designated an emergency item.

SB 2860 filed by Borris Miles (D-Houston), relating to the emergency service fee collected by a wireless service provider. Filed March 14.

On Tuesday, the Senate took up and passed **SB 480** by **Sen. Charles Perry** (CTCOG, CVCOG, NORTEX, PRPC, PBRPC, SPAG, WCTCOG) which gives express authority for local governmental entities to participate in water planning and funding activities. . Under Chapter 791 of the Government Code referenced the bill, local government means "other political subdivision of the state" and applies to regional councils.

Texas Senators advanced **SCR 13** on Monday that calls on the U.S. State Department to ensure Mexico meets its obligations to deliver water to the U.S. under a 1944 water treaty after farmers and elected officials told the Senate Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs committee that the lack of water is becoming dire, with little relief in sight. Under the 1944 treaty, Mexico is required to deliver a total of 1.75 million-acre feet over a five-year cycle. The current cycle ends in October, yet Mexico is behind on its water deliveries by more than a million acre-feet. The largely symbolic resolution was voted in favor of by the committee and is the latest push from Texas officials to push the federal government to pressure Mexico. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension **estimated** that the total economic value lost to South Texas because of the lack of irrigation water is about \$993 million per year.

State steak pride is on the menu in both the Senate and the House this week. Lt. Gov. Patrick has recently pushed the name change of a "NY Strip" Steak to a "Texas Strip" Steak. Speaker Dustin Burrows had another idea, "Not to start any beef with our friends in the Texas Senate, but the tomahawk ribeye is far superior to a strip steak. Thankfully, Ken King filed **HCR 101** to sear the tomahawk ribeye into history as the official Steak of Texas, and today it was referred to the House Committee on Steak Affairs. We have a rare opportunity to serve up meat-and-potato solutions this session and look forward to bringing our colleagues to the table to get this passed. Texans shouldn't have to stomach anything less than the finest cut the Lone Star State has to offer," the speaker said.

Funding Opportunities:

1. [Regional Mitigation Program in Partnership with General Land Office Announces \\$97.6 Million in Newly Approved Regional Mitigation Program Projects](#)
2. The **Southwest Border Regional Commission (SBRC)** is pleased to announce the opening of the **FY 2025 Economic and Infrastructure Development (EID) Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**. This funding opportunity supports projects that promote economic development and infrastructure improvements in the southern regions of Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas.

Submit a pre-application here: [Grants & Programs - Southwest Border Regional Commission \(SBRC\)](#)

Key Information:

- **Pre-Application Release:** March 3, 2025
- **Pre-Application Deadline:** April 4, 2025
- **Final Application Release (by Invitation):** April 24, 2025
- **Final Application Deadline:** May 12, 2025
- **Award Announcements:** May 29, 2025
- **Total Available Funding:** \$11.3 million

- **Award Range:** \$100,000 - \$1,000,000 per project

Eligible Applicants:

- State and local governments (Arizona, California, New Mexico, Texas)
- Federally recognized Indian tribes
- Non-profit organizations (501(c))
- Regional planning commissions & local economic/community development organizations

Service Area

- [Region - Southwest Border Regional Commission \(SBRC\)](#) (**93 counties in four states**)

Investment Areas:

- **Infrastructure** (transportation, broadband, water/sewer)
- **Workforce Development** (apprenticeships, training, skills development)
- **Business & Entrepreneurship Support** (capital access, business expansion, technical assistance)
- **Community Development** (healthcare access & facilities, capacity building)
- SBRC funds may be utilized as matching funds for co-investment in local, state and federal projects. For full details of investment areas, eligibility requirements, and application materials, visit [SBRC Website](#).

Interested applicants must submit a **Pre-Application by April 4, 2025** to be considered for the final application round.

Submit a pre-application here: [Grants & Programs - Southwest Border Regional Commission \(SBRC\)](#)

For questions, please contact info@sbrc.gov

Notice: This is not a guarantee of funds. Awards will be contingent upon the continued annual appropriation of federal funds and administrative support for this program.

End of Report.

ITEM #5. A.

**COMMUNITY
&
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Action Item

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Resolution 2025-01 Proclaiming April as National Fair Housing Month and Supporting the Awareness of Fair Housing.

The principle of fair housing are not only national law and national policy, but a fundamental human concept and entitlement for all Americans. National Fair Housing Month in April provides an opportunity for all Americans to recognize that complete success in the goal of equal housing opportunity can only be accomplished with the help and cooperation of all Americans.

For Fair Housing information, resources, or assistance available, please visit our Fair Housing webpage at: <http://www.lrgvdc.org/fairhousing.html>



Regional Council of Governments & Economic Development District serving Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy County

RESOLUTION 2025-01

PROCLAMING APRIL AS NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING MONTH

“Fair Housing: The ‘Act’ in Action.”

WHEREAS, the **Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council** (LRGVDC) finds that decent, safe, and affordable housing is part of the American dream and a goal of all Rio Grande Valley residents;

WHEREAS, individuals in the Rio Grande Valley have the right to choose where to live without discrimination based on race, color, religion, age, gender, familial status, marital status, national origin, and/or disability;

WHEREAS, acts of housing discrimination and barriers to equal housing opportunity are repugnant to a common sense of decency and fairness;

WHEREAS, federal and state laws affirm the right of every person to equal housing opportunity;

WHEREAS, fair housing is a positive community good;

WHEREAS, economic stability, community health, and human relations in all communities are improved by diversity and integration;

WHEREAS, stable, integrated, and balanced residential patterns are threatened by discriminatory acts and unlawful housing practices that result in segregation of residents and opportunities in our region;

WHEREAS, the talents of grassroots and non-profit organizations, housing service providers, financial institutions, elected officials, state agencies, and others must be combined to promote and preserve integration, fair housing, and equal opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Mayor Norma Sepulveda, President of LRGVDC do hereby proclaim the month of **April** as:

“NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING MONTH - Fair Housing: The ‘Act’ in Action”

To establish an open and inclusive community committed to fair housing and to promote appropriate activities by private and public entities intended to provide or advocate for integration and equal housing opportunities for all residents and prospective residents of the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Adopted and approved by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors this 26th, day of March 2025.

Norma Sepulveda
LRGVDC Board President



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Action Item

2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve the LRGVDC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is a plan to improve economic growth in a region. The goal is to strengthen the region's economy and make it more resilient. The CEDS plays a vital role in establishing a robust economic framework. It facilitates capacity building by investing in both physical infrastructure and supportive systems, which ultimately contribute to the success of individuals, businesses, and the community. CEDS also provides a platform for engagement and discussions among various stakeholders, including community members, organizations, local governments, schools, and businesses. These discussions may focus on identifying and implementing the most effective strategies for fostering sustainable economic development within the region.

On March 25, 2025, the EDAC convened to review and consider approval of the CEDS Plan.

As the EDAC is scheduled to convene the day prior to the Board meeting, the staff will provide an update regarding any modifications made to the initial plan that was disseminated to the Board Members before the meeting.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Status Reports

- **Economic Development Administration**

The LRGVDC is soliciting nominations for EDAC committee members to serve in the following categories: (2) Special EDO. The purpose of the advisory committee is to educate, promote, foster, and coordinate community and regional planning efforts on economic development in the Rio Grande Valley, and other social impacts of existing, new or proposed regulations, policies, and control regarding economic development. The advisory committee will provide advocacy, guidance, technical assistance, and information to the LRGVDC Board on priority matters of economic development. If you have any questions about the nominations process or committee, please contact Melisa Gonzales-Rosas. Nomination forms need to be emailed to vramos@lrgvdc.org.

Staff have engaged with city officials to explore potential EDA projects, providing valuable insights that will assist in the preparation of applications for submission. Additionally, we have shared useful resources and tips to facilitate their registration in the new EDA EDGE portal for those interested in applying for EDA funding.

Staff are currently administering the Harlingen Economic Development Corporation's EDA award project, which involves the development of approximately 5.3 acres designated for a detention pond. This project will include the construction of roughly 1,130 square yards of parking lot area and approximately 320 linear feet of drainage piping. Additionally, a foot-hike and bike trail extending around 2,900 linear feet will be integrated around the pond. It is anticipated that this project will generate approximately 300 jobs and retain around 115 positions, with an estimated private investment of \$4 million.

Staff are available to offer technical assistance, project development, and grant administration for EDA proposals and projects. For any inquiries or information on EDA, please contact the Community & Economic Development Department. We also serve as the regional point of contact for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and will continue to share information as needed. Additionally, our team coordinates with other governmental entities on economic development activities to maximize the benefits of all projects and objectives in the region and to avoid any duplication of efforts and resources. For more information and resources on EDA's funding opportunities, visit <https://sfgrants.eda.gov/s/>.

LRGVDC appreciates the ongoing commitment to closing the digital divide and fostering economic opportunities in the Rio Grande Valley! The efforts play a crucial role in helping connect communities and providing access to essential resources. We're excited about collaborating to implement the successful launch of the RGV Broadband Plan and make a real difference together in the lives of those we serve. Let's get started! Visit the LRGVDC Economic Development webpage, <https://www.lrgvdc.org/business.html> for RGV Broadband Coalition Resources (RGV Broadband & Digital Opportunity Plan, Promotional Toolkit, & RGV Broadband Coalition).

On March 13th, 2025, LRGVDC Executive Director, Manuel Cruz, presented Economic Development in the RGV for the Mid Valley Leadership Group. Accompanied by Assistant Director for Community and Economic Development, the group was educated on the role of the LRGVDC in regional economic development and how serving as the Economic Development Districts benefits our local region.



- **Regional Small Cities Coalition (RSCC)**

A virtual RSCC meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2025, at 2:00 PM. Staff recently met with SPEER, a nonprofit organization that will be presenting to the small cities. We remain committed to continually exploring innovative ways to support our small communities.

Staff shared via email a Cybersecurity training to be conducted by TEEX in San Marcos Tx that will focus on how cities can protect themselves from cyber-attacks.

The staff have conducted a few informative meetings with representatives from various small communities to explore and gain a comprehensive understanding of their specific needs. These collaborative discussions were focused on identifying potential funding opportunities and establishing connections that could effectively support the needs that were identified.

Staff continue to disseminate vital information to small cities via email. If you have questions, you may contact Brenda Salinas bsalinas@lrgvdc.org

- **Community & Economic Development Assistance Fund**

Staff are diligently carrying out the designated technical assistance activities for TxCDBG-eligible localities within our operating region to ensure program compliance. We continually disseminate program information to keep these

communities informed, promote Fair Housing, support the Unified Scoring Committee (USC) member, and host grant kick-off meetings for communities that have been awarded grants.

For more information and resources on the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) funding opportunities, visit our Community Development webpage at <http://www.lrgvdc.org/community.html>, under the CDBG Rural for Texas tab.

- **Solid Waste Management Program**



LRGVDC staff has sent out invitations with event details to cities and counties for their participation in the Road to Recycling Event being held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025. To date 17 cities and 12 counties, totaling 29 entities signed up.

Hidalgo		Cameron	Willacy
City of Alamo	City of Pharr	City of Combes	WC Precinct #1
City of Alton	Sullivan City	City of Harlingen	WC Precinct #2
City of Donna	City of San Juan	City of La Feria	WC Precinct #4
City of Edcouch	City of Weslaco	City of Rio Hondo	WC Precinct #5
City of Elsa	HC Precinct #1	CC Precinct #1	
City of Mission	HC Precinct #2	CC Precinct #2	
City of Palmhurst	HC Precinct #3	CC Precinct #3	
City of Palmview	HC Precinct #4	CC Precinct #4	
City of Pecos			

Currently staff are incorporating suggestions submitted from the Tire subcommittee on the draft tire ordinance that is being created for the region. Once the details are finalized, the ordinance will be submitted to the LRGVDC Board for approval.

LRGVDC Hosted the Green Schoolyards Regional Partner Meeting. The Children & Nature Network defines green schoolyards as multi-functional school grounds designed for and by the entire school community. Green schoolyards include places for students, teachers, parents and community members to play, learn, explore and grow. During school time, these schoolyards are ideally open for community use. They can include outdoor classrooms, native and pollinator gardens, stormwater

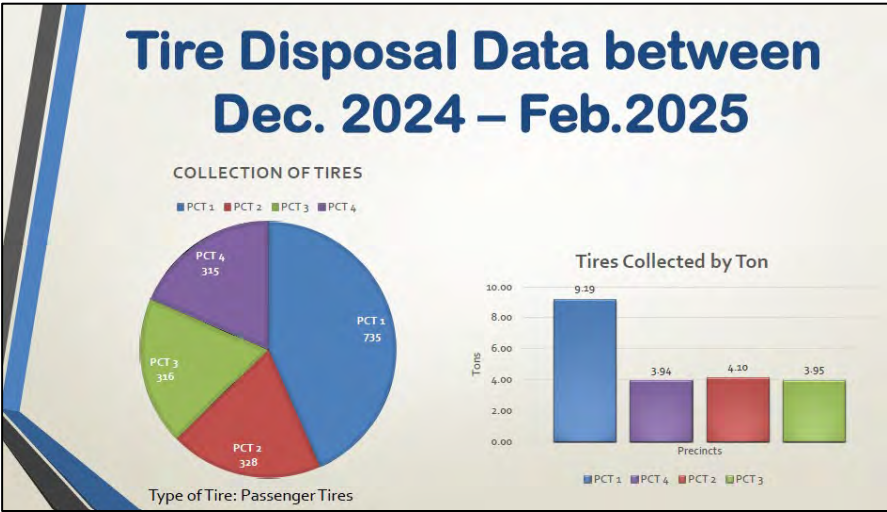
capture, traditional play equipment, nature play areas, edible gardens, trails, trees, etc. Potential partners for green school yards are community organizations, your local city, health departments, nonprofits organizations etc.



The SWAC meeting was held on March 4th, 2025, the meeting included presentations from Cameron County and City of Palmview, who were awarded TCEQ Solid Waste Funds for FY 2024-2025 Grant. The following information was presented and shared with the committee:

Cameron County – Forklift

Mr. Carlos Sanchez and Ms. Crystal Gonzalez reported to the committee that they have purchased the forklift awarded to them. They described Cameron County's year-round tire collection program, which operates at four precinct warehouses with monthly waste disposal facilitated by Republic Services. Cameron County funds tipping fees, while bins are fabricated for easy resident access. Tires are collected, sorted, and transported using the forklift on a rotation schedule, adjustable based on logistics and volume. Next quarter, the focus will be on creating collection bins with proper signage, promoting waste disposal events, and organizing community clean-ups to enhance environmental efforts and resident involvement.



City of Palmview – Surveillance Cameras to assist to identify illegal dumping sites.

Mr. Rick Ramos shared that they purchased four surveillance cameras using grant funds. To combat illegal dumping, the team will finalize agreements, purchase Flash Cam equipment, and identify hotspots for installation. They plan to distribute educational materials to residents and use cameras to monitor, collect evidence, and prosecute violators. By analyzing illegal dumping trends and maintaining a geographic database, the team aims to refine strategies, organize clean-up events, improve recycling services, and enhance public awareness about proper waste disposal practices.



Illegal Dumping Penalties
Solid Waste: Health Code 365.012(a) Illegal Dumping: Disposal

Class C Misdemeanor:
Waste weighs 5 lbs. or less, or volume of 5 gallons or less
• Fines up to \$500

Class B Misdemeanor:
Waste weighs more than 5 lbs., but less than 500 lbs. or more than 5 gallons but less than 100 ft.³ (~748 gal)
• Jail up to 180 days AND
• Fines up to \$2,000

Class A Misdemeanor:
Waste weighs 500 lbs. or more but less than 1000 lbs., or volume is 100 ft.³ or more but less than 200 ft.³; or 5 lbs. but less than 200 lbs., if dumped for commercial reason.
• Jail up to 365 days AND
• Fines up to \$4,000

State Jail Felony:
Weights 1,000 lbs. or more or has a volume of 200 ft.³ or more, or 200 lbs. or more and dumped for a commercial purpose or is contained in a closed barrel or drum.
Individual:
• Jail up to five years AND
• Fines from \$1,000 to \$100,000
Corporation:
• Fines from \$1,000 to \$250,000

Help STOP Illegal Dumping in the City of Palmview
If you see it, REPORT IT!
956-432-0300

CITY OF PALMVIEW TEXAS
400 W. Valeriano Blvd.
Palmview, TX 78572

Illegal Dumping in Palmview: It is costing YOU!
Dumping trash in unauthorized areas is unsightly and can cause major public health and safety concerns. Stopping illegal dumping is a community problem. Help Palmview significantly reduce illegal dumping by working together with city officials and local law enforcement for a cleaner, healthier, and safer community.

Where can you dump legally?
La Gloria Landfill:
23485 N Moorefield Rd.
Edinburg, TX 78541
(956) 593-0022
Monday - Friday: 7:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Saturday: 7:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
La Gloria landfill rates subject to change. Please contact for up-to-date price info.
Palmview Trash Service Information:
SCAN ME! SCAN ME! SCAN ME!

956-432-0300
Code Enforcement Officer:
Mario Munoz

Illegal Dumping Report Application

Palmview Local Recycling Options:
Mayal Recycling:
• 1216 N. La Home Rd.
• 956-584-5761
• www.mayalrecyclingllc.com

Palmview is investing in new technology to protect our environment and community!
Palmview has secured grant funding from TCEQ and LRGVDC for the purchase of self-contained solar powered cameras to assist in the surveillance of known illegal dumping hotspots.

For additional information, please contact our Solid Waste Department at:

The next Virtual Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting will be on June 10, 2025, at 2:00 PM via GoToMeeting platform.

Staff continue to provide technical assistance, outreach, and monitoring for all Solid Waste Projects. Information about the Solid Waste program is available at www.lrgvdc.org/solidwaste.html.

- **Air Quality Program**

The Rider 7 PM 2.5 Local Air Quality project has officially commenced and is currently in progress. The following next steps are being undertaken as part of the project: 1) Developing stationary source PM2.5 and PM2.5 precursor emission inventories for Hidalgo and Cameron Counties, 2) Analyzing available ambient air monitoring data in Hidalgo and Cameron Counties for current and historical PM2.5, 3) Developing a stationary source PM2.5 air dispersion modeling inventory for Hidalgo and Cameron Counties, 4) Preparing and submitting draft and final reports summarizing the work generated from the study.

Staff will maintain ongoing oversight of this project, actively collaborating with the consulting firm, ALL4 LLC. This partnership will ensure that all project requirements are consistently met as stipulated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and will continue to regularly communicate monthly with representatives from TCEQ regarding this project.

- **South Texas Clean Cities & Communities Coalition (STC4)**

Staff will conduct a workshop on March 27th, 2025, at 10:00 AM, with STC4 to finalize bylaws, membership, officers, and timeline. This workshop will be crucial in solidifying the coalition's structure and governance, ensuring that all foundational elements are in place to support its ongoing efforts and initiatives. The collaborative spirit and strategic planning exhibited during these initial meetings will undoubtedly pave the way for the coalition's future successes.

- **Water Quality Program**

Staff remain dedicated to facilitating meetings with water investors to support innovative water projects aimed at addressing the region's drought needs. We continue to conduct several introductory meetings to engage local stakeholders, including water board members, drainage and irrigation districts, and water producers, to explore potential projects and provide necessary outreach. Through these efforts we were able to bring a proposal for a Solar Thermal Desalination project by Desolator, a global company who have completed projects in Africa, Abu Dhabi, and Dubai to help fix their water issues and needs, to Cameron County specifically to their Economic Development Departments Ramiro Aleman. We have all met continuously since their introduction in January of 2024 and they are currently working on their MOA to finalize an agreement to begin this innovative project. The aim of this project is to secure sustainable water while simultaneously developing a skilled local workforce and stimulating economic growth through manufacturing partnerships. The system they are proposing to Cameron County is an SP40 unit which is capable of producing 40m³ (10,567 gallons) of freshwater per hour, achieving up to 1,000 m³/day (264,172 gallons) from saline water sources, utilizing both PVT and Geothermal energy. They are proposing 1-4 SP40 units, targeting a production capacity of 10,000,000 gallons per day within a decade. Desolator also provides an integrated Zero-Liquid Discharge (ZLD) system. Unlike traditional desalination methods that produce environmentally harmful brine, their ZLD module eliminates brine discharge, transforming it into solid salts. The ZLD system eliminates harmful brine discharge, protecting local fisheries and ecosystems.

Staff are receiving a GIS training course on March 17-18 provided by the 911 GIS department and assistant director Jose Garcia. This training will help staff learn how to create and understand GIS Mapping and apply it to current projects such as the Flood infrastructure Funds (FIF), TWDB Project No. 40038 and future projects.

Staff continue to actively educate the public on water quality issues through a variety of outreach initiatives. Monthly themed Facebook posts are created to engage our online community, encouraging users to give a thumbs up or leave a comment. These posts are designed to raise awareness about water quality topics and provide valuable information to the public. CED Facebook: [Community & Economic Development | Facebook](#), LRGVDC Facebook: [Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council | Weslaco TX | Facebook](#)

Beyond social media, our outreach efforts extend to in-person events. Staff members attend these events either independently or in collaboration with other LRGVDC departments and external organizations. These events offer excellent opportunities to promote the Community & Economic Development (C&ED) program and connect with the community. At these events, we distribute informational reading materials and promotional items related to water quality.

Staff continue to regularly communicate with representatives from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) as well as other entities involved in water quality initiatives to strengthen partnerships and generate further activities related to water quality and to highlight the importance of it to the region.

Visit our Water Resource webpage at: <https://www.lrgvdc.org/water.html>

- **Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee (RWRAC)**

The RWRAC meeting was held on March 12th, 2025, the meeting was very informative and provided several water project updates. The following information was presented and shared with the committee:

- Jonathan Aaron Chastain & Susan Henshaw presented the U.S Army Core of Engineers Watershed Assessment in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The assessment is focused on improving water resource management and community resilience in the Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV) against water-related hazards and climate stressors. They are seeking collaboration with members of the public as well as stakeholders. They also had a draft plan strategy for 5 focus areas, Flooding, AER, Water Supply, Social Effects, & Economics. They had strategies, measures, and discussions for these focus areas.
- Anne Whitko with HALFF Associates gave her presentation on the Region 15 Update. They are currently working on the 2028 flood plan for the region which has a deadline of January 10th, 2028. They have a questionnaire and web map for community representatives and a similar process for members of the public on their website, <http://lowerriogrande.halff.com/>. They also provided an amendment update for the 2023 regional flood plan. Flood management evaluations went up from 406 to 495, flood mitigation projects went up from 94 to 105, flood management strategies went up from 86 to 121.
- Augusto Sanchez, the Director for the Department of Natural Resources with Cameron County, presented a flood management strategy that they

were awarded for an early warning system. This project is a continuation of use and addition to the Community and Economic Development Departments FIF project. Cameron County is adding an additional 18 real time monitoring stations to the existing 44 to cover even more area with this technology and gather more real time data for future flood projects in the RGV.

The next RWRAC meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 11, 2025, at 2:00 PM.

Staff continue to support, provide technical assistance, outreach, and administer water projects. Information about water resources is available at <https://www.lrgvdc.org/water.html>

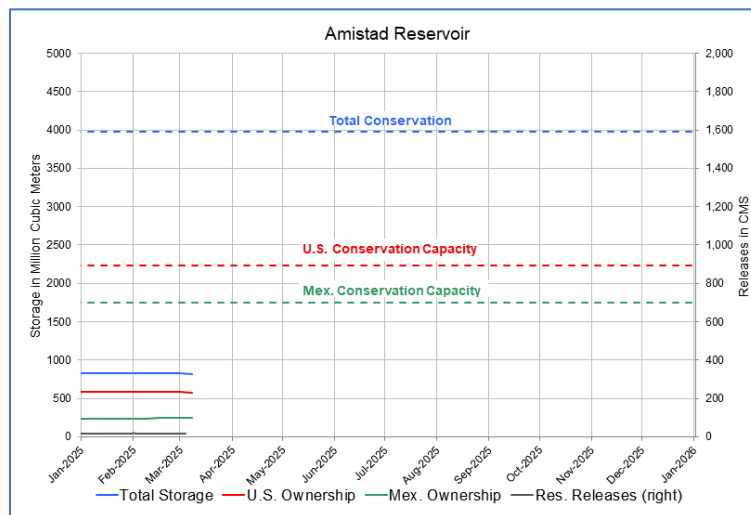
- **Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group (Region M)**

The Region M meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2025. Meeting continues to be held hybrid at the LRGVDC Ken Jones Board Room and via GoToMeeting.

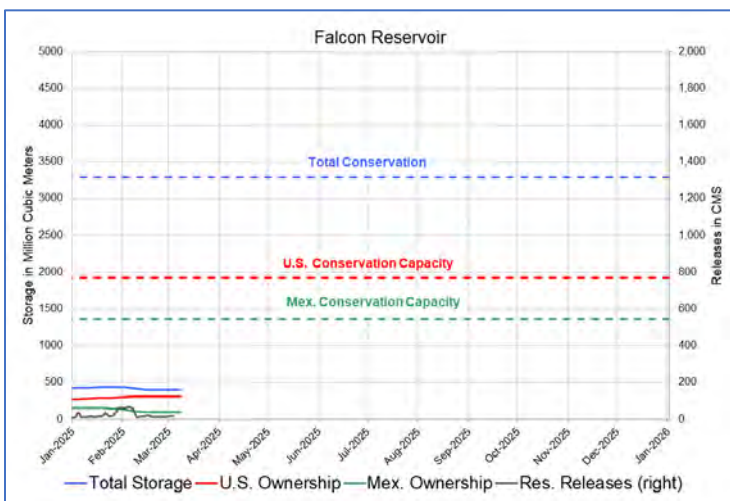
For any Region M meeting information, please visit website: <http://riograndewaterplan.org> or <https://www.lrgvdc.org/>

- Reservoir Levels as of March 13th, 2025 (www.IBWC.gov)

AMISTAD RESERVOIR



FALCON RESERVOIR



ITEM # 5. B.

**HEALTH
&
HUMAN
SERVICES**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Health & Human Services

Area Agency on Aging Program Action Item Margarita Lopez, Director

1.Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Vendor Arise Home Health Care, Inc. Request to Amend Contract Rates.

The Citizen Advisory Council is requesting consideration and action to approve Arise Home Health Care, Inc.'s request to increase their rates for both respite and homemaker services from \$12.59 to \$15.59 per hour.

Arise Home Health initially submitted a low bid during the application process and has faced difficulties in placing attendants, leading to service holds. Due to the recent wage increase mandated by the 2024-25 General Appropriations Act (House Bill 1, 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, Article II, HHSC, Rider 30(a)), which raises the base wage for attendants from \$8.11 to \$10.60 per hour, Arise is requesting a rate increase to remain competitive in attracting and retaining qualified staff. This rate adjustment will ensure the agency can meet current staffing challenges while still providing affordable services to the senior community. The proposed increase will not affect the overall budget of the LRGVDC AAA, as the budget is based on a per-client rate, which allows for flexibility in accommodating service changes.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Health & Human Services

Area Agency on Aging Program Action Item Margarita Lopez, Director

2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Vendor A Healing Touch Home Health Request to Amend Contract Rates

The Citizen Advisory Council is requesting consideration and action to approve A Healing Touch Home Health's request to amend the current contract rates for homemaker and caregiver respite services. The agency proposes adjusting the homemaker service rate from \$17.50 to \$15.00 and the caregiver respite rate from \$18.50 to \$15.00

This change is intended to align with current market rates while allowing the agency to extend additional service hours to the senior community. The proposed rate modification will help maximize the availability of homemaker and respite care services without exceeding budget constraints, ensuring that more seniors receive the assistance they require. This adjustment aims to improve access to essential support services for those in need.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

B. Health & Human Services

Area Agency on Aging Program Status Report

The following document represents the Area Agency on Aging's and the Aging and Disability Resource Center's report for February 2025.

- **Direct Consumer Services Report – Care Coordination February 2025**
 - The Care Coordination Program serviced a total of 172 new clients.
 - A total of 729 individuals were provided with case management assistance.

Direct Consumer Services	Total New Clients	Total Clients Serviced
Care Coordination Services	172	729
Health Maintenance Services Assistance paying for medication, durable medical equipment, and other medical supplies.	53	62
Homemaker Services Temporary assistance with light housekeeping duties such as cleaning, laundry, and meal preparation.	36	154
Transportation Services Assistance with transportation services to medical, rehabilitation, and dialysis appointments.	9	17
Residential Repair Services Assistance with home modifications such as grab bars, ADA commodes, ramps, widening of doorways, and tub removals.	3	3

- **Direct Consumer Services Report – Caregiver Support February 2025**

- The Caregiver Support Program serviced a total of 50 new clients.
- A total of 268 individuals were provided with case management assistance.

Direct Consumer Services	Total New Clients	Total Clients Serviced
Caregiver Support Services	50	268
Respite In-Home Services Provide relief to the caregiver and includes personal care such as bathing, grooming, dressing, transferring, and light housekeeping duties.	45	142
Health Maintenance Services Assistance paying for medication, durable medical equipment, and other medical supplies.	19	19

- **Direct Consumer Services Report – Community Development Block Grant February 2025**

- The CDBG Program serviced a total of 19 new clients.
- A total of 21 individuals were assisted with health maintenance services under the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Direct Consumer Services	Total New Clients	Total Clients Serviced
Community Development Block Grant Health Maintenance Services Assistance paying for medication, durable medical equipment, and other medical supplies.	14	15
Community Development Block Grant Homemaker Services Temporary assistance with light housekeeping duties such as cleaning, laundry, and meal preparation.	5	6
Community Development Block Grant Residential Repair Services Assistance with home modifications such as grab bars, ADA commodes, ramps, widening of doorways, and tub removals.	0	0

- **Direct Consumer Services Report – Interest List February 2025**

- As of March 6th, 2025, 1,542 individuals have expressed interest in our services through the Area Agency on Aging. The increased demand is attributed to ongoing outreach and collaborative efforts across the Rio Grande Valley.

Direct Consumer Services Interest List	
Health Maintenance Services	75
Homemaker Services	299
Residential Repair Services	649
Transportation Services	16
Respite In-Home Services	107
Grand Total	1,146

- **Nutrition Program Report: February 2025**

- Program successfully enrolled 22 new clients into the Home Delivered Meals program and delivered 23,452 meals.
- Successfully enrolled 228 new clients into the Congregate Meals program and served 22,460 Congregate meals.

Meals Program	Total New Clients	Total Meals Served
Amigos Del Valle		
Home Delivered Meals	22	23,452
Congregate Meals	130	15,310
Bright Nutrition		
Congregate Meals	98	7150

- **Senior Center Operations Report – February 2025**
 - The program successfully enrolled 39 new clients.
 - Senior Centers conducted 19,941 activities with their clients.

	Senior Center Operations	
Site	New Clients	Activities
La Joya	0	2314
Los Fresnos	0	1274
Primera	0	690
Rio Hondo	2	519
Mission Housing Authority	1	532
WellMed Charitable Foundation	36	14612
Total(s)	39	19,941

Special Services Report

- **Benefit Counselors Program – February 2025**
 - Achieved the enrollment of 110 new clients and made 166 contacts during the month of February

Benefit Counselors	Total New Clients	Total Contacts
HICAP Awareness	14	16
HICAP Assistance	17	41.25
MIPPA	15	43.25

Legal Awareness	0	0
Legal Assistance	64	65.5

***HICAP:** Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program

***MIPPA:** Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act

● **Care Transition Intervention (CTI) Report – February 2025**

- During February, the Care Transition Intervention (CTI) coaches successfully enrolled 77 new clients.
- They made 237 contacts across a total of five hospitals within the tri-county area.

CTI Coaches	Total New Clients	Total Contacts
February 2025	77	237

*5 Hospitals: Valley Baptist Medical Center, Harlingen Medical Center, Knapp Medical Center, Rio Grande Regional Hospital, and Mission Regional Medical Center

● **Ombudsman Program Report – February 2025**

- The Ombudsman handled 63 complaints.
- They dedicated 98.9 activity hours and recorded 259 activity totals.
- The volunteers collectively contributed 15 in-kind hours.

Ombudsman				
Month	Total Volunteer Hours	Total Activity Hours	Total Activities	Total Investigated Complaints
February 2025	15	98.9	259	63

Aging and Disabilities Resource Center

● **Information Referral & Assistance Report – February 2025**

- The intake team had a total of 489 interactions via phone lines, walk-ins, emails, and faxes.

- Engaged with 433 individuals, 419 individuals were 60 years of age and above, 14 individuals were 59 years of age and below, 390 are individuals with a disability and 16 are veterans.
- The top five services requested were Homemaker Services, Health Maintenance, Benefit Counseling, Respite Services, and Residential Repairs.

IR&A Interactions	
1-800 AAA	11
1-855 ADRC	0
(956) 682-3481	135
(956) 412-0958	84
Walk-ins	13
E-mails	178
Fax	12
Follow ups	56
Total Interactions	489

Consumer Age Group	
Consumers 60+	419
Consumer 59 and below	14
Total Consumers	433

Consumer Demographics	
Consumers with a Disability	390
Veterans	16

Top Call Topics	
Homemaker Services	97
Health Maintenance	79
Benefits Counseling	74
Respite Services	68
Residential Repairs	30

• **Benjamin Rose Institute Care Consultant Report – February 2025**

- Successfully enrolled 8 new clients and made 13 contacts
- Actively participated in 2 events, meetings, and coalitions reaching a total of 86 individuals, 2 were 60 years of age and above, 84 individuals were 59 years of age and below.
- During outreach activities they interacted with 2 consumers who are caregivers

BRI Care Consultants	Total New Clients	Total Contact
February 2025	8	13

Outreach Events	
Total Outreach Events	2

Outreach Consumer Age Group	
Consumers 60+	2
Consumers 59 and below	84
Total Consumers	86

Outreach Consumer Demographics	
Consumers with a Disability	0
Veterans	0
Consumer with a Caregiver	2

• **ADRC Benefits Counseling Report – February 2025**

- Assisted 1 consumers with MIPPA related resources.
- Engaged with 76 individuals, 1 individual is 60 years of age and above, 75 individuals are 59 years of age and below.
- During outreach activities interacted with 11 individuals with a disability, 12 individuals are Veterans, and 5 individuals with a Caregiver.

Consumers Assisted	
Consumers Assisted	1

Outreach Events	
Total Events Attended	5

Outreach Consumer Age Group	
Consumers 60+	1
Consumers 59 and below	75
Total Consumers	76

Outreach Consumer Demographics	
Consumers with a Disability	11
Veterans	12
Consumer with a Caregiver	5

• **ADRC Housing Navigator Report – February 2025**

- Assisted 11 consumers with housing inquiries, offering tailored resources, showcasing the agency's excellence, and providing valuable support to community members facing housing challenges.
- Actively participated in 7 events, meetings, and coalitions engaging with 139 individuals, 37 individuals were 60 years of age and above, 102 individuals were 59 years of age and below.
- During outreach activities, 26 individuals with a disability, 7 Veterans, and 21 individuals with a Caregiver.

County	New Housing Intakes	Follow Up Housing Intakes
Cameron County	2	5
Hidalgo County	0	3
Willacy County	0	0
Totals:	2	8
Housing Total:	10	

Outreach Events	
Total Outreach Events	3

Outreach Consumer Age Group	
Consumers 60+	3
Consumers 59 and below	114
Total Consumers	126

Outreach Consumer Demographics	
Consumers with a Disability	0
Veterans	0
Consumer with a Caregiver	2

- **ADRC Respite Services Report – February 2025**
 - Assisted 3 caregivers with Respite Caregiver Services.
 - Assisted with 2 individuals who are 59 years of age and below, 1 has a disability and 1 is a Caregiver.

Unduplicated Respite Consumers	
Caregivers:	3

Outreach Events	
Total Outreach Events	3

Outreach Consumer Age Group	
Consumers 60+	7
Consumers 59 and below	98
Total Consumers	92

Outreach Events:

- February 12, 2025, Inaugural Special Education Transition Fair**
 - Staff attended the Inaugural Special Education Transition Fair hosted by PSJA Pathways Toward Independence to provide students with disabilities and their families information and resources to help as they transition from school to adulthood. Events like these strengthen our commitment to fostering community support and collaboration.



February 19, 2025, Military Cultural Competency Training

- On February 19th, the ADRC hosted a Military Cultural Competency Training at our Harlingen office in collaboration with Tropical Texas Behavioral Health Veteran Peer Network. This training provided valuable insights into the unique experiences and challenges faced by service members, veterans, and their families. By enhancing our understanding of military culture, we aim to improve the quality of support and services available to those who have served.



February 21, 2025, Rio Grande Valley Disaster Ready Expo 2025

- Staff attended the Rio Grande Valley Disaster Ready Expo to provide information and resources regarding older adults, veterans, people with disabilities, and caregivers. Staff also learned more about resources available to these communities to ensure they are prepared before, during, and after a disaster.



LIIFE Conference



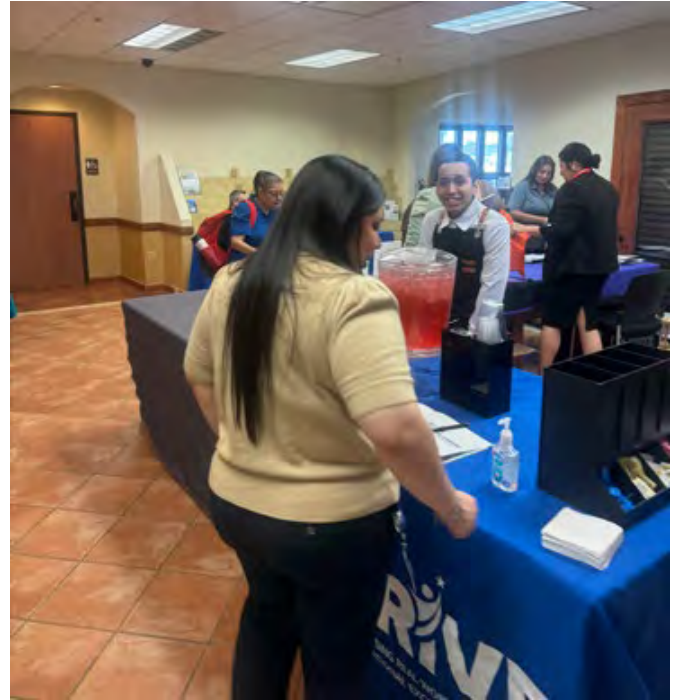
LIIFE Conference



LiiFE Conference



LiiFE Conference



LiiFE Conference



LiiFE Conference

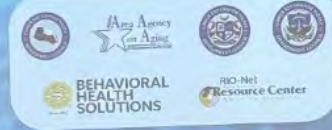
Maximizing Parent Teacher Conferences During Assessment Stage

DANIELLA GONZALEZ, MHA

IN COLLABORATION WITH MS. MARGARITA LOPEZ, MSW, C.P.C



2025 LIIFE CONFERENCE



SESSION EVALUATIONS

Participants seeking CEUs



Empowering Siblings of Individuals with Disabilities

Siblings of individuals with disabilities play a lifelong role in offering guidance and resources to navigate their experiences, build resilience and strengthen family bonds.

By Margarita Lopez, MSW, CPC

& Alexa Alvarez Lopez, BA



ITEM #5.C

PUBLIC

SAFETY

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public Safety

Program Action Item Cesar Merla, Assistant Director

1.Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Appointed Frank Garcia Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Member.

Due to the resignation of Dr. Benjamin Clinton, a replacement member is needed for the CJAC Member county jurisdiction and discipline of Willacy County, Education. In Accordance with the CJAC Bylaws, Frank Garcia-Raymondville Independent School District was recommended and appointed by the CJAC members. In accordance with CJAC Bylaws, Policies and Procedures for full appointment, this item requires Board Approval.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public SafetyCesar Merla

Assistant Director

Criminal Justice Program

- Staff hosted the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office (PSO) eGrants training class for the Criminal Justice programs on March 4-7, 2025, at the Pharr One Center, Pharr, TX
- Staff hosted the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Meeting on March 12, 2025, at the LRGVDC Ken Jones Executive Board in Weslaco, TX.
- Staff attended the South Texas All Hazards Conference (STAHC) on March 26-27, 2025, at the McAllen Convention Center, McAllen, Texas.
- Staff hosted the Public Safety Office training eGrants 101 Presentation at the South Texas All Hazards Conference (STAHC) on March 27, 2025, at the McAllen Convention Center, McAllen, Texas.

Homeland Security Program

- Staff hosted the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office (PSO) eGrants training class for the State Homeland Security programs on March 4-7, 2025, at the Pharr One Center, Pharr, TX
- Staff attended the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) LIIFE Conference 2025 on March 5, 2025, at the LRGVDC Ken Jones Executive Board room in Weslaco, TX.
- Staff attended the webinar BDO Local Government Monthly Roundtable on March 6, 2025
- Staff participated in the TARC Preparedness call on March 13, 2025, to increase knowledge on the Governor's Public Safety Office grant cycle information and safety.
- Staff hosted the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Special Prioritization List Meeting on March 14, 2025, at the LRGVDC- Valley Metro Training room in Weslaco, TX
- Staff hosted on March 19, 2025, Meeting for the Rio Grande Valley Regional Response Group (RGRRG) in the LRGVDC Small Boardroom option of hybrid setting.
- Staff hosted on March 19, 2025, Meeting for the Trauma Regional Advisory Council-V (TRAC-V) Meeting in the LRGVDC Ken Jones Executive Boardroom.
- Staff attended the South Texas All Hazards Conference (STAHC) on March 26-27, 2025, at the McAllen Convention Center, McAllen, Texas.
- Staff hosted the Public Safety Office training eGrants 101 Presentation at the South Texas All Hazards Conference (STAHC) on March 27, 2025, at the McAllen Convention Center, McAllen, Texas.
- On Thursday March 13, 2025, the department received notification of results of a perfect score, 47 of 47 points, for the 2024-2025 Threat, Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA), Stakeholder Preparedness Respond (SPR) and Implementation Plan (IP) documents.



Senior Officials Workshop held on February 20, 2025



Cyber Disruption Consequence Management Workshop held on February 27, 2025



eGrants Training held at Pharr One Event Center March 4-7, 2025



April 21 - 25, 2025 | No-Cost | TCOLE #40051

*LRGVDC Valley Metro Training and Conference Room
510 S. Pleasantview Dr.
Weslaco, TX 78596*

To learn more:

- Email us: richard.flores@teex.tamu.edu
- Scan the QR code
- Register here: <https://bit.ly/3D3nHUD>



L25.1037.02

SAVE THE DATE

HOSTED AT THE MARGARITAVILLE HOTEL
AT SOUTH PADRE ISLAND



*TCOLE CREDIT PROVIDED BY THE LRGV ACADEMY

*BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOURS PROVIDED BY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL:



LISTO.RGV@LRGVDC.ORG



SCAN FOR
HOTEL
REGISTRATION





September 24-26, 2025

Early Bird Registration:

March 3-April 18, 2025

Payment is due no later than

August 30, 2025.

Please make checks payable to:
**Lower Rio Grande Valley Development
Council**

**Attn: Finance Dept /Accounts Payable
Listo RGV**

Lower Rio Grande Valley
Development Council 301
W. Railroad St.
Weslaco TX 78596
501(c)(3)

For all payment questions, please contact:
listo.rgv@lrgvdc.org

Lower Rio Grande
Valley Development
Council 301 W.
Railroad St.
Weslaco, TX 78596
(956) 682-3481 exts
411, 195, 177, 157
listo.rgv@lrgvdc.org

Special Accommodations available
upon request. Please email
listo.rgv@lrgvdc.org on
accommodations needed

LRGVDC Listo RGV Individual Registration Sign Up

MARGARITAVILLE BEACH RESORT
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND
310 PADRE BLVD,
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX 78597

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Contact Person:		
Office Phone:	Cell Phone:	
Contact Email:		

*TCOLE hours provided during conference hours, please have PID
information available during the conference

*Mental health CEUs provided during conference hours, please have
license number or registered email available during the conference

For registration total, please include the number of passes
need:

_____ \$75 – Early Bird Registration Pass

_____ \$100 – Standard Registration Pass

Example: 2 Early Bird Passes x \$75 = \$150

Example: 3 Standard Passes x \$100 = \$300

One form per individual/group. Please send completed
form to listo.rgv@lrgvdc.org

If paying for a group, please send this form along with a
memo with first and last name of all attendees to
listo.rgv@lrgvdc.org for confirmation.

- ☐ Please Invoice
☐ Check included in the amount of \$ _____

Book your stay today at the Margaritaville Hotel
and Resort at South Padre Island !

Click [Here](#) to book your stay!
Or Scan the QR Code with your mobile device !





Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
LISTO (Ready) RGV Conference 2025
Payment Authorization Form



Please complete all fields.

One form per individual/group, send completed form to
listo.rgv@lrgvdc.org

If paying for a group, please send this form along with a memo
with first and last name of all attendees to listo.rgv@lrgvdc.org

Credit Card - Payment Information

Payment Type: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX
☐ Check ☐ Cash

Cardholder Name (as shown on card): _____

Card Number: _____ CVV _____

Expiration Date (mm/yy): _____

Cardholder ZIP Code (from credit card billing address): _____

Cardholder Email Address: _____

Payment Amount:

_____ \$75 – Early Bird Registration Fee Per Person

_____ \$100 – Standard Registration Fee Per Person

Example: 2 Early Bird Passes x \$75 = \$150

Example: 3 Standard Passes x \$100 = \$300

I _____ acknowledge that all credit card transactions will incur an
additional 3% charge.

Cardholder Initial: _____

I, _____, authorize Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, Inc. to charge my credit card above for agreed upon purchases. I understand that my information will be saved to file for future transactions on my account.

For any questions or concerns kindly reach out to us via email at listo.rgv@lrgvdc.org for more information.

Attendee/Group Name: _____

Point of Contact Email: _____

Authorizing Person's Signature for Credit Card

Date

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Public Safety

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY ACADEMY

Program Action Items Javier Solis Asst. Director

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the utilization of LRGV Academy GPI funds in the amount of \$54,858.00 for the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado.

Background

The vehicle will be purchased to support the implementation of emergency vehicle training and for the towing of heavy police equipment to and from various training sites. Currently, the LRGV Academy does not have a vehicle capable of towing heavy police equipment required for the emergency vehicle operations course.

LAKE COUNTRY CHEVROLET

Government and Commercial Sales

2152N. Wheeler Street Jasper TX 75951 TX 77656 Phone: (409) 300-1385

Date: 2/13/2025

Prepared by: Richard Hyder
direct phone: (409) 300-1385
email: rhyder.cowboyfleet@gmail.com

Prepared for: Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
Felipe Lopez
phone: 956.405.2548
fax:
email: flopez@lrgvdc.org

Proposal:	# of items	Description	Price	Extension
	1	2025 Chevrolet 1500 Series 1500 per TPASS term contract 070M1-3165	\$ 50,858.00	\$ 50,858.00
	1	Contractors constant	\$ 1,645.00	\$ 1,645.00
	1	Exterior white	\$ -	\$ -
	1	Interior black cloth buckets A50	\$ -	\$ -
	1	5.3L V8 gas	\$ -	\$ -
	1	10-speed automatic transmission	\$ -	\$ -
	1	crew cab 4x2 5.5' bed	\$ -	\$ -
	1	LT model	\$ -	\$ -
	1	Z82 Trailer pkg	\$ 395.00	\$ 395.00
	1	Safety assist	\$ -	\$ -
	1	PDP Texas Edition (20" wheels)	\$ 1,665.00	\$ 1,665.00
	1	Convenience pkg	\$ -	\$ -
	1	window tint	\$ 295.00	\$ 295.00
	ALL VEHICLES SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY		TOTAL:	\$ 54,858.00

Notes: Please call if you have any questions. Thank you

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Department Reports

Public Safety Javier Solis Jr Assistant Director

Lower Rio Grande Valley Academy

Total Inservice Courses Offered..... 6

Total Officers Trained 66

Total Contact Hours Provided 2,124

Training Announcement

The LRGV Academy will be hosting Crisis Intervention Training from April 21 to April 24.

Training will take place at the Center for Education and Economic Development in the City of Mission, Texas. (801 S. Bryan Road Mission, Texas)

Crisis Intervention Training

TCOLE #1850



Hosted by the LRGV Academy on April 21 - April 25th.

All classes will take place at the CEED

Center of Education & Economic Development building in Mission Tx

801 Bryans Rd, Mission Tx 78572



To Register Contact:

Rolando Perez

✉ ROLANDO.PEREZ@LRGVDC.ORG ☎ 956-400-5525



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

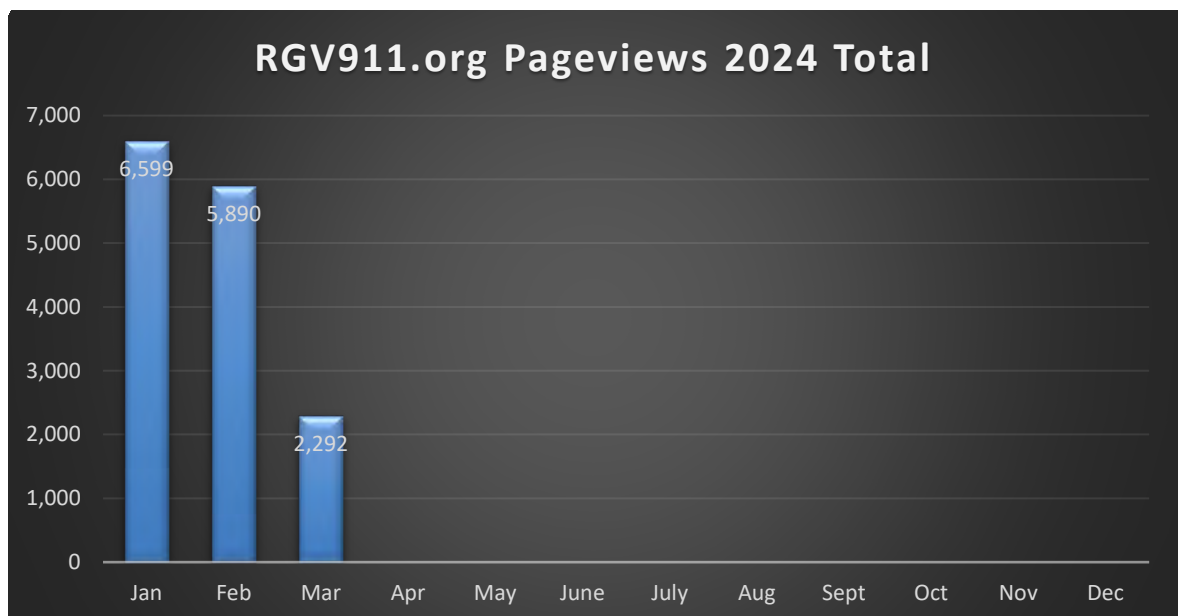
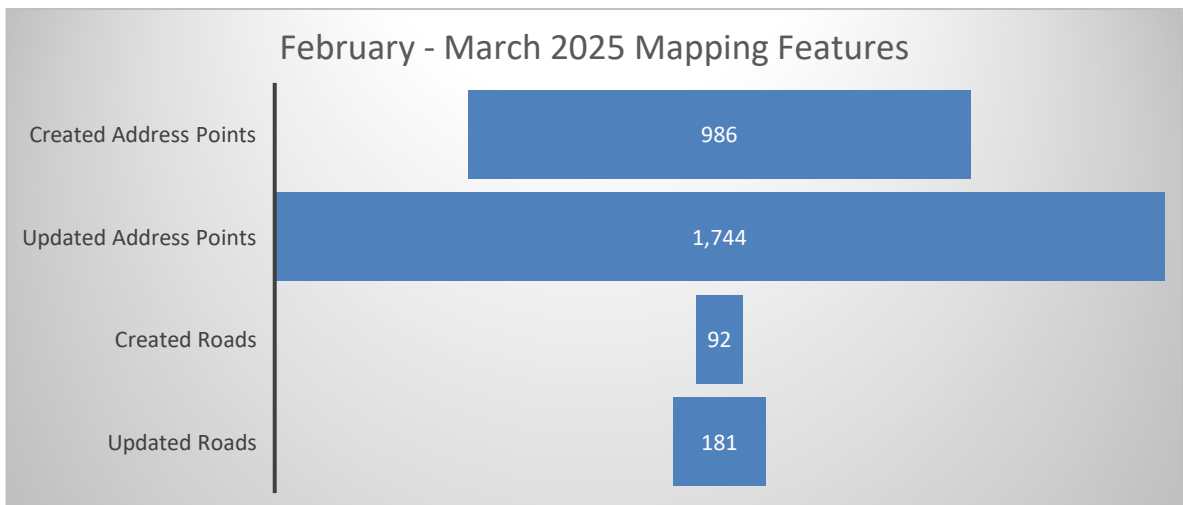
Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public Safety

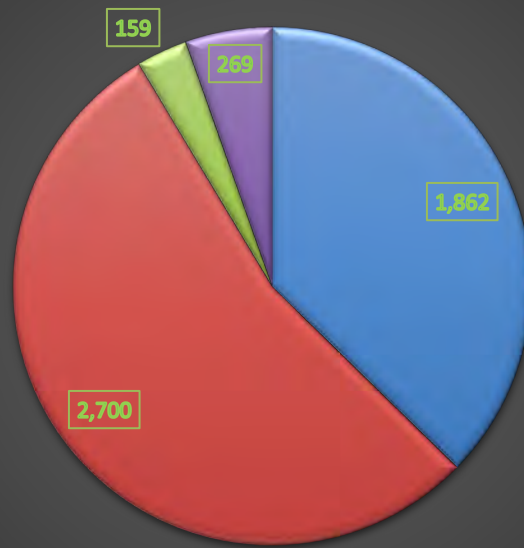
Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District Status Report

- GIS Division

The GIS Data Hub has transitioned to www.rgv911.org, providing improved access to downloadable maps and streamlined data request handling. ArcGIS Enterprise 11.3.1 update Project is running on schedule, using a cross-department team, we have set up a virtual replica of our production environment where we will test how an upgrade will affect our current system. Testing is scheduled to last until late March, and project completion is expected in early to Mid-April.

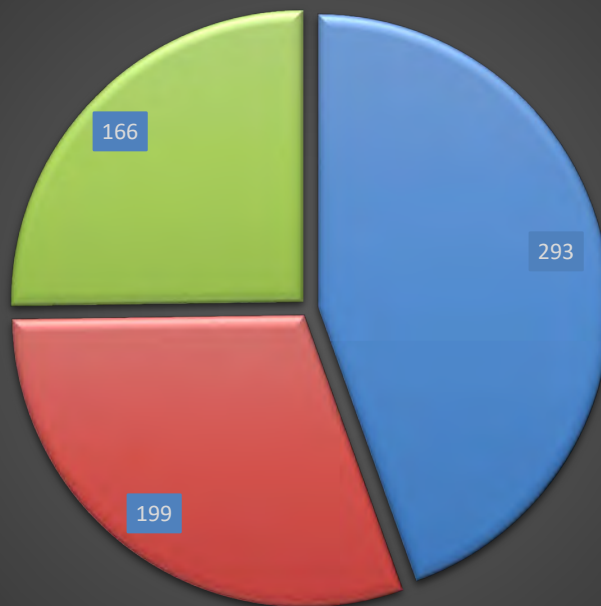


2025 Total Production : GIS



Created Address Points Updated Address Points Created Roads Updated Roads

2025 Address Tickets Totals



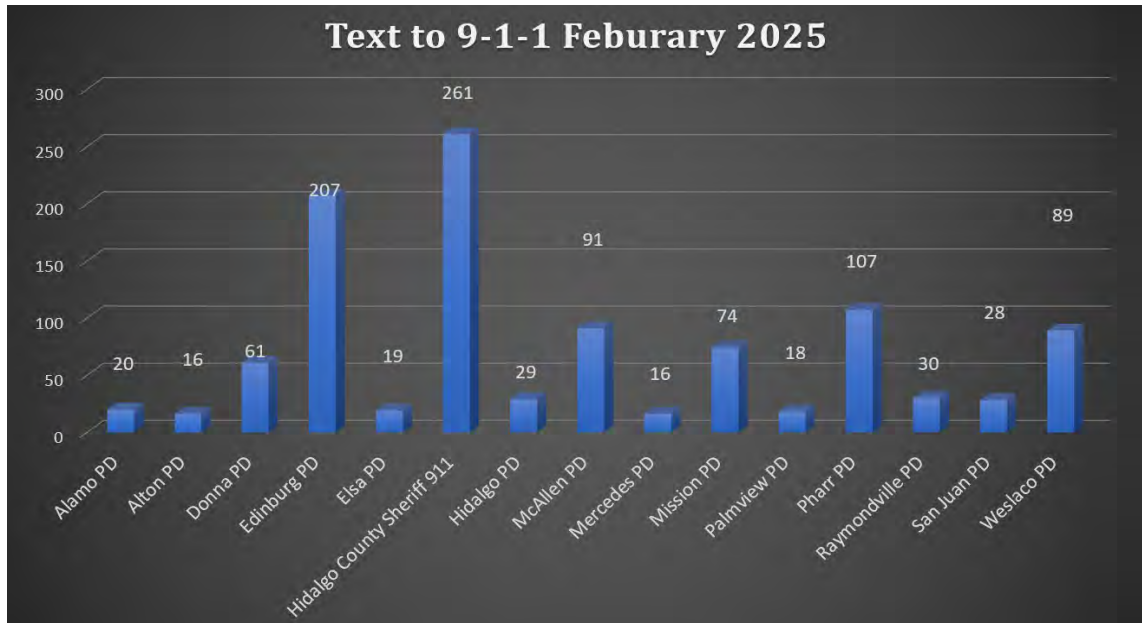
Jan Feb Mar Apr May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec

- 9-1-1 | Information Technology

The Information Technology Division conducted in-house MapFlex and Power911 training, providing hands-on experience to 25 telecommunicators. This training offered both new and current dispatchers an opportunity to familiarize themselves with Power911's call-handling system and GIS mapping technologies.

Additionally, the team visited all 16 PSAPs, ensuring that all the software was up to date and fully prepared for the March multimedia upgrade. As part of our ongoing improvements, we are preparing to implement text translation and video 9-1-1 integration, along with training for our dispatchers.

We remain committed to maintaining 99.9% operational efficiency, ensuring seamless integration between our 9-1-1 call delivery systems and GIS mapping. By doing so, we continue to support our public safety partners and the community with reliable emergency communication services.



- **Community Engagement Division**

February was all about promoting awareness, educating the community, and highlighting careers within 911. Our team dedicated time to engaging with schools, organizations, and the public to share the importance of emergency services and the role of telecommunicators. While focusing on education, we also worked behind the scenes to prepare for our upcoming major events, ensuring everything is set for success. Strengthening partnerships and refining our outreach strategies remained a priority as we continue to grow our impact. This month set the foundation for an exciting and impactful year ahead in 911 public education.

The City of Granjeno 18th Annual Friendship Festival, February 8, 2025. The community came together for an unforgettable day filled with a lively parade, great music, delicious food, an exciting wrestling arena, and most importantly—lifesaving 911 information.

PSJA ISD Love Yourself Day Event. February 11, 2025. This was a wonderful initiative promoting a healthier lifestyle and overall well-being. It was great attending and engaging with the community, sharing the importance of 911 information. Events like these truly make a difference in spreading awareness and a safer healthier future for everyone.

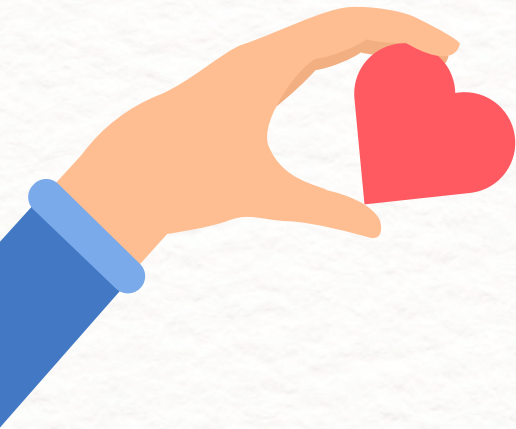
Mercedes High School for their P-TECH College & Career Fair on February 13, 2025. We had the opportunity to share valuable information about the exciting career paths within our district's three divisions: I.T., the backbone of 911 technology; GIS, Mapping, and location services that support emergency response; and Public Education, Teaching communities about 911 and emergency preparedness.

Rio Grande Valley Disaster Ready Expo 2025, February 21, 2025. RGV911 attended the event, engaging with the community on the importance of emergency preparedness. The team provided valuable information on when to call 911, how to communicate effectively with dispatchers, and the benefits of using text-to-911. RGV911 was proud to be part of this event, reinforcing its commitment to educating and empowering the community.

Power911/MapFlex Training, February 25, 2025. Our dedicated dispatchers spent time enhancing their skills, mastering new tools, and ensuring they're always ready to handle any situation that comes their way.

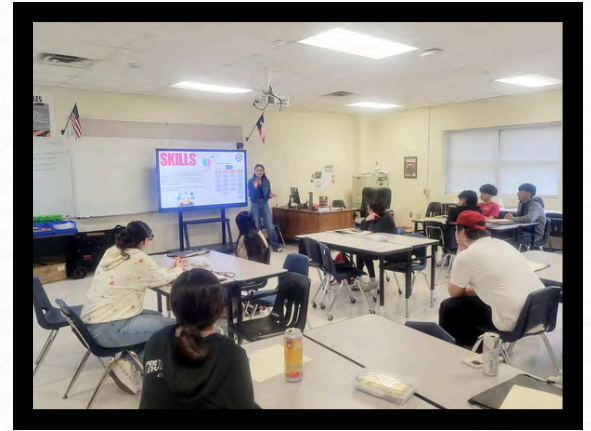


The City of
Granjeno 18th
Annual Friendship
Festival

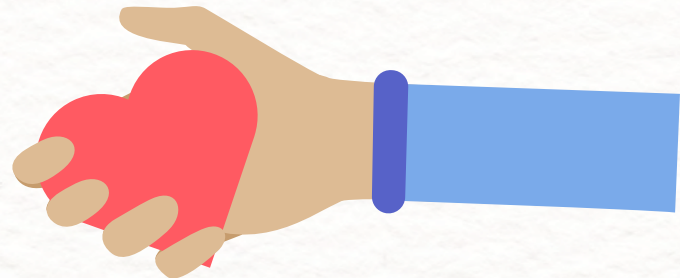
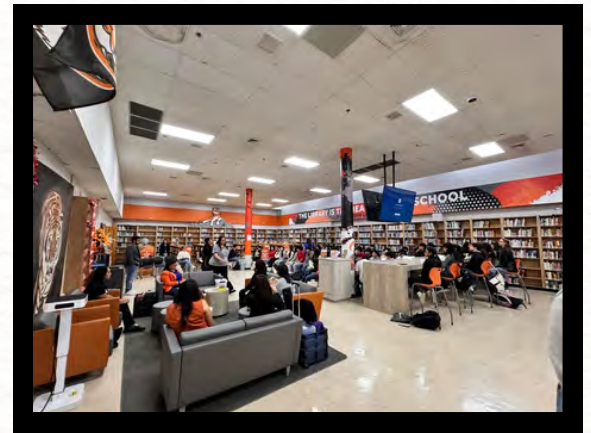


PSJA ISD Love
Yourself Day Event



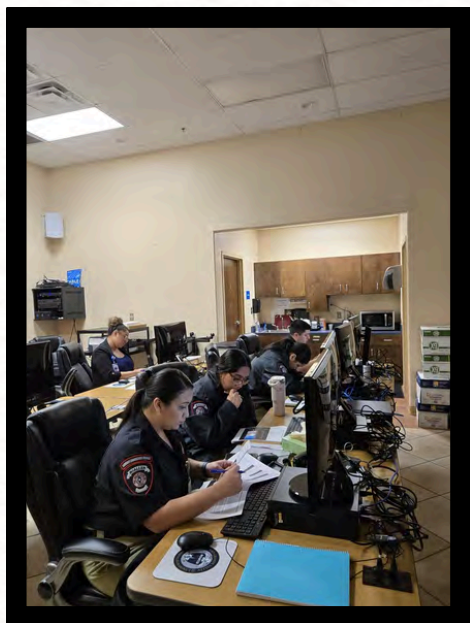
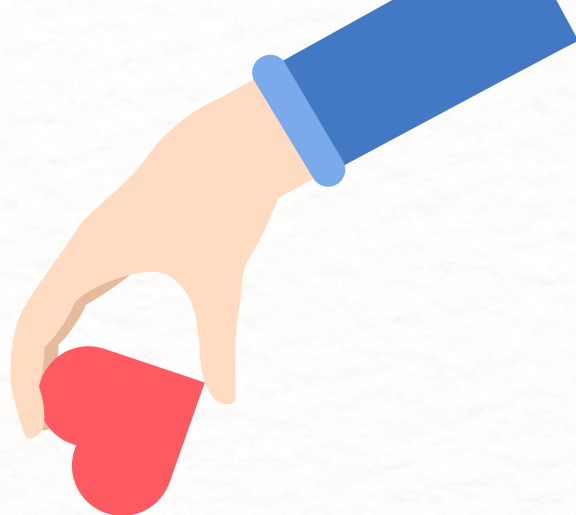
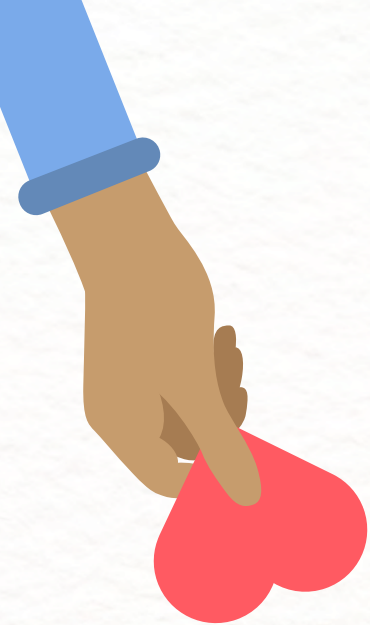


Mercedes High School P-TECH College & Career Fair

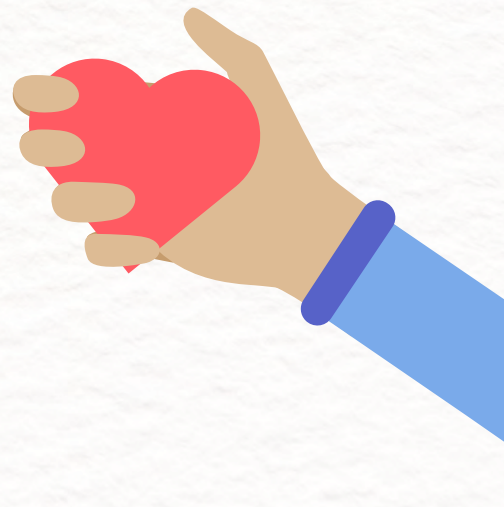
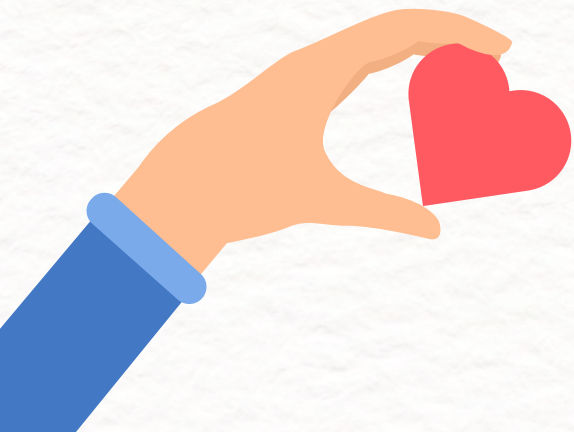


The Rio Grande Valley Disaster Ready Expo 2025





Power911/MAPLEX Training for
our 911 dispatchers



SAVE THE DATE



MISSION EVENT CENTER

200 N SHARY RD, MISSION, TX 78572

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
2025**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM



3RD ANNUAL PUBLIC SAFETY WELLNESS SEMINAR

PSAP SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD ● SANDRA CORONADO AWARD/TC OF
THE YEAR AWARD ● HONORING TC YEARS OF SERVICE- 10, 15, 20+

ITEM #5. D.

TRANSPORTATION

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation Action Item #1

1. Discussion and **ACTION** on approval of Resolution #2025-03, authorizing the Acceptance of MCI Coach buses to be transferred from Green Mountain Transit (GMT).

This resolution is a formal request in accordance with FTA C5010.1E to transfer seven (7) MCI commuter coaches from GMT to LRGVDC Valley Metro. The coaches are no longer needed by GMT due to post-COVID travel demand pattern changes which have significantly reduced GMT's commuter ridership.

The following vehicles are being transferred under this request:

Bus Number	Year	Make	Model	Miles	VIN
930	2013	MCI	D4500	275,511	1M8PDMBA4DP012778
931	2013	MCI	D4500	212,532	1M8PDMBA2DP012780
932	2013	MCI	D4500	281,795	1M8PDMBA6DP012782
933	2013	MCI	D4500	287,293	1M8PDMBAXDP012784
934	2013	MCI	D4500	273,003	1M8PDMBA3DP012786
935	2013	MCI	D4500	276,982	1M8PDMBA7DP012788
936	2013	MCI	D4500	287,023	1M8PDMBA5DP012790

The buses are heavy-duty over-the road coaches with a useful life of twelve (12) years and 500,000 miles. Due to multiple COVID-19 related impacts GMT has not operated these coaches in revenue service for up to 29 months.

These vehicles were purchased with FTA grants VT-04-0017 and VT-04-0019. GMT does not require reimbursement from LRGVDC Valley Metro for local match. With this transfer, FTA's interest and satisfactory continuing control will be maintained.

LRGVDC Valley Metro agrees to maintain the vehicles in compliance with all applicable Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements, ensuring they remain in good working condition and are used for their intended public transportation purposes.





Regional Council of Governments & Economic Development District serving Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy County

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPTING THE TRANSFER OF VEHICLES FROM GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT AND COMMITTING TO THE MAINTENANCE AND COMPLIANCE OF SAID VEHICLES UNDER FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) REQUIREMENTS.

“Connecting The Valley One Ride at A Time”

WHEREAS LRGVDC Valley Metro provides essential public transportation services to the community and is committed to expanding and improving mobility options for residents; and

WHEREAS, Green Mountain Transit has determined that certain transit vehicles are no longer required for its operations and has agreed to transfer ownership to LRGVDC Valley Metro; and

WHEREAS, the transferred vehicles are necessary for revenue service operations within Valley Metro’s Service Area to enhance public transit availability; and

WHEREAS, the transferred vehicles, identified by their respective Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs) and associated federal interest, will be incorporated into LRGVDC Valley Metro’s fleet inventory; and

WHEREAS, LRGVDC Valley Metro agrees to maintain the vehicles in compliance with all applicable Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements, ensuring they remain in good working condition and are used for their intended public transportation purposes; and

WHEREAS, LRGVDC Valley Metro will ensure that the transferred vehicles are properly recorded in its equipment inventory records and that all reporting and oversight requirements related to federal interest in the vehicles are met.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council hereby:

1. Accepts the transfer of vehicles from Green Mountain Transit as detailed in the vehicle transfer list, including associated VINs and federal interest.
2. Commits to maintaining the vehicles in accordance with all FTA regulations and requirements.
3. Directs staff to complete all necessary documentation and inventory updates to reflect the acquisition of these vehicles.
4. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to execute any required agreements or certifications related to the vehicle transfer.

Adopted and Approved by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors this 26th, Day of March 2025

Mayor Norma Sepulveda,
LRGVDC Board President

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation Action Item #2

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Expansion and Renovation expenses in relation to TX-2020-125, Harlingen Cares Act at 100% Federal funding with no local match.

Grant	Line-Item	Funding Total
TX-2020-125	Expansion & Renovation	\$370,000

The expenses will encompass the installation of wiring for the camera and network systems, key components of the Valley Metro building renovation. Procurement will engage Network Cabling Services via Texas DIR under contract DIR-CPO-4782, with an estimated cost of \$54,001.84.

The network system is a collection of hardware and software components that work together to enable communication, data transfer, and resource sharing between devices, such as computers, cameras, and servers.

For Valley Metro, the network system is used to support critical operations, including security camera feeds, data storage, internet access, and internal communications. By connecting various devices and systems, the network ensures smooth functionality and facilitates efficient monitoring, coordination, and data management within the organization.

PRICING SUMMARY



Structured Cabling System- Building A

Materials	\$13,844.74
Labor	\$20,027.66
<hr/>	
Total	\$33,872.40

Structured Cabling System- Building B

Materials	\$7,579.01
Labor	\$5,473.53
<hr/>	
Total	\$13,052.54

Structured Cabling System- Building C

Materials	\$3,683.50
Labor	\$3,393.40
<hr/>	
Total	\$7,076.90

PROJECT TOTAL (Tax not included)	\$54,001.84
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*Payments made by credit card/purchasing card will incur an additional 3.8% processing fee.

*If P&P Bonds are needed, please add \$1,350.05



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

LRGVDC Valley Metro Harlingen

GG-25-039

Revision: 0

March 06, 2025



ncs



INTRODUCTION

March 06, 2025

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
LRGVDC Valley Metro Harlingen

NCS Quote GG-25-039

Thank you for allowing Network Cabling Services the opportunity to provide you with this proposal for the LRGVDC Valley Metro Harlingen.

NCS was founded in 1981 in Houston, TX, as a technology-driven, single-source solution provider for all our client's audio visual, cabling infrastructure, design-consulting, networking, and security needs.

Since then, we have grown to more than 300 employees across six Texas locations while expanding our services to in-building wireless systems to deliver public safety and cellular communications and network-powered lighting systems.

After you have reviewed the project scope and summary considerations, please indicate your acceptance by signing where indicated and return a fully executed copy to NCS.

If you have any questions about this proposal or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

George Gonzalez
Designer, Designer Engineer





PRICING SUMMARY

Structured Cabling System- Building A

Materials	\$13,844.74
Labor	\$20,027.66
Total	\$33,872.40

Structured Cabling System- Building B

Materials	\$7,579.01
Labor	\$5,473.53
Total	\$13,052.54

Structured Cabling System- Building C

Materials	\$3,683.50
Labor	\$3,393.40
Total	\$7,076.90

PROJECT TOTAL (Tax not included)	\$54,001.84
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*Payments made by credit card/purchasing card will incur an additional 3.8% processing fee.

*If P&P Bonds are needed, please add \$1,350.05





SCOPE OF WORK

Project: LRGVDC Valley Metro
Site Location: 201 N T St., Harlingen TX 78550

DIR-CPO-4782

Thank you for allowing Network Cabling Services (NCS), a WBE Certified Company, the opportunity to provide you with this proposal for LRGVDC Valley Metro in Harlingen, TX.

This proposal is based on prints provided by LRGVDC and site visit with Felipe Lopez on February 24, 2025.

Please be advised, due to the volatility in the current market, the material pricing in this proposal is valid for 14 days. A PO will secure pricing if received during the 14-day window. In addition, the industry is experiencing long lead times on many products and availability is subject to change at any time without notice.

NCS is a C3 Champion Level Certified Contractor.

If you should have any questions about this proposal or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.





1. SCOPE OF WORK: Building A

A. Horizontal Copper Cabling: (105) Category 6 cables

- NCS will provide and install (80) Commscope Category 6 Blue cables for Data/Voice locations.
- NCS will provide and install (11) Commscope Category 6 Blue cables for TVs.
- NCS will provide and install (5) Commscope Category 6 Yellow cables for WAP locations.
- NCS will provide and install (10) Commscope Category 6 Black cables for Camera locations.
- NCS will provide and install (182) Commscope Category 6 Blue jacks.
- NCS will provide and install (10) Commscope Category 6 Yellow jacks.
- NCS will provide and install (20) Commscope Category 6 Black jacks.
- NCS will provide and install (51) Commscope 2-port faceplates.
- NCS will provide and install (15) Commscope 1-port surface mount boxes.
- NCS will install (5) Owner Wireless Access Points.
- NCS will install (10) Owner provided security cameras.
- Terminate and Label.

B. IT Room Build-Out:

- NCS will install (1) Owner provided CPI 2-port relay rack.
- NCS will provide and install (1) CPI wall angle kit.
- NCS will provide and install (2) Commscope 24-port modular patch panels.
- NCS will provide and install (2) Commscope 48-port modular patch panels.
- NCS will provide and install (1) Corning 1U fiber enclosure.
- NCS will provide and install (1) Corning 6F MM OM3 LC fiber adapter panel.
- NCS will provide and install (6) Corning MM OM3 LC fiber connectors.
- NCS will provide and install (1) Corning 6F Fan Out Kit.
- NCS will provide and install (3) Corning MM OM3 LC-LC duplex fiber patch cords.

C. Pathways:

- Provide and install J-Hooks where needed from data closet to drop locations.
- Maintain 90-degree angles perpendicular to the building structures.

D. Labeling:

- Provide machine generated labels at the point of termination and the faceplate/surface-mount box windows.
- Provide machine generated labels within the MDF onto the data patch panel label fields, network racks and grounding.
- Coordinate with the IT Project Manager for final labeling convention prior to cable installation.

E. Patch Cords:

- NCS will provide and install (91) Commscope Category 6 Blue 1ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (91) Commscope Category 6 Blue 7ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (5) Commscope Category 6 Yellow 1ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (5) Commscope Category 6 Yellow 7ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (10) Commscope Category 6 Black 1ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (10) Commscope Category 6 Black 7ft Patch Cords.



**F. Testing and Documentation:**

- Post installation certification testing of the horizontal copper cabling will be done using a Fluke tester and BICSI standards.
- Provide to owner with test results certification documentation upon project completion.

G. Exclusions:

- Proposal does not include Wireless Access Points, Security Cameras, Access Control Devices, TVs, Uninterrupted Power Supplies, or network equipment.
- Proposal does not include AV cabling or Coax cabling.
- Proposal does not include cable tray in hallways, conduit, innerduct, or trenching/boring.





2. SCOPE OF WORK: Building B

A. Horizontal Copper Cabling:

- NCS will provide and install (8) Commscope Category 6 Black cables for Camera locations.
- NCS will provide and install (16) Commscope Category 6 Black jacks.
- NCS will provide and install (8) Commscope 1-port surface mount boxes.
- NCS will install (10) Owner provided security cameras.
- Terminate and Label.

B. Fiber Optic Backbone Cabling:

- NCS will provide and install (8) Commscope Category 6 Black cables for Camera locations.
- NCS will provide and install (16) Commscope Category 6 Black jacks.
- NCS will provide and install (8) Commscope 1-port surface mount boxes.
- NCS will install (10) Owner provided security cameras.
- Terminate and Label.

C. IT Room Build-Out:

- NCS will provide and install (1) CPI 4ft wall mount cabinet.
- NCS will provide and install (1) Commscope 24-port modular patch panel.
- NCS will provide and install (1) Corning 1U fiber enclosure.
- NCS will provide and install (1) Corning 6F MM OM3 LC fiber adapter panel.
- NCS will provide and install (6) Corning MM OM3 LC fiber connectors.
- NCS will provide and install (1) Corning 6F Fan Out Kit.
- NCS will provide and install (3) Corning MM OM3 LC-LC duplex fiber patch cords.
- NCS will provide and install (1) 4ft ¾" Plywood for wall mount cabinet.

D. Pathways:

- Provide and install J-Hooks where needed from data closet to drop locations.
- Maintain 90-degree angles perpendicular to the building structures.

E. Labeling:

- Provide machine generated labels at the point of termination and the faceplate/surface-mount box windows.
- Provide machine generated labels within the MDF onto the data patch panel label fields, network racks and grounding.
- Coordinate with the IT Project Manager for final labeling convention prior to cable installation.

F. Patch Cords:

- NCS will provide and install (8) Commscope Category 6 Black 1ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (8) Commscope Category 6 Black 7ft Patch Cords.

G. Testing and Documentation:

- Post installation certification testing of the horizontal copper cabling will be done using a Fluke tester and BICSI standards.
- Provide to owner with test results certification documentation upon project completion.



**H. Exclusions:**

- Proposal does not include Wireless Access Points, Security Cameras, Access Control Devices, TVs, Uninterrupted Power Supplies, or network equipment.
- Proposal does not include AV cabling or Coax cabling.
- Proposal does not include cable tray in hallways, conduit, innerduct, or trenching/boring





3. SCOPE OF WORK: Building C

A. Horizontal Copper Cabling:

- NCS will provide and install (2) Commscope Category 6 Blue cables for Point-to-Point wireless bridges.
- NCS will provide and install (2) Commscope Category 6 Black cables for Camera locations.
- NCS will provide and install (4) Commscope Category 6 Blue jacks.
- NCS will provide and install (4) Commscope Category 6 Black jacks.
- NCS will provide and install (4) Commscope 1-port surface mount boxes.
- NCS will install (2) Owner provided security cameras.
- Terminate and Label.

B. Point to Point Antennas:

- NCS will provide and install (1) EnGenius Point to Point Wireless Bridge at Building B.
- NCS will provide and install (1) EnGenius Point to Point Wireless Bridge at Building C.
- NCS will provide and install (2) Wireless Bridge Universal Pole Mounts
- Terminate and Label.

C. IT Room Build-Out:

- NCS will provide and install (1) CPI 2ft wall mount cabinet.
- NCS will provide and install (1) Commscope 24-port modular patch panel.
- NCS will provide and install (1) 4ft ¾" Plywood for wall mount cabinet.

D. Pathways:

- Provide and install J-Hooks where needed from data closet to drop locations.
- Maintain 90-degree angles perpendicular to the building structures.

E. Labeling:

- Provide machine generated labels at the point of termination and the faceplate/surface-mount box windows.
- Provide machine generated labels within the MDF onto the data patch panel label fields, network racks and grounding.
- Coordinate with the IT Project Manager for final labeling convention prior to cable installation.

F. Patch Cords:

- NCS will provide and install (2) Commscope Category 6 Blue 1ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (2) Commscope Category 6 Blue 7ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (2) Commscope Category 6 Black 1ft Patch Cords.
- NCS will provide and install (2) Commscope Category 6 Black 7ft Patch Cords.

G. Testing and Documentation:

- Post installation certification testing of the horizontal copper cabling will be done using a Fluke tester and BICSI standards.
- Provide to owner with test results certification documentation upon project completion.

H. Exclusions:

- Proposal does not include Wireless Access Points, Security Cameras, Access Control Devices, TVs, Uninterrupted Power Supplies, or network equipment.





- Proposal does not include AV cabling or Coax cabling.
- Proposal does not include cable tray in hallways, conduit, innerduct, or trenching/boring





QUALIFICATIONS

- The communications industry is currently experiencing volatile price increases and unusually long lead times on cabling, metal accessories and electronic devices. Due to the rapidly changing conditions of the industry, NCS is only able to guarantee our pricing for fourteen (14) days. Additionally, although we will make our best effort to meet all requested time commitments, we are currently subject to supply chain delays which may impact the project schedule.
- A 3.8% processing fee will be added to the price quoted if payment is made via a credit card or purchasing card.
- The cost for bonding has not been included in the proposed price unless specifically called out.
- The cost for taxes, if included in the above proposed price, is an estimate only. If taxes are required to be collected, an additional line item will be added to the invoice. The customer is required to pay all applicable taxes unless a tax-exempt certificate is provided in advance.
- NCS shall perform the work described within using non-union employees. If union employment is required, it must be agreed upon and specifically documented by the owner and NCS.
- NCS has not included pricing for participation in a composite cleaning crew. If this is required, an additional price can be given.
- Samples and attic stock are not included in this proposal.
- The project schedule as agreed upon by the owner and NCS prior to purchase shall remain in place throughout the project. Changes to the project schedule resulting from delay by other trades, request by the owner, or to meet construction milestones may result in the issuance of a change order to address lost time or overtime incurred by NCS.
- Any changes or additions to the Scope of Work or the Bill of Materials shall be executed in writing as a change order. Verbal instructions to field technicians do not authorize changes to the scope of work.
- Unless specifically requested and indicated in the proposal, all work described herein will be performed during the normal business hours of 7 AM – 5 PM, Monday through Friday.
- On-site parking shall be provided when available. Parking permits where applicable shall be provided free of charge to NCS.
- All necessary building access shall be provided including but not limited to access through doors, elevators, stairwells, etc.
- All security badges, keys or personnel escorts shall be provided as required by the owner.
- The project site shall be ready for NCS to proceed with the work specified within this document upon our scheduled arrival to the site. This includes the site being clean and dust free, free from obstructions, free of other trades, and free of any scheduled events.
- All required infrastructure provided by the owner or other trades shall be complete prior to NCS commencing work on the project unless specifically authorized by NCS. This shall include all electrical power, conduits and junction boxes, and all data lines not being provided by NCS (including POTS, ISDN, and LAN).
- All owner or contractor supplied information regarding site conditions is accurate in detail. Information may include CAD drawings, blueprints, building plans and layouts, or other data types transmitted electronically or through print.
- All owner furnished equipment shall be provided at the start of the project unless otherwise agreed upon. All equipment must be presented in good, working order. No owner furnished equipment shall be covered under any warranty provided by NCS unless specifically requested and agreed upon by the owner and NCS.
- All necessary ceiling trim work, woodworking, millwork, drywall repair and painting shall be provided by the owner or owner furnished contractor. NCS shall not provide these services unless specifically agreed upon in advance and specifically documented.
- All equipment in the project shall become property of the owner once it is physically installed on the site. NCS shall not be liable for any damage or loss of the equipment once it is physically installed unless agreed upon in advance and specifically documented.
- This scope of work and project proposal contains specific proprietary information and intellectual property. It may not be distributed to other parties outside of appropriate owner representatives without prior written authorization by NCS.





STANDARD TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Engagement of Services

Once work is authorized by the customer, Network Cabling Services is committed to certain “ramp up” expenses, both direct and indirect (i.e., specific training, travel, special tools, materials, project management, etc.) which are generally priced into the entire scope of the project. If the project is canceled, delayed, terminated or significantly changed through no fault of Network Cabling Services, these expenses will be due and payable to Network Cabling Services on a pro-rate basis. Any request for reimbursement of these expenses will be itemized and defined.

2. Changes to Scope of Work

Network Cabling Services will notify the customer if there is a material change, scheduling change, or construction delay beyond the scope of work and no fault of Network Cabling Services requiring Network Cabling Services to expend more monies budgeted. The customer agrees to pay Network Cabling Services for such expenses plus reasonable profit and overhead if the customer desires to continue under the changed Scope of Work.

3. Permits and Taxes

Permits are not included unless specifically noted otherwise. Permits, inspection fees, drawings, etc., will be provided by Network Cabling Services at the cost of obtaining them. Taxes are not included in the proposal price unless specifically noted otherwise.

4. Network Cabling Services Employees

The customer agrees that it shall not hire any employee of Network Cabling Services who is currently working on a project for the customer, or any employee of Network Cabling Services who has worked on a project for the customer within the last twelve months. The customer further agrees not to hire any former Network Cabling Services employee that performed any work on a project for the customer at any time within the prior twelve months. The customer agrees and understands that this provision is necessary so that Network Cabling Services can protect its investment of time and money in its employees, as well as any confidential or proprietary information known by its employees.

5. Payment Terms

Standard payment terms are net due in ten days from invoice date unless stated differently in the above proposal. A service charge may be charged on all past due amounts. Amounts will be considered past due 30 days after date of invoice. You may avoid a service charge or additional service charges upon payment at any time of the unpaid balance. All payment terms are subject to change based on credit review and approval.

6. Warranty

All installation work will meet or exceed all NEC, Federal, State, and local codes that may apply. No performance warranty will be issued by Network Cabling Services. A one-year workmanship warranty will be issued on all installed materials from the date of acceptance.

7. Indemnity

The customer agrees to defend and indemnify Network Cabling Services from any and all third party claims, demands, actions, lawsuits liability, damages and/or costs, including reasonable attorney's fees and expert fees, arising out of or relating to Network Cabling Services work under this agreement or the Scope of Work under this agreement, regardless of the cause, including active or passive negligence of Network Cabling Services, the customer, or others, unless such claim, demand, action, lawsuit, liability, damage or cost is caused by the sole negligence of Network Cabling Services.

8. Attorneys' Fees

If Network Cabling Services is required to hire attorneys to collect amounts owed under this agreement, the customer agrees to reimburse Network Cabling Services for all attorneys' fees, expert fees and other legal expenses that it may incur to collect such amount.

9. Incorporation by Reference

Unless expressly agreed in writing otherwise, these Standard Terms and Conditions are a part of and hereby incorporated by reference, all proposals submitted by Network Cabling Services to the customer and any Credit Agreement signed by the customer, and all terms and conditions of any such proposals or Credit Agreements.

By signing this proposal, the signators of this agreement warrant that they have the authority to enter into this contract and that they have read the above Standard Terms and Conditions and agree to abide by them.

ACCEPTED BY: _____



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation Presentation #1

1. Presentation on Valley Metro's Service Expansion Project - Willacy Express

The Willacy Express expansion service enhances the RGVMetro Express network by extending service to key Rural areas in Willacy County, including Raymondville, Lyford, and Sebastian.

As part of this initiative, these communities will gain direct access to the Harlingen Transfer Station, facilitating connectivity to major service hubs such as Brownsville, Harlingen, Edinburg, and McAllen.

This expansion aims to improve regional mobility and provide residents with greater access to transportation options across the Rio Grande Valley.



Service Hours & Frequency

Operating schedule: 7 AM – 7 PM (Monday – Friday)

Regularly scheduled routes to accommodate peak commuting hours and essential travel needs.

**The service will include 11 daily trips to and from Harlingen and Raymondville to accommodate the needs of the public.
(Adjustments to service frequency will be based on ridership demand and community feedback.)**

By increasing coverage, residents will have greater access to transportation, reducing travel barriers and improving connectivity.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

D. Transportation Presentation Item #2

1. Presentation on Valley Metro's National Transit Employee Appreciation Day.

On National Transit Appreciation Day, we took a moment to recognize and celebrate the hard work and dedication of all our transit staff.

Their commitment to ensuring safe, reliable, and efficient transportation for our community does not go unnoticed.

While we were able to distribute some items as a small token of our gratitude, we truly wish we could do more to show how much we value their efforts. Their unwavering dedication keeps our services running smoothly, and we are grateful for their ongoing contributions to the success of our transit system.

National Transit Employee Appreciation Day



National Transit Employee Appreciation Day



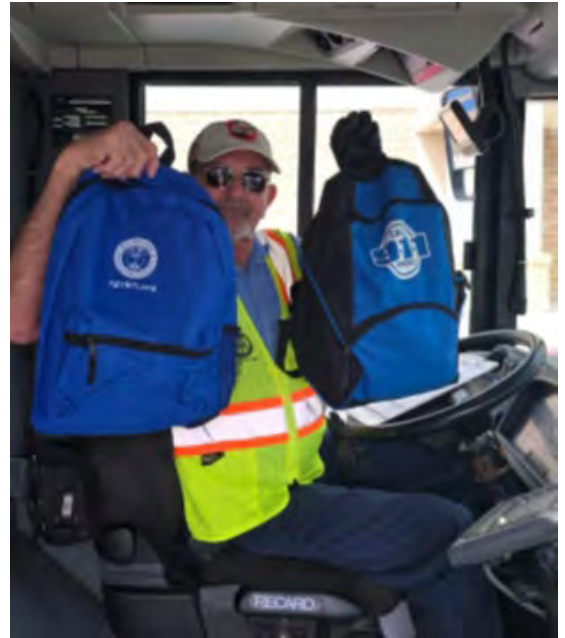
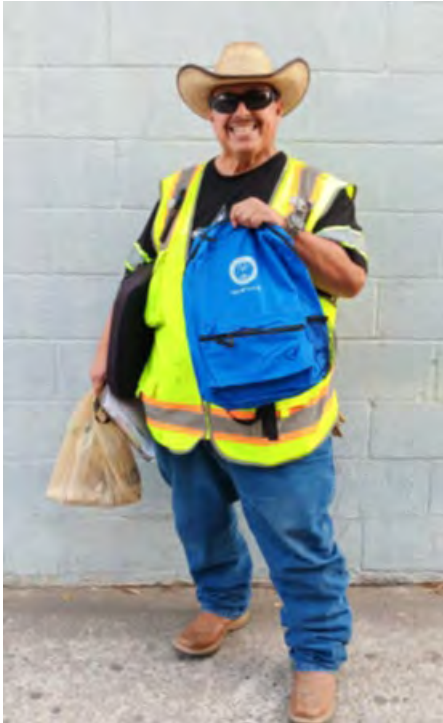
National Transit Employee Appreciation Day



National Transit Employee Appreciation Day



National Transit Employee Appreciation Day



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation Presentation Item #3

1. Presentation on Valley Metro's Maintenance and Operations team competitions at the TTA Annual State Conference held in McAllen, Texas.

Maintenance and Operations team competitions



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation

Valley Metro Status Report Tom Logan, Director of Regional Transit

- Ridership Report

The **total ridership across all agencies up to February 2025** was **476,349**.

- Valley Metro** recorded a total of **161,908** passengers over six months, with the highest ridership in **October (32,847)** and the lowest in **January (22,756)**.
- UTRGV** had the highest overall ridership, totaling **310,502** passengers. The peak month was **October (79,188)**, while the lowest ridership occurred in **December (18,094)**.
- STC** reported **3,120** passengers across six months, with **October (969)** having the highest count and **January (192)** the lowest.
- TSTC** recorded **819** total passengers, maintaining relatively consistent numbers across the months, with **February (168)** being the highest and **December (109)** the lowest.

Breakdown of Ridership per system:

RIDERSHIP BY SYSTEM							
Agency	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	TOTAL
VALLEY METRO	28,526	32,847	28,157	24,893	22,756	24,729	161,908
UTRGV	70,277	79,188	56,576	18,094	25,557	60,810	310,502
STC	692	969	466	199	192	602	3,120
TSTC	113	142	135	109	152	168	819
Total	99,608	113,146	85,334	43,295	48,657	86,309	476,349
RURAL AND URBAN COUNT							
AREA	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	TOTAL
Rural	5,837	6,672	5,366	4,948	4,379	4,643	31,845
Urban	93,771	106,474	79,968	38,347	44,278	81,666	444,504
Total	99,608	113,146	85,334	43,295	48,657	86,309	476,349
RIDERSHIP BY COUNTY							
COUNTY	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	TOTAL
Hidalgo County	88,309	99,912	73,305	32,251	38,947	76,458	409,182
Cameron County	8,757	10,472	9,989	9,209	7,995	7,701	54,123
Willacy County	134	262	232	265	286	311	1,490
Starr County	2,250	2,318	1,669	1,458	1,347	1,731	10,773
Zapata County	158	182	139	112	82	108	781
Total	99,608	113,146	85,334	43,295	48,657	86,309	476,349

• **Regional Transportation Advisory Panel (RTAP) Activity:**

RTAP Sub-Committee held a virtual meeting on February 25, 2025, and discussed the following:

Agency Updates

- **V.A.I.L. - Laurie L. Gonzalez's Report**
 - Her agency recently relocated to Alamo, signaling a shift in operations that may enhance regional accessibility.
 - Plans are underway to **extend transportation routes**, which could mean improved service coverage for communities previously underserved.
- **Metro McAllen - Jon Bocanegra's Proposal for a Student Pass System**
 - He suggested a **free student pass system** that would allow students to ride public transportation at no cost.
 - The success of this initiative would **require collaboration with local universities**, likely involving discussions on funding, eligibility criteria, and outreach efforts.
 - If implemented, the pass could **increase student ridership** and reduce transportation barriers for students commuting between campuses and residential areas.
- **UTRGV - Maribel Contreras' Focus on Student Transportation**
 - She emphasized the **transportation challenges faced by students** traveling from McAllen to Edinburg, which could mean long wait times, inefficient transfers, or limited route options.
 - Her interest in **improving transit options for this corridor** suggests a need for additional routes, better scheduling, or increased frequency of service.

Inventory & Reporting

- **Metro McAllen - Bus Shelters and Bus Inventory**
 - Bocanegra pointed out that **Sarah is in charge of maintaining the bus shelter and vehicle inventory**, which is crucial for tracking available resources and planning for upgrades or expansions.
 - Contreras suggested **including this data in reports**, which could help decision-makers identify gaps and justify requests for funding or improvements.
- **Valley Metro - Claudia Olmedo's Emphasis on Documentation**
 - She stressed the importance of **documenting progress and recommendations from the five-year plan**, ensuring that goals remain on track and measurable outcomes are recorded.
 - This approach aligns with strategic planning efforts and could help secure future funding by demonstrating tangible improvements over time.

UTRGV & Transit Recommendations

- **Recommendations for UTRGV**
 - Olmedo proposed **establishing a local bus service for students**, which could mean a dedicated shuttle system or more frequent transit connections to key areas like student housing and academic buildings.
 - Improving **transit information accessibility** suggests efforts to enhance communication, such as better signage, real-time tracking apps, or multilingual transit guides.
- **RGVMPO - Klarissa Gonzalez's Insights on TIP Revisions**
 - She provided updates on revisions to the **Transit Improvement Program (TIP)**, which could impact funding allocations, project timelines, or infrastructure developments.
- **STC - Alina Cantu's Concern on Bus Shelter Inventory**
 - She highlighted the **limited number of bus shelters**, which could mean a shortage in high-demand areas, affecting rider comfort and accessibility.
 - This could prompt discussions on prioritizing shelter installations in areas with high ridership or extreme weather conditions.

Partnerships & Initiatives

- **Subsidized Multi-Ride Passes**
 - The need for **partnerships with social service organizations** was highlighted to subsidize multi-ride passes.
 - This could benefit **low-income riders, seniors, and individuals with disabilities**, making public transit more affordable and accessible.
- **Regional Trip Planning via Google Maps**
 - The initiative aims to integrate **regional transit services with Google Maps**, allowing riders to easily plan trips across multiple transit agencies.
 - This could **improve route visibility, reduce confusion for first-time users, and enhance overall accessibility** to public transportation.

Transit Service Improvements

- **Introduction of 30-Minute Headways**
 - Metro McAllen announced **successful updates to transit schedules**, specifically **introducing 30-minute headways** on certain routes.
 - This change means buses will run **every 30 minutes instead of longer waiting times**, making transit more reliable and convenient for riders.

Session Conclusion & Upcoming Events

- **Encouragement for Agency Updates & Participation**
 - Olmedo encouraged all agencies to **continue sharing their progress and challenges**, fostering a collaborative approach to regional transportation improvements.

- Members were invited to participate in **upcoming events**, including a **rodeo and the Texas Transit Association Conference**, which could provide networking opportunities and insights into industry's best practices.

Valley Metro Helpful QR Codes

Follow Valley Metro

VM

**Transit
Website**



Route maps with locations

**Ride
Systems**



Track our buses in real time!



ValleyMetro Weslaco



VM Regional Call Center

1-800-574-8322

CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT

<https://lrgvdc-prod.gfcp.io/efare>





VALLEY METRO - REGIONAL TRANSIT SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Valley Metro's mission is to provide safe and reliable transportation options that connect our community to opportunity, support economic vitality, and enhance quality of life throughout the Rio Grande Valley.



Types of Systems Provided

- **21 Fixed Routes**
Providing service in the counties of Hidalgo, Cameron, and Rio Grande City. (with advanced notice, most routes may deviate up to 1/2 mile of the main route)
- **3 RGV Metro Express (limited stops)**
Connecting Brownsville, Harlingen, McAllen, Edinburg, and Port Isabel
- **5 Demand Response**
Serving Willacy, Starr, and Zapata Counties
- **5 Microtransit-Fast Ride**
Serving Cameron and Hidalgo County, City of Edinburg, Mission to Sullivan City, and San Benito to Brownsville on Military Road.
- **B-Cycle**
Available in McAllen, Harlingen, and Brownsville.

Serving the RGV's Five-County Region:

- Cameron
- Hidalgo
- Starr
- Willacy
- Zapata



Proudly serving:

- General public
- Elderly, over 60
- Persons with Disabilities
- Veterans
- People with Medicare/Medicaid
- Students, Faculty, and Staff from schools and institutions of higher learning

Valley Metro Fares:

- Regular Fare - \$2.00
- Discounted fares - \$1.00 for the following:
 - Students and faculty,
 - Persons with disability
 - Elderly over 60
 - Veterans
 - Medicare recipients
- 20-Ride Pass - \$20.00
- (\$10.00 with discount)
- Transfers \$1.00
- Other fares vary by service

Passes may be purchased on the bus routes or at LRGVDC 301 W. Railroad, Weslaco, TX

VALLEY METRO TRANSIT TERMINAL LOCATIONS

- ❖ Edinburg - 617 West University
- ❖ Weslaco - 510 S. Pleasantview
- ❖ Harlingen - 1216 Fair Park Blvd.
- ❖ Rio Grande City - 407 E. Mirasoles

VM Transit Website



Route Maps with locations



ValleyMetro Weslaco

Ride Systems



Track our buses in real time



VM Regional Call Center 1-800-574-8322