

# 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 at 301 W. Railroad St. Weslaco, Texas

**Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at 12:00 P.M**

Provide the public with the ability to view the meeting via the

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

Presiding: Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza, 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 September 24, 2025, Minutes.....President

#### Item #3: Public Comment

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

1. Presentation and consideration for **ACTION** to approve a Participation Agreement between the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) as detailed in the Plan Agreement, pursuant to Section 391.005(b)(4)(B) of the Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 391 Regional Planning Commissions, with an effective date of January 1, 2026.....  
.....Kristina Fox, TCDRS  
Employer Services Rep.
2. Presentation on Proposition 1 The Technical Institution Infrastructure Fund (TIIF).....Eladio Jaimez  
Associate Provost TSTC
3. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the resolution supporting an educational campaign regarding Proposition 4.....Saul Garcia  
Hidalgo County Pct.1

- 4. Consideration and ACTION to Adopt Annual Investment Policy and Accept Quarterly Investment Report.....Crystal Balboa  
Finance Director
- 5. Consideration and ACTION for approval and adoption of the revised LRGVDC Procurement Policies and Procedures Manual, Version 3, revised as of October 2025.....Felipe Lopez  
Assistant Director
- 6. Consideration and ACTION to approve award and enter into agreement with Total Lawn Care (TLC) for Lawn and Landscapes Services.....Felipe Lopez  
Assistant Director
- 7. Consideration and ACTION to Appoint Board Designee and Alternate to Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC).....Manuel Cruz  
Executive Director

**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-Rosas  
Director

- 1. Consideration and ACTION to approve amending the Economic Development Advisory committee (EDAC) Bylaws, under Article IV: Membership.
- 2. Consideration and ACTION for approval for LRGVDC to accept Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Rider PM 2.5 Local Air Quality 2026-2027 grant funds.

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 the recommendation to obtain the GUIDE Contract, which will generate a new, sustainable revenue stream and support caregivers of Medicare participants living with Alzheimer’s and Dementia through comprehensive respite services, education and care navigation.

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 and Assistance

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

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

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Policies, Procedures and Scoring Criteria for FY2026-2027 Grant Cycle.
2. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Bylaws and Membership Roster for FY 2026-2027 Grant Cycle.
3. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Policies, and Procedures and Scoring Criteria for FY 2026-2027 Grant Cycle.
4. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Bylaws and Membership Roster for FY 2026-2027 Grant Cycle.

Program Status Reports

- Committee Meetings: Criminal Justice, Homeland Security and Regional Response Group
- Local Emergency Safety & Planning Meeting within Cameron and Hidalgo Counties.
- Communication with Regional Preparedness with State Counterparts.

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

Program Status Reports

- Inservice Courses
- Officers Trained
- Contact Hours

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.....Rene Garza  
Supervisor

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the updated Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan for Valley Metro.
2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve contract award for Bulk Diesel, DEF and Fluids for LRGVDC Valley Metro Transit Operations.
3. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve entering into a building lease agreement between the Edinburg Economic Development Corporation (EEDC) and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC)- Valley Metro for the Edinburg Transit Terminal 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

Valley Metro Status Reports

- Ridership Report

Rio Grande Valley MPO.....Michael Medina  
Executive Director

RGVMPO Status Reports

**Item #6 New & Unfinished Business**

**Item #7 Adjourn**

**Next Meeting**  
**December 10, 2025**

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 the posted agenda items deemed appropriate by the Chair as these items are considered, and the same 3 minutes

**ITEM #2**

**MEETING**

**MINUTES**

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

12:00PM Wednesday September 24, 2025

HELD IN-PERSON AND BROADCAST VIA YOUTUBE VIDEO CONFERENCE.  
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 12:05 p.m. a quorum was attained.

**Present:** Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza

Judge Aurelio Guerra, Willacy County  
Mayor John Cowen, City of Brownsville  
Commissioner Pete Garcia, City of Weslaco  
Commissioner Ellie Torres, Hidalgo County  
Aldерwoman Cris Munoz, City of La Villa  
Mayor Sylvia Castillo, Sullivan City  
Commissioner Ruben Saldana, City of Mercedes  
Commissioner Edward Gonzales, City of Raymondville  
Mayor Rick Guerra, City of San Benito  
Mr. Paul Hernandez, South Texas College  
Mr. Luke Lucio, TSTC  
Mr. Troy Allen, Delta Lake  
Mr. Oscar Garcia, Member-at-Large  
Mr. Andres Chavez, Member-at-Large  
Ms. Lupita Sanchez Martinez, Grassroots Org

**Absent :**

Mayor Ramiro Garza, City of Edinburg  
Mayor Norma Sepulveda, City of Harlingen  
Commissioner Joey Lopez, Cameron County  
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  
Ms. Veronica Gonzalez, UTRGV  
Mr. Ron Mills, Willacy Co. Nav. Dist.  
Mr. Jim Darling, Member-at-Large

Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to Item#2

**Item #2:** Consideration and ACTION for approval of August 24, 2025, meeting minutes. *Mayor Sylvia Castillo made a motion to approve the minutes for August 27, 2025, meeting, Luke Lucio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Item #3:** Public Comment – No public Comment

**Item #4:** Administration - Mr. Cruz then took a moment to introduce the attorneys who were present for the first time. Ms. Rebecca Hayward from Denton & Navarro introduced herself and Ms. Paloma Flores to the board, assuring everyone that they are available to assist and answer any questions as needed.

**B. Executive Directors Report.** Mr. Cruz announced all new hires and promotions for the month of September. Mr. Cruz then moved on to updates on Regional News, Funding Opportunities, training and Legislation. First, he stated that as some of you may know, we attended the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) quarterly training and meetings at the beginning of September. During that event, we received an important update regarding a request that all Councils of Governments (COGs) had submitted to the Texas Broadband Development Office.

TARC has been awarded \$8.7 million, which will be distributed among all the COGs in Texas. Each COG is expected to receive approximately \$107,000 annually for the next three years. These funds are specifically designated for the planning and implementation of broadband-related projects identified in each region's broadband plan. We anticipate beginning this initiative in January. At present, TARC staff are working with the Broadband Development Office to finalize the agreements. The funding will be released through an application process, but it will be limited to the COGs. Once we submit our application, we expect to receive the annual allocation of \$107,000. Our regional broadband plan has already been finalized, so our next step will be to review it and identify projects that align with Community and Economic Development goals—whether they are in the planning phase or ready for implementation.

The second item mentioned was regarding the Texas Municipal League (TML). On Thursday, September 11, representatives from TML visited and provided an overview of legislation passed during the most recent session. In your packet, you'll find a handout with a link to the TML website, which includes a comprehensive list of the bills addressed this session. To put it in perspective, there were over 9,000 bills introduced this session, with only one fraction ultimately being adopted and signed into law. One key point that TML emphasized was the new requirement for audits. Any agency receiving \$700,000 or more in funding will be required to conduct an annual audit. Additionally, all cities—regardless of size—will now be required to undergo an annual audit under one of the new bills. This is especially important for smaller cities that may not have conducted audits in the past. TML is offering support to small cities that lack the budget or experience to perform these audits. Contact details are included in the report, and you're also welcome to reach out to me directly—Mr. Cruz stated that he can connect everyone with the appropriate representative at TML. Audits are becoming increasingly important, particularly as they may become a prerequisite for future grant funding, including funding related to flood infrastructure. An audit may also be required when proposing a tax increase, so it's critical that all cities, especially smaller ones, prepare accordingly.

Lastly, I've also included a list of current grant opportunities for cities and counties in the handout. I encourage you to review them and apply for any that are a good fit.

No further question or comments, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to Item #5.

## Item #5 Department Reports

### A. Community & Economic Development

1. Consideration and ACTION to authorize entry into an Interlocal Agreement with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) for the provision of translation services. ***Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to authorize entry into an Interlocal Agreement with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) for the provision of Translation services. Troy Allen seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***
2. Consideration and ACTION to approve Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Resolution for the FY 2026-2027 Regional Solid Waste Grants Program application. The LRGVDC shall submit the signed resolution with the LRGVDC COG Application. ***Mayor Sylvia Castillo made a motion to approve Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Resolution for the FY 2026-2027 Regional Solid Waste Grants Program application. LRGVDC shall submit the signed resolution with LRGVDC COG Application. Commissioner Ellie Torres seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***
3. Consideration and ACTION to approve a Tire Resolution to accept the Regional Tire Ordinance as suggested in the Tire Study 2022 Scrap Tire Management and Available Alternatives in Texas LRGVDC Region. ***Troy Allen made a motion to approve the Tire Resolution to accept the Regional Tire Ordinance as suggested in the Tire Study 2022 Scrap Tire Management and Available Alternatives in Texas LRGVDC Region. Paul Hernandez seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

**Program Status Reports:** Ms. Melisa Gonzalez just wanted to give a quick update on the results of one of our most exciting initiatives this year, our tire recycling event!

For the first time, our Council of Governments partnered with a company to recycle tires instead of sending them to the landfill. I'm proud to report that 99% of the tires collected were successfully recycled, with only a fraction being shredded and sent to landfill.

Here are the numbers:

- **28 entities** participated in the event
- **49,730 tires** were collected
- **49,611 tires** were recycled
- Only **119 tires** ended up shredded and sent to landfill

The only reason those 119 tires went to landfill is that we didn't have enough to fill the final truckload to Laredo for shredding transport. This is something we're already planning to improve for next year.

TCEQ was extremely excited about these results. Their only question was: "*Did solid waste funds cover this?*" and the answer is a proud yes, 100% funded through our solid waste program. TCEQ also confirmed that we may be the only Council of Governments in Texas to achieve such a high recycling rate for tires. This success wouldn't have been possible without the collaboration between Valerie and Candice at UTW, the team at Republic, and Penny at UTW. Thanks to their efforts, we achieved an impressive recycling milestone. In fact, our SWAC (Solid Waste Advisory Committee) has already approved of \$75,000 for next year's tire disposal, and they've also given me the flexibility to reallocate additional funds if needed—just as we did this year. For context, we spent about \$100,000 this year on tire disposal, but for a 99% recycling rate, I believe it was well worth it. Looking ahead, I'm hoping to work with UTW to produce a video that

showcases how the recycled tires are being used—a great way to educate and inspire others to follow our lead.

No further questions Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza moved on to next item.

## **B. Health and Human Services**

Ms. Margarita Lopez had no action items on the agenda for this meeting.

### **Program Status Reports: Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)**

Ms. Margarita Lopez mentioned that she was pleased to report that for fiscal year 2024–2025, they closed the year with less than \$20 unspent. That's a major achievement considering the funding delays and restrictions we faced. Thanks to our finance department and the strategic planning we put in place, we managed our budget exceptionally well despite the challenges.

Looking ahead to FY 2025–2026, we've already been awarded nearly \$250,000, and I'm happy to report that our ADRC services have continued without interruption.

We're also starting early planning for our annual Veterans Fest, and I'll be bringing more updates on that in October. Additionally, we're continuing to expand services and resources for caregivers in our community, with more updates to come soon.

### **Area Agency on Aging:**

Our Ombudsman Program underwent an in-person audit in August—the first of its kind for our agency. Despite the uncertainty at the time about whether services would continue, our leadership team stayed focused and strong. During the exit interview, we received multiple exceeds expectations comments and overall positive feedback. We're now waiting for the final written report, but the preliminary outcome looks very favorable. As many of you know, there have been significant changes to Medicare and Medicaid, and we are already seeing an increase in demand for support. In preparation for this year's Open Enrollment season in October, we increased our Benefit Counselors from two to six. All are now fully trained and recertified to handle the upcoming surge in service needs.

### **State & System-Wide Updates:**

At the state level, FY 2026 funding appears stable, with figures like FY 2025. We plan to implement the same successful strategies used last year to ensure we make the most of every dollar and remain fully prepared for any challenges.

From our recent Texas TARC meeting, we learned that a major system transition is already underway. Currently, AAAs across the state use WellSky as our case management system. However, effective immediately, we are beginning training on the new platform, PeerPlace. The full transition is expected to be complete by February 2026, which clearly indicates that the state's transition plan is well in motion.

Additionally, HHS has submitted the State Plan on Aging for 2026–2029 for federal review, another strong signal that long-term planning is progressing as expected. We're closely monitoring these developments to ensure we're fully informed and nothing catches us off guard.

### **Advocacy & Gratitude:**

Finally, I want to express my sincere gratitude on behalf of our aging community and all Area Agencies on Aging. Your continued advocacy has made a real impact. The support, especially from Mr. Cruz and others who've taken the time to write letters and engage with leadership, has not gone unnoticed. We've seen clear signs—through media coverage, official plans, and documents—that our aging community is finally being recognized as a priority.

## C. Public Safety Criminal Justice and Homeland Security

1. Consideration and ACTION to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Recommendation of Appointment of newly elected committee member for the next two (2) years. Mr. Merla added the following: The positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Parliamentarian—highlighted in red—require board action and approval. ***Paul Hernandez made a motion to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Recommendation of Appointment of newly elected member for the next two (2) years. Commissioner Ellie Torres seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***
2. Consideration and ACTION to approve the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Recommendation on Appointment of newly elected Committee Members for the next two (2) years. ***Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve the Criminal Justice Advisory committee (CJAC) recommendation on Appointment of newly elected committee Members for the next two (2) years. Mr. Andres Chavez seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

**Program Status Reports:** Mr. Cesar Merla provided a brief update on the 2nd Annual Listo RGV Conference, noting that it was arrival day at the island and that he was looking forward to seeing everyone there.

**C.2 LRGV Academy Program** Mr. Javier Solis had no action items on the agenda for the month of September.

**Program Status Reports:** We are currently attending the TCOLE Conference in McAllen as part of our contractual obligations to maintain compliance with our program requirements. While here, we are actively networking with several law enforcement agencies and academies from across the state.

For this month's departmental report, I'd like to start by sharing some exciting news. We have successfully renewed our contract with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE), securing our status as a licensed training provider through the year 2031. This means the LRGV Police Academy will continue serving our region for many years to come.

Over the past month, the LRGV Academy staff has been finalizing background investigations for the upcoming 231st Weslaco Police Department Police Academy, which is scheduled to begin next Friday, October 3, 2025. We have received over 70 applications for this class. As you know, we've raised the standards for admission to the Academy in our continued effort to develop higher-caliber officers who are better prepared to serve our communities.

In addition to the upcoming academy, we are proud to announce that LRGV Academy will serve as the lead reporting agency for TCOLE credit hours at both the Listo RGV Conference and the 911 District Wellness Seminar. We've been working closely with our partners at the LRGVDC to ensure that all law enforcement personnel attending these events receive proper credit for their training hours.

We are also in the process of finalizing our fall in-service training calendar. We're expanding our offerings to include more advanced and intermediate-level courses, giving locally certified officers greater opportunities to advance in their careers. The full calendar will be posted as soon as it's finalized.

Meanwhile, Mr. Javier Solis mentioned that the current 229th and 230th academies, which are Weslaco's part-time academy and the Rio Grande Police Academy, are both in their final week of training. These cadets will be attempting their TCOLE licensing exams in the coming weeks.

Mr. Javier Solis also stated that he would like to make an important announcement: The LRGV Academy currently has two vacancies on our Advisory Board. Currently seeking law enforcement chief administrators

to represent Willacy and Cameron Counties. Applications are now being accepted, and we plan to present all candidates to the Advisory Board in November for nomination and election. Interested individuals should contact us at the Academy to submit their applications.

Finally, for the month, we successfully conducted seven in-service training courses with a total of 69 students, accounting for 356 contact hours.

### **C.3 Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District Program Updates**

No action items today—just a brief report.

**Program Status Reports:** Our GIS division is currently conducting its annual planning meeting. This meeting focuses on aligning with the district's strategic goals and reviewing key statistics, including the total number of address points created and overall production within the district. I'll go into more detail on those statistics shortly. Additionally, we've completed several address tickets, contributing to improved service and data accuracy for our communities.

#### **IT Division:**

Our IT team has been busy with system audits and recently completed the installation of two new recorders. These systems are essential for capturing 911 calls and text communications. We replace this equipment every five years, and this cycle has now been completed successfully. This upgrade is a significant benefit to our public safety departments, and we're pleased to have it fully operational.

#### **Community Engagement:**

We want to remind everyone that we are here to support your communities across our district, which includes Hidalgo and Willacy Counties. If you have any community events coming up, please reach out to us. We are happy to participate and provide support.

A special thanks to Mayor Gonzales of Raymondville and Mr. Chavez, who invited us to a community event held on Saturday, August 23rd, focused on addressing needs in the rural areas outside the city limits. Our team worked with residents to assign 64 new addresses, ensuring they are now correctly registered in the 911 system. Reflective address plates were also provided to enhance visibility at night.

We want to commend our team for a great effort, including our Executive Director, Mr. Cruz, who was hands-on helping to make address plates. The event was a big success and well received by the community. We've already received interest in hosting similar events again.

If you're interested in bringing this kind of outreach to your community — especially rural areas — please contact me after the meeting, by phone, or via email. We'd be happy to coordinate and provide support.

**Alderwoman Cris Muñoz** asked whether this address update initiative could help towns where 911 services struggle to locate addresses.

**Mr. Moreno** responded: Yes, for areas within Hidalgo and Willacy Counties, we can work directly with your planning departments to assess and assist with these issues.

**Commissioner Pete Garcia (Weslaco)** inquired if the setup is only for rural areas or if local events are included.

**Mr. Moreno** clarified: While the addressing services are specific to rural areas (outside city limits), we do participate in various local events to reach the broader public.

**Mr. Cruz** also noted that our team would be present at Weslaco's National Night Out this coming weekend.

**Upcoming Event:** Mr. Cruz reminded the board about the Public Safety Wellness Seminar, scheduled for September 30th from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Mission Convention Center. This event will feature two

dynamic speakers, and we will recognize our telecommunicators for their years of service (5, 10, and 15-year milestones), including special honors such as the Sandra Coronado Award and Supervisor of the Year.

While registration is officially closed, board members or interested parties may still attend in person and passes will be available at the door.

## **D. Valley Metro Transportation**

1. Consideration and ACTION to approve the updated Seatbelt Policy for LRGVDC Valley Metro. Tom Logan added that this policy is over 10 years old and needs to be updated to ensure compliance with current state and federal laws. A revision is required to bring it up to date. ***Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve the updated Seatbelt Policy for The LRGVDC Valley Metro. Commissioner Pete Garcia seconded the motion and upon a vote; the motion was carried unanimously.***
2. Consideration and ACTION to approve Interlocal Agreement between LRGVDC Valley Metro and the PossAble Dream Foundation. Tom Logan added that The PossAble Dream Foundation is dedicated to improving educational attainment and expanding economic opportunities in South Texas. The foundation operates a public adult charter high school serving learners aged 18 to 50 who have not yet completed their high school education. One of the key challenges identified by their students is access to reliable transportation. To help bridge this gap, the foundation plans to provide monthly transit passes, enabling students to use Valley Metro services, including Metro Express routes. Currently, the foundation operates campuses in Brownsville, Pharr, and Laredo, with plans to expand to additional locations throughout the Rio Grande Valley. ***Commissioner Ellie Torres made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement between LRGVDC Valley Metro and the PossAble Dream Foundation. Luke Lucio seconded the motion; upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

## **Program Status Reports: Service Report Update**

Year-to-date, we have transported approximately 794,000 passengers across our system. We've also participated in eight outreach events, one of the most notable being the Laguna Madre Vet Fest. As a result of that event, we received a request to add additional bus stops along the Harlingen medical route. In response, we're currently working with the City of Harlingen to incorporate two new stops near medical clinics, providing direct access for riders to those facilities.

Additionally, I'd like to provide an update on our rural service expansion. We've extended our demand-response service hours to 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. and successfully launched both the Willacy Express and Zapata Express routes. I'm pleased to report that ridership is steadily increasing across all these services.

We continue to collaborate with local officials to promote awareness and ensure that communities know this transportation options are available and accessible to them.

## **D.1 RGVMPD Program Status Reports:**

### **Federal Review & MPO Update**

Mr. Micheal Medina started off his program status reports by stating that one key item I want to highlight is our recent federal review conducted last year. This review, which takes place every four years, was carried out by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and TxDOT. Following the evaluation, we received several recommendations for improvement.

As we shared with the Policy Board, our intent is to address all federal requirements within an accelerated timeframe—well ahead of the typical three-year window.

**Completed Action Items:** So far, we've already made significant progress in three major areas.

**Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):** We've developed a two-year UPWP that outlines the MPO's planning activities across the region. This program includes major initiatives and ensures we meet all federal planning documentation requirements. As part of this effort, the Policy Board approved two special studies in collaboration with the Council of Governments (COG).

**A Transit-Oriented Development / Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Study**, which we are working on closely with Mr. Cruz and his team.

**A Regional Transit Authority Feasibility Study**, which aims to explore how to better align and integrate transit services throughout the Valley.

Additionally, we're developing a region-wide transit modeling tool called T-BEST. This will be available to all transit providers, including those offering demand-response services, and will significantly enhance regional transit planning.

**Public Participation Program (PPP):**

The Policy Board also approved the updated Public Participation Program. This is a vital document that outlines how the MPO engages with the public and ensures transparency in our processes. It's unique that any revisions to this document require a 45-day public comment period, compared to the 30-day period required for other plans.

**Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP):**

This is our long-range transportation plan, covering a minimum 20-year horizon. The MTP is supported by:

**A 10-Year Plan**, which must be financially constrained

**A 4-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**, which outlines the first four years of funding and projects within the 10-year plan

These documents together form the foundation of our regional transportation investment strategy.

**New Project Submission Requirements**

To streamline federal project requests through the MPO, the Policy Board adopted a new set of requirements:

- **A Project Request Form** must be submitted
- **A Project Schedule** detailing timelines and milestones
- **A Financial Summary**, including local match commitments
- **A Resolution of Support** from the sponsoring agency's governing body

These components ensure that all project requests are comprehensive and ready for integration into the planning process. The information feeds into a Project Readiness Report, a key tool used by both the Technical Committee and the Policy Board to assess the status and feasibility of proposed projects.

For example, Mr. Medina Mentioned recently they carried over \$102 million from FY23 through FY25. Thanks to the Project Readiness Report, we were able to program all that funding within a single fiscal year, a significant achievement that would have been difficult without a structured process in place.

Moving forward, Mr. Medina stated that all projects presented to the Policy Board for federal assistance will be required to follow this new process and utilize the readiness report template. This approach ensures greater transparency, accountability, and alignment with federal expectations, ultimately helping us better serve the region.

Item #7: Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the board, Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to adjourn at 12:51 pm

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President, Norie Gonzalez Garza

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Liza Alfaro, Recording Secretary

**ITEM #3**

**PUBLIC**

**COMMENT**

**ITEM #4.A.1**

**ADMINISTRATION**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29th, 2025

Item #4: Administration

1. Presentation and Consider **ACTION** to approve Participation Agreement between Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) and The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) with specifics listed in the Plan Agreement, pursuant to section 391.005 (b)(4) (B) of the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 Regional Planning Commissions.

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) has made employee retention, satisfaction, and long-term financial security a top organizational priority. Over the past three years and up to recent months, leadership has proactively researched and evaluated competitive retirement plans and supplemental benefits that align with best practices among regional planning commissions and public-sector employers across Texas. This ongoing effort is driven by a strategic goal to enhance the Council's ability to attract and retain highly qualified professionals while reinforcing its commitment to employee well-being and long-term stability.

As part of this initiative, staff engaged in a thorough review of retirement plan options that could increase the long-term value offered to employees. The Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) was identified as a particularly lucrative and sustainable option due to its defined benefits structure, employer match potential, portability, and proven success among similar Council of Governments. The proposed participation in TCERS demonstrates the Council's continued investment in building a competitive and reliable retirement package that promotes employee loyalty, reduces turnover, and enhances overall organizational performance.

Additionally, this process included comparative benchmarking of other employee benefits to ensure that LRGVDC remains market-competitive. This reassessment supports workforce morale, provides employees with a stronger pathway to retirement security, and positions the Council as a preferred employer within the region.

Board consideration of this agreement represents not only a financial and operational decision but also a major step forward in strengthening long-term organizational resiliency through improved talent retention and employee satisfaction.

If you have any questions, please advise.



## Participation Agreement

Welcome to TCDRS! By participating in this retirement system, you are providing your employees with reliable retirement, disability and survivor benefits in a responsible way.

One of the advantages of your TCDRS plan is that it is a qualified retirement plan and, as such, deposits into the plan are tax-deferred. In order to maintain your plan's qualified status under IRS rules, there are some important do's and don'ts that you, as the plan sponsor, need to be aware of. This participation agreement is designed to help ensure that you understand those IRS requirements, as well as your obligations as the sponsor of a TCDRS retirement plan.

Again thank you for choosing to be a part of TCDRS!

### General conditions

- The Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) is a qualified retirement plan under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The TCDRS Act (Chapters 841-845, Texas Government Code) and administrative rules adopted by the TCDRS Board of Trustees are the plan document.  
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council agrees to be bound to the terms of the plan, and any amendments to the plan, except to the extent that this participation agreement allows separate elections with respect to its employees.
- Information held by TCDRS that is identifiable with an individual member, including personal account information, benefit amounts and beneficiary designations, is confidential under the Texas Government Code.
- The information TCDRS provides the district is confidential and may be used for lawful purposes only as authorized under the Texas Public Information Act and the TCDRS Act.

### Plan funding

- Each plan is funded independently by employee deposits, employer contributions and investment earnings.
- Funds are pooled for investment purposes. The TCDRS Board of Trustees allocates investment earnings to employers after statutory allocations to the employee and retiree funds have been made.
- The TCDRS Board of Trustees establishes the minimum required funding policy, including the amortization period for liabilities. Independent consulting actuaries hired by the board determine the minimum required employer contribution rate based on your level of benefits and the funding policy. This rate changes each year based on your plan of benefits, investment and other economic results, and demographic experience.
- Each employer is required to submit by the due date employer contributions based on the required rate as a percentage of payroll. The district cannot determine its own required rate, but may elect to contribute at an optional higher rate (also referred to as an elected rate). The district may also make lump-sum contributions to fund the plan.
- In the event the required rate exceeds 11%, the district waives the 11% limit on the rate of employer contributions. Such waiver remains effective with respect to future plan years until revoked by official action.
- Employer contributions are held in trust by TCDRS and may not be returned to the participating district. Employer assets can be used only to fund benefits for plan participants.
- The district is responsible for submitting all required employee deposits to TCDRS. All participating employees must contribute the same percentage of salary elected by the governing board.

- TCDRS must receive payment of all deposits and contributions by the due date or the district may be assessed a penalty.

### **Employee enrollment and separation of employment**

- TCDRS participation is mandatory for all eligible, non-temporary employees, both full and part time, regardless of hours worked. The district is responsible for determining who should be enrolled in the plan.
- A bona fide separation of employment is one in which the employer/employee relationship is completely severed. There can be no expectation, understanding or agreement that the separation is temporary or that the person will be rehired in the future.
- Re-employment of a retiree or a former member who has withdrawn accumulated deposits when there has not been a bona fide separation of employment, and before there has been a break in service of at least one calendar month, causes the retirement annuity or distribution to be an impermissible in-service distribution of pension benefits. In this event, the membership will be restored, any retirement annuity will be cancelled and all payments incidental to the in-service distribution must be repaid to the system by the rehired employee and/or the employer. Failure to correct an in-service distribution may subject the parties to significant fees, penalties and additional taxes levied by the IRS.

### **Benefit elections and cost/benefit projections**

- The district's governing board may adopt future plan changes based on selected optional benefits. The district reviews and may elect to change benefits each year; however, the district cannot lower benefits already earned by its employees.
- TCDRS can provide the district with cost and benefit projections. Projections of costs and benefits provided now or in the future are estimates, not guarantees.

### **Terminations**

- A district may terminate participation in TCDRS, and TCDRS may terminate a district's participation if circumstances of the district render the retirement system an ineffective program for providing retirement, disability and survivor benefits to the employees of the district.
- Terminating participation in TCDRS does not terminate the district's obligation to fund the liability for benefits already earned by its employees who participate in the plan.
- Terminating your plan changes the way the plan's benefits are funded. As a result, terminating your plan can result in an immediate increase to your plan costs.
- Participation in TCDRS is subject to IRS and state guidelines, which can change at any time. If changes occur that exclude the employer's eligibility in the system, the employer will follow TCDRS' termination procedure.

### **Certification summary – authorized signature**

I hereby acknowledge that we have been advised of the conditions governing the participation of \_\_\_\_\_ Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council \_\_\_\_\_ in the Texas County & District Retirement System, and that \_\_\_\_\_ Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council \_\_\_\_\_ will comply with these conditions. If the district violates the terms and conditions of this participation agreement and the IRS imposes a penalty upon TCDRS based on the district's violation, the district is liable to TCDRS for any fees and costs imposed by the IRS.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Job Title



**Plan Agreement**  
**Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council - 805**  
**Effective Jan. 1, 2026**

**Basic Plan Options**

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Employee Deposit Rate: | 4%   |
| Employer Matching:     | 100% |
| Prior Service Credit:  | 0%   |

**Retirement Eligibility**

|                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| At Age 60 (Vesting): | 10 years of service          |
| Rule of:             | 75 years total age + service |
| At Any Age:          | 20 years of service          |

**Optional Benefits**

|                                         |      |
|-----------------------------------------|------|
| Partial Lump-Sum Payment at Retirement: | No   |
| Group Term Life:                        | None |

**Retirement Plan Funding**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Elected Rate: | N/A |
|---------------|-----|

**Total Contribution Rate**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Retirement Plan Rate:    | 2.56% |
| Group Term Life Rate:    | N/A   |
| Total Contribution Rate: | 2.56% |

**Certification**

I certify that the plan agreement for the participation of Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council in TCDRS truly and accurately reflects the official action taken during properly posted and noticed meeting on \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy) by the Governing Board and such action is recorded in the official minutes.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Employer Plan Comparison

For the 2025 Plan Year

### Report Criteria

#### Employer

Employer type: Council of Governments

| Employer Name                              | Basic Plan Options    |                   |                         |                      | Retirement Eligibility |         |            | Optional Benefits                      |                 |                   |                      | Demographic Data             |                          |                   |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------|------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
|                                            | Employee Deposit Rate | Employer Matching | Application of Matching | Prior Service Credit | Age 60 (Vesting)       | Rule of | At Any Age | Partial Lump-Sum Payment at Retirement | Group Life Term | Most Recent C OLA | COLA Authorized Year | Number of Depositing Members | Number of Benefit Payees | County Population |
| Alamo Area Council of Governments          | 7%                    | 200%              | Past & Future           | 100%                 | 8                      | 80      | 20         | Yes                                    |                 | 2% FLAT           | 2024                 | 306                          | 150                      | 2,087,679         |
| Ark-Tex Council of Governments             | 4%                    | 200%              | Future Only             | 0%                   | 8                      | 75      | 30         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 113                          | 8                        | 91,687            |
| Brazos Valley Council of Governments       | 5%                    | 200%              | Past & Future           | 0%                   | 8                      | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 143                          | 25                       | 244,703           |
| Central Texas Council of Governments       | 5%                    | 250%              | Past & Future           | 0%                   | 10                     | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 151                          | 1                        | 393,193           |
| Concho Valley Council of Governments       | 7%                    | 250%              | Past & Future           | 100%                 | 10                     | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 230                          | 47                       | 3,297             |
| Deep East Texas Council of Governments     | 7%                    | 150%              | Past & Future           | 0%                   | 10                     | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 60                           | 9                        | 32,694            |
| East Texas Council of Governments          | 7%                    | 200%              | Past & Future           | 0%                   | 8                      | 75      | 20         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 141                          | 1                        | 126,243           |
| Heart of Texas Council of Governments      | 4%                    | 250%              | Past & Future           | 0%                   | 10                     | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 31                           | 4                        | 268,583           |
| Middle Rio Grande Development Council      | 7%                    | 200%              | Future Only             | 70%                  | 8                      | 75      | 20         | Yes                                    | Active Only     |                   |                      | 82                           | 61                       | 8,257             |
| Nortex Regional Planning Commission        | 6%                    | 100%              | Past & Future           | 0%                   | 10                     | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 29                           | 8                        | 130,180           |
| Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission | 6%                    | 175%              | Past & Future           | 0%                   | 10                     | 75      | 30         | Yes                                    |                 |                   |                      | 26                           | 12                       | 164,494           |
| Rio Grande Council of Governments          | 7%                    | 250%              | Past & Future           | 5%                   | 10                     | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                 | 4% FLAT           | 2024                 | 34                           | 18                       | 869,880           |
| South Plains Association of Governments    | 7%                    | 200%              | Past & Future           | 65%                  | 8                      | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                 |                   |                      | 37                           | 10                       | 320,940           |

Number of Employers: 15

Page 1 of 2

10/9/2025

| Employer Name                             | Basic Plan Options    |                   |                         |                      | Retirement Eligibility |         |            | Optional Benefits                      |                      |                   |                      | Demographic Data             |                          |                   |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------|------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
|                                           | Employee Deposit Rate | Employer Matching | Application of Matching | Prior Service Credit | Age 60 (Vesting)       | Rule of | At Any Age | Partial Lump-Sum Payment at Retirement | Group Life Term      | Most Recent C OLA | COLA Authorized Year | Number of Depositing Members | Number of Benefit Payees | County Population |
| South Texas Development Council           | 7%                    | 150%              | Past & Future           | 30%                  | 10                     | 80      | 30         | No                                     |                      |                   |                      | 31                           | 12                       | 269,148           |
| West Central Texas Council of Governments | 7%                    | 225%              | Future Only             | 175%                 | 10                     | 75      | 30         | No                                     | Active Plus Retirees | 60% CPI           | 2009                 | 78                           | 95                       | 146,836           |

**ITEM #4.A.2**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**PRESENTATION**

**ON**

**PROPOSITION 1**

**ITEM #4.A.3**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**PROPOSITION 4**



## **RESOLUTION NO. 2025 – 06**

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LOWER RIO-GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LRGVDC), SUPPORTING AN EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN REGARDING PROPOSITION 4 TO AMEND THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION TO DEDICATE A PORTION OF REVENUE DERIVED FROM STATE SALES AND USE TAXES TO THE TEXAS WATER FUND.

WHEREAS, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) serves as the regional planning commission for Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties, coordinating programs that promote economic development, infrastructure resilience, and public health across South Texas; and

WHEREAS, the LRGVDC works in partnership with cities, counties, drainage districts, and water authorities throughout the region to address urgent and long-term challenges in water supply, wastewater management, drainage, and flood mitigation; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Rio Grande Valley is one of the fastest-growing regions in Texas, with population and economic growth driving an increased demand for reliable and sustainable water resources to support homes, agriculture, and industry; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas has developed a comprehensive State Water Plan identifying significant water supply gaps in the Rio Grande Basin and the Lower Rio Grande Valley region over the next 50 years, emphasizing the need for continued investment in regional water and resilience infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Water Development Board (“TWDB”) provides critical financial and technical support for regional projects that strengthen long-term water availability and infrastructure resiliency; and

WHEREAS, ensuring a safe and adequate water supply is essential to the public health, economic stability, and agricultural sustainability of the Lower Rio Grande Valley and the State of Texas as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature has previously taken significant steps to address statewide water needs through the creation of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas, the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas, and most recently, the Texas Water Fund; and

WHEREAS, in November 2023, the citizens of Texas approved Proposition 6, amending the Texas Constitution to provide a one-time \$1 billion investment in the Texas Water Fund to ensure water availability, infrastructure improvements, and long-term sustainability; and

WHEREAS, during the 89th Legislative Session, the Texas Legislature passed a proposed constitutional amendment—Proposition 4—that would dedicate a portion (up to one billion dollars) of the revenue derived from state sales and use taxes annually for up to 20 years to the Texas Water Fund; and

WHEREAS, approval of Proposition 4 will not impose any new taxes or fees, but will dedicate existing surplus revenue to support critical statewide and regional water projects, mirroring the successful state strategy used to fund transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, these funds, administered through the Texas Water Development Board, would be available to Texas cities, counties, river authorities, and regional organizations such as the LRGVDC to advance long-term water, drainage, and flood resilience projects throughout South Texas;

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LRGVDC):***

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SECTION 1. The Board of Directors hereby expresses its strong support for the educational campaign related to Proposition 4, which will appear on the ballot for the November 4, 2025, election. The Board encourages all residents of the Lower Rio Grande Valley region to review the proposed constitutional amendment, consider its regional and statewide benefits, and participate in the upcoming election.

SECTION 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 29th DAY OF OCTOBER 2025.

Recommended:

-----  
Manuel Cruz  
Executive Director, LRGVDC

Approved:

-----  
Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza  
Chairperson, LRGVDC Board of Directors

**ITEM #4.A.4**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**INVESTMENT  
POLICY &  
ACCEPT  
QUARTERLY  
REPORT**



# Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza, Mission ..... President  
Judge Aurelio Guerra, Willacy County ..... 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Mayor John Cowen, Brownsville ..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Mayor Ramiro Garza, Edinburg ..... Secretary  
Mayor Norma Sepulveda, Harlingen ..... Treasurer

## BOARD MEMBERS

Adrian Gonzalez  
Mayor, Weslaco

Joey Lopez  
Commissioner, Cameron County

Ellie Torres  
Commissioner, Hidalgo County

Rosa Perez  
Mayor, La Villa

David Moreno  
Mayor, Donna

Alma Salinas  
Mayor, Sullivan City

Oscar Montoya  
Mayor, Mercedes

Javier Villalobos  
Mayor, McAllen

Alejandro Flores  
Mayor, Los Fresnos

Ambrosio "Amos" Hernández  
Mayor, Pharr

Edward Gonzales  
Commissioner, Raymondville

Ricardo "Rick" Guerra  
Mayor, San Benito

Marco "Markie" Villegas  
Commissioner, San Juan

Veronica Gonzales  
UT Rio Grande Valley

Paul Hernandez  
South Texas College

Luke Lucio  
Texas State Technical College

Troy Allen  
Delta Lake Irrigation District

Ronald Mills  
Willacy County Navigation Dist.

Jim Darling  
Member-at-Large

Oscar Garcia  
Member-at-Large

Andres Chavez  
Member-at-Large

Lupita Sanchez Martinez  
Grassroots Organizations

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Manuel "Manny" Cruz

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** LRGVDC Board Members

**FROM:** Crystal Balboa, Director of Finance

**DATE:** October 29, 2025

**SUBJECT:** **Annual Review and Re-Adoption of LRGVDC Investment Policy**

In accordance with statutory requirements and organizational best practices, it is time for the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council's annual review and consideration of its Investment Policy.

Staff has completed its annual assessment and is recommending re-adoption of the current Investment Policy as presented, with no revisions proposed at this time. A full copy of the LRGVDC Investment Policy is available for your review on the LRGVDC meetings webpage at:

<http://www.lrgvdc.org/meetings.html>

We respectfully request the Board's approval of the policy as part of the upcoming meeting agenda.

Should you have any questions or require additional information prior to the meeting, please feel free to contact me or Manuel Cruz.

Thank you for your attention and continued support.

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
 QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT  
 JULY 1, 2025 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

This quarterly report of pooled fund investments fully complies with the written investment policy and investment strategy approved by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors. It fully complies with the relevant portions of the Public Funds Investment Act.

| <b>Investments in TexPool Prime:</b>        | <b>Beginning<br/>Balance</b> | <b>Deposits</b>  | <b>Withdrawals</b> | <b>Interest</b>   | <b>Ending<br/>Balance</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Water Plan                                  | 83,430.14                    | -                | -                  | 928.49            | 84,358.63                 |
| RGV 911 District                            | 9,124,671.99                 | -                | -                  | 101,546.18        | 9,226,218.17              |
| Texas Commission on Environmental Quality   | 231,190.61                   | -                | (18,610.43)        | 2,417.97          | 214,998.15                |
| Transit                                     | 1,051,425.84                 | -                | -                  | 11,701.07         | 1,063,126.91              |
| Texas Water Development Board               | 102,283.29                   | -                | (57,818.74)        | 607.71            | 45,072.26                 |
| GLO - Closing Costs                         | 152,954.12                   | -                | -                  | 1,702.25          | 154,656.37                |
| Kari's Law                                  | 72,317.41                    | -                | -                  | 804.81            | 73,122.22                 |
| Tire Project                                | 26,167.88                    | -                | -                  | 291.21            | 26,459.09                 |
| Hidalgo County Active Mobility Plan - Local | 267,388.99                   | -                | -                  | 2,975.72          | 270,364.71                |
| AAA - Local                                 | -                            | 18,610.43        | -                  | 154.90            | 18,765.33                 |
| RGV Explorer                                | 46,125.27                    | -                | -                  | 513.31            | 46,638.58                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                | <b>11,157,955.54</b>         | <b>18,610.43</b> | <b>(76,429.17)</b> | <b>123,643.62</b> | <b>11,223,780.42</b>      |

TexPool Prime Rate as of September 30, 2024 - 4.2891%

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT  
JULY 1, 2025 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

| <b>Investments in TexPool:</b> | <b>Beginning<br/>Balance</b> | <b>Deposits</b> | <b>Withdrawals</b> | <b>Interest</b> | <b>Ending<br/>Balance</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| FIF - TWDB - Escrow Account    | 4,834,887.70                 | -               | (204,009.76)       | 52,003.80       | 4,682,881.74              |
| FIF - TWDB                     | 248,558.37                   | 204,009.76      | (40,049.82)        | 2,872.78        | 415,391.09                |
| TOTAL                          | 5,083,446.07                 | 204,009.76      | (244,059.58)       | 54,876.58       | 5,098,272.83              |
| GRAND TOTAL                    | 16,241,401.61                | 222,620.19      | (320,488.75)       | 178,520.20      | 16,322,053.25             |

TexPool Rate as of September 30, 2024 - 4.1779%

Crystal Balboa  
Director of Finance

## LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

### INVESTMENT POLICY

#### I. Scope

This investment policy applies to any advance funds received by the LRGVDC for future expenditures. These funds are accounted for in the LRGVDC's Annual Financial Report.

#### II. Objectives

The LRGVDC shall manage and invest its cash with four objectives listed in order of priority: Safety, Liquidity, Yield, and Public Trust. The safety of the principal invested always remains the primary objective. All investments shall be designed and managed in a manner responsive to the public trust and consistent with State and Local law.

**Safety** – The Primary objective of the LRGVDC's investment activity is the preservation of capital. Each investment transaction shall be conducted in a manner to avoid capital losses.

**Liquidity** – The LRGVDC's investment portfolio shall be structured such that the LRGVDC is able to meet all obligations in a timely manner. This shall be achieved by matching investment maturities with forecasted cash flow requirements.

**Yield** – The yield will be the current yield available on certificates of deposit.

**Public Trust** – All participants in the LRGVDC's investment process shall seek to act responsible as custodians of the public trust. Investment officials shall avoid any transaction which might impair public confidence in the LRGVDC.

#### III. Responsibility and Control

**Investment Committee** – An Investment Committee, consisting of the Executive Director and Director Finance shall meet quarterly to determine operational strategies and to monitor results.

**Delegation of Authority and Training** – Authority to manage the LRGVDC's investment program is derived from a resolution of the Board of Directors. The Director of Finance is designated as investment officer of the LRGVDC and is responsible for investment decisions and activities. The Director of Finance shall establish written procedures for the operations of the investment program, consistent with this investment policy. The investment officer shall attend at least one training session relating to the officer's responsibility under the Act every two years and receive 10 hours of training.

**Internal Controls** – The Director of Finance is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure designed to ensure that the assets of the entity are protected from loss, theft or misuse. The internal control structure shall be designed to provide reasonable assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that (1) the cost of a control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived; and (2) the valuation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management.

Accordingly, the Director of Finance shall establish a process for annual independent review by an independent auditor to assure compliance with policies and procedures. The internal controls shall address the following points:

- a. Control of collusion.
- b. Separation of transaction authority from accounting and record keeping.
- c. Custodial safekeeping.
- d. Clear delegation of authority to subordinate staff members.

Prudence – The standard of prudence to be applied by the investment officer shall be the “prudent investor” rule, which states: “Investments shall be made with judgement and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived.” In determining whether an investment officer has exercised prudence with respect to an investment decision, the determination shall be made taking into consideration:

- a. The investment of all funds, or funds under the LRGVDC’s control, over which the officer had responsibility rather than a consideration as to the prudence of a single investment.
- b. Whether the investment decision was consistent with the written investment policy of the LRGVDC.

The investment officer, acting in accordance with written procedures and exercising due diligence, shall not be held personally responsible.

Ethics and conflict of Interest – The LRGVDC staff involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair the ability to make impartial investment decisions.

#### IV. Reporting

The Director of Finance shall submit a signed quarterly investment report to the LRGVDC Board of Directors. Additionally, within 30 days of the end of the year, the Director of Finance shall submit an annual report showing the certificate of deposits purchased by banks and total interest earned to date.

#### V. Investment Portfolio

The only investments available to the LRGVDC will be:

- a. Investments in TexPool and TexPool Prime
- b. Certificate of Deposits purchased from the local banks in the three-county area – Hidalgo, Cameron, and Willacy Counties.

#### VI. Safekeeping and Custody

- A. Investments in TexPool and TexPool Prime: The LRGVDC has executed a Participation Agreement adopting TexPool’s Investment Policy. (Attachment A&B)
- B. Certificate of Deposits purchased from the local banks in the three-county area:

Insurance or Collateral – All deposits and investments of the LRGVDC funds shall be secured by pledged collateral. In order to anticipate market changes and provide a level of security for all funds, the collateralization level will be 102% of market value of principal and accrued interest on the deposits or investments less an amount insured by the FDIC or FSLIC. Evidence of the pledged collateral shall be maintained by the Director of Finance. Collateral shall be reviewed monthly to assure that the market value of the pledged securities is adequate.

Safekeeping Agreement – Collateral pledged to secure deposits of the LRGVDC shall be held by a safekeeping institution in accordance with a Safekeeping Agreement which clearly defines the procedural steps for gaining access to the collateral should the LRGVDC determine that the LRGVDC's funds are in jeopardy. The safekeeping institution, or Trustee, shall be an institution not affiliated with the firm pledging the collateral. The safekeeping agreement shall include the signatures of authorized representatives of the LRGVDC, the firm pledging the collateral, and the Trustee, if applicable.

Collateral Defined – The LRGVDC shall accept only the following securities as collateral:

- a. FDIC and FSLIC insurance coverage.
- b. A bond, certificate of indebtedness, of Treasury Note of the United States, or other evidence of indebtedness of the United States that is guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States.

#### VII. Investment Policy Adoption

The LRGVDC investment policy shall be adopted by resolution of the Board of Directors. The policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis by the Investment Committee, and any modifications will be recommended for approval to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall review these investment policies not less than annually.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the LRGVDC on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025.

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LRGVDC Board President

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Item #4: Administration

5. Consideration and **ACTION** for approval and adoption of the revised LRGVDC Procurement Policies and Procedures Manual, Version 3, revised as of October 2025.

The revised manual modernizes the LRGVDC's procurement framework in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations, including Texas Government Code Chapters 2155, 2156, 2254, and 2261, Texas Local Government Code Chapter 252, 2 CFR 200, FTA Circular 4220.1F, and the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS). The update also ensures conformity with the State of Texas Procurement and Contract Management Guide, Version 3.0, and integrates oversight provisions consistent with 2 CFR Part 200. Revision incorporates several audit recommendations received from funding agencies.

Furthermore, revisions were added to strengthen program oversight, improve audit readiness, and address previous compliance observations. The manual now integrates what were previously informal standard operating procedures into a formal policy structure, providing clear procedural direction and uniform standards across all procurement activities. The revisions further clarify departmental responsibilities by tightening coordination between Procurement, Finance, and program areas. The manual has also been reformatted into a modular structure, allowing sections to be updated independently as regulatory or operational changes occur, thereby improving efficiency and long-term maintainability. The procurement thresholds have been updated, with the formal solicitation requirement increased from \$15,000 to \$50,000, which continue to meet state and federal regulations.

Implementation will strengthen compliance and accountability while ensuring continued eligibility for state and federal funding. Staff recommends approval and adoption of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Procurement Policy Manual, Version 3, Revised October 2025, as the official policy governing all procurement and contracting activities of the Council.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Item #4 Administration

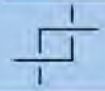
6. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve award and enter into agreement with Total Lawn Care (TLC) for Lawn and Landscape Services.

The LRGVDC Procurement Department issued a Request for Proposals (No. 2025-06) on September 17, 2025, seeking qualified vendors to provide Lawn and Landscape Maintenance Services for all LRGVDC and Valley Metro properties. Proposals were evaluated by the review committee and following the evaluation process, Total Lawn Care (TLC) was determined to be the most responsive and responsible proposer, offering the best overall value and demonstrating the qualifications and capacity necessary to perform the required services. Total Lawn Care's proposed total annual amount is **\$59,642.84**. The breakdown on the per site per service can be found in the packets.

Staff is seeking approval to award the recommended vendor, Total Lawn Care (TLC) as the successful vendor and enter into an agreement. The proposed agreement will establish an initial one-year term for lawn care and landscaping maintenance services, with the option to renew annually for up to four (4) additional one-year periods, contingent upon satisfactory performance.



## Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Bid Tabulation Sheet



*It is hereby certified that the tabulation presented below accurately and completely reflects the information provided in the proposal forms submitted by each bidder. All data included has been transcribed directly from the original bid documents without alteration.*

|                                                                   |                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Name:</b> LRGVDC Lawn & Landscape Maintenance Services |                                        |
| <b>Project Ref:</b> 2025-06                                       | <b>Project #:</b> na                   |
| <b>Project Close Date:</b> 10/03/2025                             | <b>Project Bid Opening:</b> 10/06/2025 |

| No. | Bidder                          | Proposed Amount |
|-----|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1   | Brightview Landscaping          | \$62,698.20     |
| 2   | J&R Landscaping & Lawn Services | \$71,130.00     |
| 3   | Total Lawn Care (TLC)           | \$59,642.84     |
| 4   |                                 |                 |
| 5   |                                 |                 |
| 6   |                                 |                 |
| 7   |                                 |                 |
| 8   |                                 |                 |
| 9   |                                 |                 |
| 10  |                                 |                 |

*The tabulation of bids provided herein is for informational and evaluation purposes only and does not constitute a notice of intent to award, a determination of responsiveness or responsibility, or a guarantee of contract award to any bidder. The inclusion of a vendor's bid in this tabulation does not imply acceptance or approval by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC). All bids remain subject to further review, analysis, and formal approval in accordance with applicable Federal and Texas State procurement regulations, and the LRGVDC's internal procurement policies and procedures.*

*The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive informalities or minor irregularities, and make an award in the best interest of the agency.*

|                                             |       |                                                                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council |       |  |  |
|                                             |       |                                                                                       |  |
| Sign:                                       | Date: |                                                                                       |  |
| Asst. Director of Business Operations       |       |                                                                                       |  |



LRGVDC Proposal Talley Sheet  
RFP 2025-06: LRGVDC Lawn and Landscape Maintenance Service



Evaluation Members

Evaluator Name

| # | Proposer              | Felipe Lopez | Carolina Rios | Manuel Meraz | Javier Dominguez | Liza Alfaro | Tom Logan | James Cambell | - | - | Totals |
|---|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|---|---|--------|
| 1 | Brightview            | 86           | 88            | 92           | 93               | 93          | 96        | 95            |   |   | 643    |
| 2 | Total Lawn Care (TLC) | 94           | 91            | 94           | 88               | 91          | 92        | 94            |   |   | 644    |
| 3 | *J&R Landscaping      | -            | -             | -            | -                | -           | -         | -             | - | - | -      |
| 4 |                       |              |               |              |                  |             |           |               |   |   |        |
| 5 |                       |              |               |              |                  |             |           |               |   |   |        |
| 6 |                       |              |               |              |                  |             |           |               |   |   |        |

\* Bidder Deamed Disqualified

Recommended vendor derived from highest score from the tally above.

**Total Lawn Care (TLC)**

Recommended Proposer

The scoring values presented in this tally are accurate and transcribed directly from the individual evaluations submitted by the members of the Project Evaluation Committee. The vendor recommendation reflects not only the highest cumulative score based on the established evaluation criteria, but also the extent to which the proposal aligns with the goals, priorities, and operational needs of the LRGVDC.

It is important to note that this recommendation does not constitute a final award decision. It represents the conclusion of the evaluation phase. The final scoring results and vendor recommendation will be formally submitted to the Board of Directors for review and final approval.

\*One proposal were deemed non-compliant with the submission requirements of RFP 2025-06 and have been disqualified from scoring and further consideration. Disqualified proposals are noted accordingly in the tabulation for transparency. Determination is a available on the bidders proposal review.

Procurement Signature

10/09/2025

Date

Felipe Lopez  
Asst. Director of Business Operations



# LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## Offer Sheet

Solicitation Number: 2025-06

Solicitation Title: LRGVDC Lawn + Landscape Maintenance Services

The undersigned, having examined the Scope of Work, Specifications, and all requirements of this Request for Proposals (RFP), hereby proposes to furnish all services, labor, materials, equipment, tools, supervision, and other necessary items in accordance with the RFP.

Offeror must provide an itemized rate per location listed below. Rates shall include all items outlined in the Scope of Work, except for palm trees taller than 20 feet. Palm tree maintenance over 20 feet must be separately itemized.

| Location                                    | Scope of Work <sup>(20)</sup><br>Rate Per Service | Palm Trees >20<br>ft. Per Service <sup>(2x)</sup> | Notes |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 301 W Railroad St.<br>Weslaco, TX 78596     | \$ <u>829.52</u>                                  | \$ <u>4005.22</u>                                 |       |
| 510 S Pleasantview Dr.<br>Weslaco, TX 78596 | \$ <u>574.93</u>                                  | \$ <u>757.74</u>                                  |       |
| 4406 Glasscock Ave.<br>Harlingen, TX 78550  | \$ <u>229.39</u>                                  | \$ <u>541.25</u>                                  |       |
| 102 N T St.<br>Harlingen, TX 78550          | \$ <u>514.02</u>                                  | \$ <u>216.50</u>                                  |       |
| 617 W University Dr.<br>Edinburg, TX 78539  | \$ <u>282.21</u>                                  | N/A                                               |       |

### Offer Summary

Total Annual Base Offer (all locations 20 cuts, excluding palm trees >20 ft.): \$. 48601.40

Total Estimated Palm Tree Services (locations with palm trees >20 ft. 2 cuts): \$. 11041.44

Total Proposed Annual Contract Value (total of above): .....\$. 59642.84

### Note to Offerors:

- All rates must be firm for the initial contract year as specified in the RFP.
- Additional services not included in the Scope of Work must be identified separately.
- LRGVDC reserves the right to request clarification of pricing, including unit cost breakdowns.

### Offeror Information

Legal Business Name: TLC Total Lawn Care, LLC

Address: 18820 FM 2252 San Antonio, TX 78266

Authorized Representative (Print Name): Gerry Bower

Title: President

Signature: [Signature] Date: 9/23/2025

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday October 29, 2025

Item #4: Administration

7. Consideration and **ACTION** to Appoint Board Designee and Alternate to Texas Association of Regional Councils TARC.....President

The current designated Board member, or his or her designate, of each member of council shall represent that council in all membership business. Each member of the council shall have one vote on all matters which may come before the membership. The designated Board member of a council may designate any representative of the council he or she represents, including staff persons, to vote on behalf of such council on all matters which may come before the membership provided that such designation is received in writing by the Association prior to the call to order of the business session at which such designation is to be in effect. Such designation may be changed from time to time.



# TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

1210 San Antonio Street, Suite 201 • Austin, TX 78701 • 512-478-4715 • FAX 512-275-9910 • [www.txregionalcouncil.org](http://www.txregionalcouncil.org)

## 2026 Board Member Designation Form

### EXCERPTS FROM TARC BYLAWS

#### Article IV – Membership

Section 3. The current designated Board member, or his or her designate, of each member council shall represent that council in all membership business. Each member council shall have one vote on all matters which may come before the membership. The designated Board member of a council may designate any representative of the council he or she represents, including staff persons, to vote on behalf of such council on all matters which may come before the membership provided that such designation is received in writing by the Association prior to the call to order of the business session at which such designation is to be in effect. Such designation may be changed from time to time.

#### Article IX - Voting

Section 2. Voting by alternate shall be permitted when health, business or personal necessity makes it impossible for a member of the Board of Directors to attend a meeting. The alternate must be designated by the absent Director in written form delivered to the Association prior to the beginning of the meeting. The alternate may be any official or employee of the organization represented by the Director. A member of the Board of Directors may not serve as alternate for another member and an alternate may represent only one absent Director at any meeting. An alternate may exercise the privilege of making or seconding motions and voting on any matter to come before the Board of Directors. The alternate shall be counted in determining a quorum for the Board of Directors.

### TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

1210 San Antonio Street, Suite 201

Austin, Texas 78701



# TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

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## 2026 Board Member Designation Form

Regional Council

Date

---

### TARC Board Designee:

Name:

Title:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Cell:

Email:

\_\_\_\_\_ is the designated representative from our regional

(Full name)

council to the Texas Association of Regional Councils Board of Directors meetings. In their absence,

alternates are designated as follows:

First Alternate: \_\_\_\_\_

then to

Second Alternate: \_\_\_\_\_

and then to

Third Alternate: \_\_\_\_\_

---

### Signature of Regional Council President or Chair

*(Please sign or type name and check the box below if submitting electronically on page 2)*

By checking this box, I indicate that I am authorized to sign this form and that this indication will serve as an electronic signature for the document.

**ITEM.4.B**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**EXECUTIVE**

**REPORT**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**OCTOBER  
NEW HIRES**

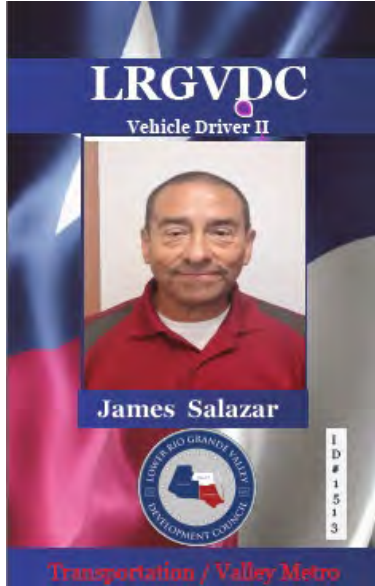
# New Hires/Promotion

New Hire Date: October 13, 2025

James Salazar

Vehicle Driver II

Transportation Valley Metro

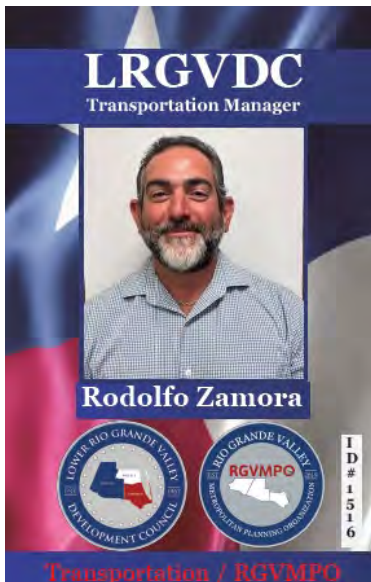


PROMOTION

Rodolfo Zamora

Transportation Manager

RGVMPO



**ITEM #5. A.**

**COMMUNITY  
&  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday October 29, 2025

Item #5: Community & Economic Development

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Action Item

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve amending the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) Bylaws, under Article IV: Membership.

An EDAC meeting was held on September 17, 2025, and they approved to amend the bylaws to include additional membership language for the Special EDO category. In cases where a Special EDO (county seat) position remains vacant and no nominations have been received after the designated timeframe (1<sup>st</sup> quarter/3 months), an active EDC within that county may be nominated to represent the Special EDO County seat.

This recommendation aims to ensure that all membership seats are filled and that committee participation is maximized.



**LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
**Rio Grande Valley Economic Development Advisory Committee**  
**(RGVEDAC) Bylaws**

**Article I:    Organization:**

The official designated name of the advisory committee shall be Rio Grande Valley Economic Development Advisory Committee (RGVEDAC). The official acronym shall be “EDAC.”

**Article II:   Responsibilities:**

These Bylaws (referred to as the Bylaws) govern the affairs of the Rio Grande Valley Economic Development Advisory Committee (RGVEDAC), a collaborative of EDO's (Economic Development Organizations) and economic development practitioners.

The advisory committee shall provide policy guidance, programmatic coordination, and/or recommendations relative to the function and scope of the committee, or as otherwise directed by LRGVDC Board of Directors. Committee progress, updates, and recommended actions shall be presented for discussion and/or required approvals during regular meetings of the LRGVDC Board of Directors by the LRGVDC staff liaison. As per Article VI of these bylaws, the EDAC shall recommend amendments as appropriate to support the functions of the committee.

**Article III:   Purpose & Function:**

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.

**Mission:**

The mission is to successfully promote the economic expansion and diversification of communities in the region and to engage area EDO's and those associated with regional economic development.

The Advisory Committee shall carry out the following functions and/or objectives:

1. **Engagement** - To engage in activities for the purpose of generating opportunities that will result in economic expansion & diversification of the region.
2. **Coalition Building & Partnerships** - To bring together economic development stakeholders of the region in order to provide opportunities for the amplification of knowledge, the sharing of experience, the development of professional relationships, and collaboration. Maintain strong communication links among federal, state, county, local government, individual citizens and all

other stakeholders.

3. Transforming - To advance activities to improve workforce education and training for the purpose of strengthening the economic competitiveness of the region.
4. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) - This committee will strengthen the CEDS for the region, as well as assist in the input, development, and coordination of that regional plan.

#### **Article IV: Membership:**

This committee will reflect a broad range of interest in economic development. Natural persons, associations, corporations, businesses, partnerships, cooperatives, government entities, educational entities, EDO's, having an interest in, and who agree with, the general purposes and objectives of the Advisory Committee may be admitted to membership.

Advisory Committee members are comprised of representatives from organizations, stakeholders, and individuals complimentary towards the scope of the committee, with regionally diverse representation, as recommended by the EDAC and approved by the LRGVDC Board of Directors.

A general call for membership will be held on an annual basis. If fewer than the allocated 3 members from a category are active and meet participation requirements, the following adjustments shall be made: The unfilled positions in a category shall be offered to the next eligible and participating city from another category.

A Special Economic Development Organization (EDO) may include the following entities: Type A EDC, Type B EDC, Economic Development Department or Regional (Public) Economic Development Entity, Chamber of Commerce, Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), other Special Purpose District (Public), Private Economic Development Entity, or Non-Profit.

In cases where a Special EDO (county seat) position remains vacant and no nominations have been received after the designated timeframe (1<sup>st</sup> quarter/3 months), an active EDC within that county may be nominated to represent the Special EDO County seat.

The Committee will consist of 18 voting members from the region as listed below:

##### **a. Composition.**

- |                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Cameron County              | (1) Representative  |
| • Hidalgo County              | (1) Representative  |
| • Willacy County              | (1) Representative  |
| • Large City (>50K Pop.)      | (3) Representatives |
| • Medium City (10K – 50K Pop) | (2) Representatives |

- Small City (<10K Pop.) (1) Representative
  - Special EDO (*One from each County*) (3) Representatives
  - Institute of Higher Education (2) Representatives
  - Texas Workforce Development (2) Representatives
  - Members at Large (2) Representative
- (members that represent those economic, social, & ethnic interests that are not represented by other directors)

---

TOTAL (18) Representatives

#### **b. Qualifications.**

1. All committee members must be within the LRGVDC boundary area and reside or work in the county they are to represent.
2. Representative must either be an elected official of the representing county or designated stakeholder with the professional qualifications to serve as the most applicable representative. Representative shall not be for-profit and otherwise representing outside interests.

#### **c. Voting.**

Each member, in good standing, shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members at Advisory Committee meetings. A member in good standing is one who is in compliance with submission of application for membership/registration and is not deemed to be of a detriment to the goals, objectives and the Advisory Committee overall. Typically, the Chair's vote will be utilized as a tie-breaker. Each member must be present at the meeting to cast a vote.

#### **d. Officers.**

The Advisory Committee shall consist of the following officers, as elected by the EDAC. Officers shall begin term upon EDAC action item approval.

- Chair - Shall preside at meetings.
- Vice-Chair - Shall act on behalf of Chair during absence.

Officers may only be selected from current committee representatives. The appointment of an officer shall only be granted to a specific individual (not membership composition category representative). Only individuals elected may carry out the functions of the officer. The chair and/or vice chair must preside over the meeting in person.

#### **e. Service Terms. (Officers and Representatives)**

Advisory committee officers and representatives shall be appointed to four (4) year staggered terms with

elections occurring in May on odd numbered calendar years. During the inaugural term, lots will be drawn to determine which (8) positions conclude in calendar year 2024. A member may be reappointed to multiple terms without term limits; however, must be re-designated each term by LRGVDC Board of Directors. A letter of intent to continue service will be asked for members seeking reappointment.

**f. Attendance.**

Members who fail to attend three (3) consecutive meetings shall be subject to removal from the Advisory Committee.

**g. Alternates**

Members of the Advisory Committee shall designate (1) one alternate who will have full voting privileges during a member's absence. Alternates must confirm on record as part of Advisory Committee minutes and shall meet all membership qualifications.

**h. Vacancies.**

A vacancy occurs when:

- Term expires without reappointment;
- Member voluntarily resigns;
- Member is physically unable to perform duties of committee; or
- Disqualification of representation
- LRGVDC Board of Directors removes committee member due to conduct or other business-related reasons.

Vacancies shall be filled through committee level selection and recommendation process and approved by LRGVDC Board of Directors. The recommendation process shall consist of an announcement of the vacancy at the LRGVDC Board of Directors monthly meeting, a recommendation form, and resume submittal to LRGVDC Staff. The committee will then review the qualifications and make a recommendation to the LRGVDC Board of Directors.

The EDAC shall recommend revisions to the selection process, as appropriate to support the functions of the committee.

**i. Conduct.**

Each Advisory Committee member shall maintain professionalism and objectivity when carrying out business of the Committee. Conduct unbecoming of an appropriate representation shall be

addressed by LRGVDC staff liaison or executive director and, committee member may be removed by LRGVDC Board of Directors.

**j. Conflict of Interest.**

All Advisory Committee members must disclose perceived or actual conflicts of interest and/or abstain from applicable votes. It is the responsibility of each Committee Member to discharge his or her duties in those respective capacities in good faith, in a manner the person reasonably believes to be in the best interests of EDAC and LRGVDC, and with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances. A conflict of interest is defined as referring only to personal, proprietary interests of the persons covered by this policy and their immediate families. Committee members shall not be present during presentations involving funding and/or prioritizations.

**k. Ex-Officio Membership:**

As an inclusive resource to the region, executives and administrators representing publicly-funded, official-capacity federal and state organizations designated to provide economic development management, disaster recovery, community resilience and/or economic development quality services and resources shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting member. Ex-officio members shall not count towards establishment of a quorum and may include agencies such as, but not limited to:

- South Texas College (STC)
- Economic Development-Office of the Texas Governor (Governor's)
- Texas State Technical College (TSTC)
- U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)
- U.S. Economic Development Department (EDA)
- Council of South Texas Economic Progress (COSTEP)
- Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU)

**Article V: Procedures:**

**a. Meetings.**

Regular meetings shall be held at least quarterly with written notice and agenda submitted to all members at least (3) business days prior to meeting date. Special meetings may be called more frequently at the discretion of the Advisory Committee or a LRGVDC designated staff liaison

with written notice and agenda submitted to all members at least (3) business days prior to meeting date. Advisory Committee meetings shall be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order.

**b. Frequency.**

The EDAC shall, to the extent practical, meet at least (3) times per year. The LRGVDC CEDS program staff will be responsible for scheduling and coordinating the meetings of the EDAC.

**c. Quorum.**

For purposes of the transaction of business by the EDAC, a quorum shall be a simple majority of the members present, with no less than nine (9) persons present for quorum. Whenever possible, decisions will be reached through consensus. When consensus is not possible, a vote will be taken. In the event of a tie vote, the tie will be broken by the presiding officer.

**d. Minutes.**

A designated LRGVDC staff member shall maintain the minutes of each Advisory Committee meeting. Minutes shall be reviewed and approved as a standing agenda item.

**e. Subcommittees.**

The Advisory Committee shall maintain the option to designate standing, technical, ad-hoc and/or temporary subcommittees within scope to improve the recommendations and nature of the advisory committee. Subcommittee activity updates shall be recorded at Advisory Committee meetings.

**f. Open Meetings.**

EDAC Advisory Committee meetings shall be open to the public and generally subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act.

**Article VI: Amendments:**

The Advisory Committee shall propose amendments to bylaws by subcommittee recommendation, regular, or special meetings; however, shall not be effective or approved until formal action is taken by LRGVDC Board of Directors as per Article II.

**Bylaws Adoption/Amendment History.**

**Adopted Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**LRGVDC Board President**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday October 29, 2025

Item #5: Community & Economic Development

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Action Item

2. Consideration and **ACTION** for approval for LRGVDC to accept Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Rider PM 2.5 Local Air Quality 2026-2027 grant funds.

LRGVDC will continue to receive FY26 funds for this project to determine the most effective use of these funds, ensuring the continued progress of this initiative in our region. Expenditure of these funds is limited to; inventorying emissions, monitoring of pollution levels, air pollution and data analysis; modeling pollution levels; regional air quality planning; and administration of the program. The grant recipients shall channel the funds to those projects most useful for the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

LRGVDC 2026-2027 Biennium Allocation: \$341,620.23

Brooke T. Paup, *Chairwoman*  
Catarina R. Gonzales, *Commissioner*  
Tonya R. Miller, *Commissioner*  
Kelly Keel, *Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

October 15, 2025

Melisa Gonzales-Rosas  
Director, Community and Economic Development  
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
301 W. Railroad  
Weslaco, Texas 78596

Subject: Rider 7 PM<sub>2.5</sub> Program Funding Continuation

Dear Ms. Gonzales-Rosas:

The 89th Texas Legislature renewed the Rider 7 program for the FY 26/27 biennium for air quality planning activities to reduce fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) in "affected counties" not designated as nonattainment areas for PM<sub>2.5</sub> National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as of September 1, 2024, and other areas at significant risk of being designated nonattainment for PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS in the future as approved by TCEQ. This letter confirms that the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) will receive continued Rider 7 funding as part of this program from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

- **LRGVDC 2026-2027 Biennium Allocation:** \$341,620.23

Expenditure of these funds is limited to: inventorying emissions, monitoring of pollution levels, air pollution and data analysis; modeling pollution levels; regional air quality planning; and administration of the program. The grant recipients shall channel the funds to those projects most useful for the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The current contract end date will be extended to December 31, 2027. This extension and allocation of continued funding will take effect upon contract amendment execution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marissa L. Jimenez".

Marissa L. Jimenez  
Senior Technical Specialist, Air Quality Division

# Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors Meeting

October 29, 2025

## Item #5: Department Reports

### A. Community & Economic Development

#### Program Status Reports

- **Economic Development Administration**

Disaster Supplemental Funding. This funding is available exclusively to communities affected by natural disasters that received a FEMA Disaster Declaration in 2023 or 2024. For more information about this opportunity, please visit the website linked below.

<https://www.eda.gov/strategic-initiatives/disaster-recovery/supplemental/2025>

Know these key facts:

1. Total funding of \$1.5billion for disasters nationwide.
2. The funding does not include regional allocations and will be made available until funding is fully committed.
3. There are three specific "Funding Pathways": Readiness Path, Implementation Path, and Industry Transformation Path.
4. The anticipated funding per project in each Pathway is: Readiness - \$250k-\$500k; Implementation - \$100k-\$5million; Industry Transformation - \$20million-\$50million (though in the Grants.gov webpage the grant ceiling is listed as \$30million).

Staff continue to engage with city officials, EDC's, EDO's, and other economic development industries to identify and develop potential Economic Development Administration (EDA) projects. These discussions provide valuable insights that will increase the preparation of applications for submission, as well as generate letters of support that align with our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) goals and objectives for prospective projects. Our team is equipped to offer technical assistance, project development, and grant administration related to EDA proposals and initiatives. Should you have any inquiries or require further information regarding EDA, please do not hesitate to contact the Community & Economic Development Department. We also serve as the designated regional point of contact for the EDA and will continue to disseminate information as necessary. Furthermore, our team collaborates with other governmental entities on economic development activities to optimize the benefits of all projects and objectives within the region, while also ensuring that there is no duplication of efforts and resources. For additional information and resources concerning EDA's funding opportunities, visit <https://sfgrants.eda.gov/s/>.

The C&ED Department prepared and submitted an EDA Disaster grant application for The RGV Regional Readiness Project (Regional Ready) in the amount of **\$117,752.00.**

This project would hire a full-time regional planning specialist who will:

- Implement and update the CEDS and ERR plans.
- Identify gaps and align priorities between the ERR, CEDS, TWDB Region M Plan, Arroyo Colorado WPP, and other relevant state plans.
- Coordinate with stakeholders to identify and prepare regional projects for future disaster recovery and economic development funding.
- Provide ongoing progress reports and data updates to the LRGV Economic Development Advisory Committee.
- Assist with organizing and facilitating the annual LISTO RGV Conference, which aligns with ERR strategies on preparedness and resilience.

The LRGVDC continues to solicit nominations for EDAC committee members to serve in the following category: (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](mailto:vramos@lrgvdc.org).

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

- A RSCC meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2025, at 2:00 PM. This meeting is hybrid, and the meeting link can be found in the LRGVDC Events Calendar.
- The Regional Small Cities Coalition (RSCC) convened virtually on October 28, All RSCC meeting information and GotoMeeting link can be found on the LRGVDC Events Calendar or reach out to Brenda Salinas, [bsalinas@lrgvdc.org](mailto:bsalinas@lrgvdc.org).



Additionally, 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](#)

#### Fall into Clean Water 🍂

This October, let's protect our drinking water by keeping pollutants, oil, and trash out of storm drains.

💧 Every drop counts for a cleaner, healthier Rio Grande Valley!  
#WaterQuality #CleanWater #StormwaterAwareness #LRGVDC

👻 You know what's scarier than ghosts and ghouls?... it's **trash polluting our waterways!** ☹️

☹️ Every piece of litter can harm fish, wildlife, and our drinking water.

Let's work together to keep our water clean — because **clean water is no trick, it's a treat for everyone!** 💧 🍂

#WaterQualityMatters #StormwaterAwareness #SpookySeason



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)**

Staff remain committed to delivering comprehensive technical assistance, administrative services, and support for the Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) project. The team manages the project budget to verify the accuracy of invoiced allocations and collaborates with TWDB to resolve discrepancies identified by the project manager. As the fiscal lead, LRGVDC coordinates with other LRGV FIF Project Coordinators across the region to avoid duplicative efforts and promote

- **Community & Economic Development Assistance Fund**

The LRGVDC has received and executed our Community and Economic Development Assistance Funds (CEDAF) contract for Administrative and Technical Assistance Services. The funds allocated under this contract are designated for technical assistance activities that are not tied to any specific Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) project. Instead, they support a range of regional efforts, including distributing information from TDA, conducting outreach to advance fair housing objectives, and organizing regional meetings.

On October 23, 2025, TDA and LRGVDC facilitated a Grant Outreach Meeting to provide program information and solicit stakeholder input. The meeting was specifically designed to actively engage eligible communities in the TxCDBG grant process. During the session, participants received information on program guidelines, eligibility criteria, and application procedures. The meeting also offered non-entitlement communities an opportunity to share feedback and input, ensuring that the program is responsive to the unique needs of the region's non-entitlement communities.

Texas Department of Agriculture Funding Opportunities:

**Community Development Fund (2027-2028)**

The Community Development Fund is the largest fund category in the TxCDBG Program. This fund is available through a competition in each of the 24 state planning regions. Although most funds are used for Public Facilities (water/wastewater infrastructure, street and drainage improvements and housing activities), there are numerous other activities for which these funds may be used.

- Application Deadline: December 2026
- Max Award: \$750,000

**Downtown Revitalization Program (2026)**

Provides grant funds for public infrastructure to eliminate deteriorate conditions and foster economic development in historic main street areas and rural downtown areas.

- Application Deadline: Spring 2026
- Max Award: \$1,000,000

**Colonia Fund Construction (2026)**

Funds available to eligible county applicants for projects in severely distressed unincorporated areas. The term "colonia" generally means an identifiable unincorporated community that is within 150 miles of the border between the U.S. and Mexico. Assistance to funds water and wastewater improvements, housing rehabilitation, and other improvements in colonia areas.

- Application Deadline: December 2025
- Max Award: \$1,000,000

**Colonia Economically Distressed Areas Program (2025)**

Assistance to colonia areas to connect to a water and sewer system project funded by other state or federal funds.

- Application Deadline: December 2025
- Max Award: \$1,000,000

### **State Urgent Need (SUN) Fund (2025)**

Assistance to communities impacted by state-declared disaster events that are not eligible for federal disaster assistance. Infrastructure repair, replacement, and improvement are eligible projects, with priority for drinking water systems and debris removal.

- Application Deadline: As Needed
- Max Award: \$500,000 (\$2,000,000 for certain multi-jurisdiction awards)

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.

- **Air Quality Program**

The Rider 7 PM 2.5 Local Air Quality project continues to advance as planned, with several tasks successfully completed and no expected delays. The project timeline remains intact, with a final report summarizing the findings from the study scheduled for completion by December 31, 2025.

Current Project Status:

- Prepare Scope of Work – Completed
- Prepare Quality Assurance Project Plan – Completed
- Emission Inventory – Completed
- Data Research and Analysis - Completed
- Air Quality Modeling – 95% Complete
- Draft Report – Due by November 2025
- Final Report – Due by December 31, 2025

Staff remain actively engaged in overseeing the progress of this project, working in close coordination with the consulting firm ALL4 LLC. This collaborative partnership is instrumental in ensuring that all project deliverables are consistently aligned with the regulatory standards and expectations set forth by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). In addition to maintaining compliance, staff will continue to participate in regular monthly communications with TCEQ representatives to provide updates, address any emerging issues, and ensure transparency throughout the duration of the project.

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

The LRGVDC Board of Directors approved the acceptance of a \$10,000 contribution from the National Rural Assembly Leadership (NRAL) to support the Community & Economic Development (C&ED) Department in its efforts to achieve full coalition status. Following the board's approval, all required procurement documentation from NRAL was successfully received. Staff subsequently initiated the process of finalizing all necessary internal documents to ensure compliance with funding requirements and to facilitate the effective implementation of

coalition-building activities.

With this financial support now secured, the LRGVDC is positioned to move forward with the next phase of the project, which is recruiting an intern to assist with the coalition application process. The LRGVDC Human Resources Department is preparing the necessary job description and onboarding materials to begin recruitment promptly. The intern will play a key role in supporting the application, which is scheduled for submission by June 2026. Therefore, LRGVDC have been actively engaging with the UTRGV Office of Sustainability to explore opportunities for student intern involvement in support of the project. These discussions aim to identify qualified interns who can contribute meaningfully to the initiative.

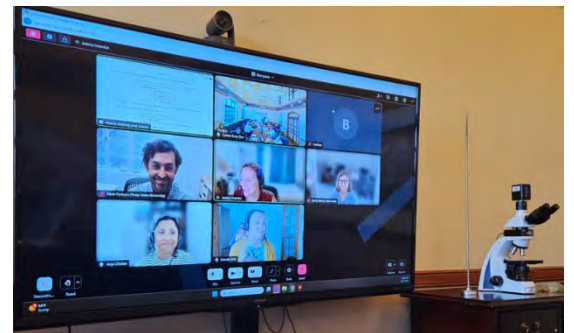
On September 22, 2025, the STC4 committee convened to review project updates and discuss key next steps. During the meeting, members provided input on the status of initiative and engaged in planning for upcoming activities. At the next upcoming meeting in January 2026, we anticipate the formal introduction of the selected intern who will be supporting the project, as well as the nomination of candidates for officer positions.

- **Solid Waste Management Program**

Over the coming months, the CED Department will begin preparing the FY 2026/2027 Council of Governments (COG) application for the Solid Waste Grant. The completed application is scheduled for submission to our funding agency, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), by December 31, 2025, deadline.

As part of our continued efforts under the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) initiative, the CED Department remains actively engaged in managing the program. On September 23, 2025, we hosted a Composting Curriculum Launch Meeting at the LRGVDC main office, specifically tailored for educators participating in the initiative.

This collaborative session brought together representatives from Region One Education Service Center and Texas State University, who jointly introduced the newly developed composting curriculum. During the meeting, educators were provided with an overview of the curriculum's structure and objectives, and each participant received a complete set of the lesson plans via USB drive.



The curriculum is crafted to enrich environmental education by addressing key topics relevant to sustainability and waste management:

- Introduction to Composting – A scientific overview of organic waste decomposition and its ecological benefits.
- Understanding Food Waste – Analyzing the causes and consequences of food waste, along with actionable strategies for minimizing it.
- Creating Composting Programs – Step-by-step guidance for students to design, implement, and manage composting systems in school or community environments.

This educational initiative is designed to empower teachers with practical tools and comprehensive content that inspire students to become active participants in environmental conservation. It also aligns with broader efforts to promote sustainability and reduce waste across our communities.

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](http://www.lrgvdc.org/solidwaste.html).

- **Water Quality Program**

Staff remain committed to educating the public on water quality issues through a comprehensive range of outreach initiatives. In October, our Outreach Program Coordinator represented the organization at nine (9) regional events, distributing educational materials and engaging community members on the topic of non-point source water pollution. These efforts underscore our ongoing dedication to raising awareness and promoting responsible water stewardship throughout the community.

Outreach Events attended for the month of October:

- National Night Out – Cameron County Sheriff's Office
- Fire Prevention Fest – City of Alamo Fire Department
- National Night Out – Town of Combes Police Department
- Fire Fest – City of Pharr Fire Department
- Fall Festival – City of Granjeno
- National Night Out – City of Donna Police Department
- National Night Out – City of Alton Police Department
- National Night Out – Willacy County Sheriff's Department
- Trunk or Treat – City of Pharr Police Department

**OCTOBER  
COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH**



In addition, staff continue to engage with Hidalgo County to finalize a fully executed subcontractor agreement for TWDB approval. This contract would enable consultants to carry out the activities outlined in Task 2.2 & Task. 2.3 Simultaneously, efforts with Cameron County remain focused on ensuring RATES fulfills its responsibilities and meets its deliverables. The team closely monitors progress and maintains consistent communication to keep Task 2.2 & 2.3 on track.

Information about water resources is available at, <https://www.lrgvdc.org/water.html>

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

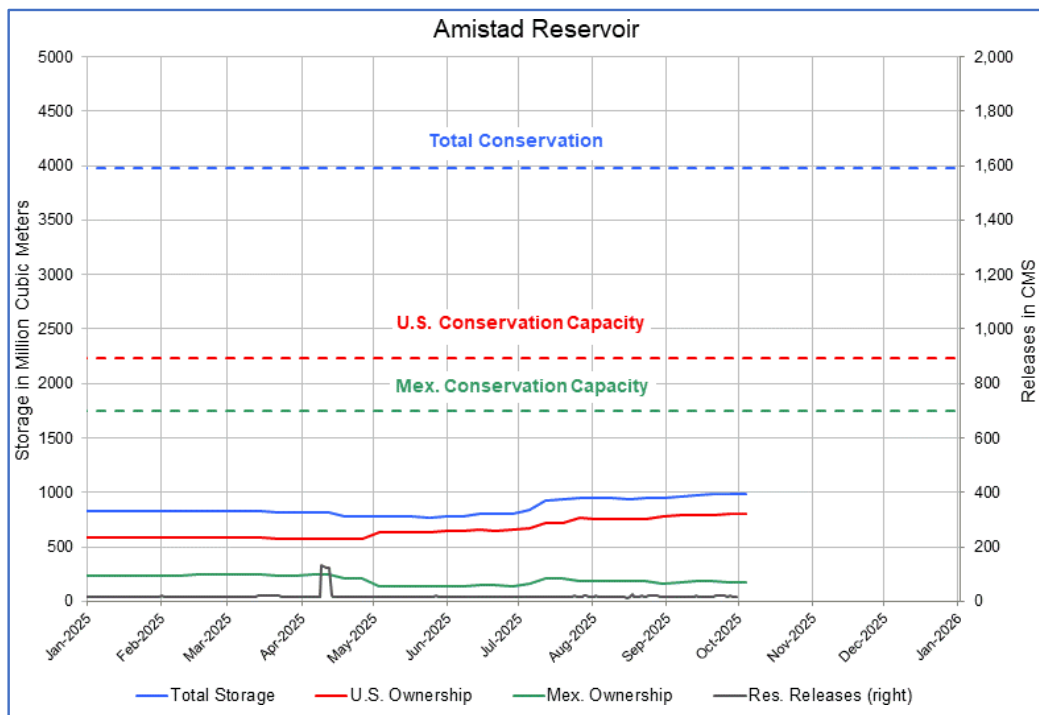
On October 7, 2025, a Region M meeting was held during which the Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group (RGRWPG) approved several key actions related to the 7th cycle of Regional Water Planning. At this meeting, the RGRWPG formally designated the LRGVDC as the Political Subdivision/RWPG Sponsor responsible for administering the Rio Grande RWPG. This designation authorizes Region M Political Subdivision to submit a grant application to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and to execute a contract on behalf of Region M.

In addition to administrative actions, the primary focus of the meeting was the discussion and approval of any additional edits to the final plan and consider proposed responses and updates. The group also adopted a motion authorizing Black & Veatch to make non-substantive revisions to the plan and to submit the finalized version to TWDB by the October 20, 2025, deadline.

For questions or additional information, you may contact Mrs. Melisa-Gonzales Rosas at (956)682-3481 ext.163 or [melisa.gonzales@lrgvdc.org](mailto:melisa.gonzales@lrgvdc.org)

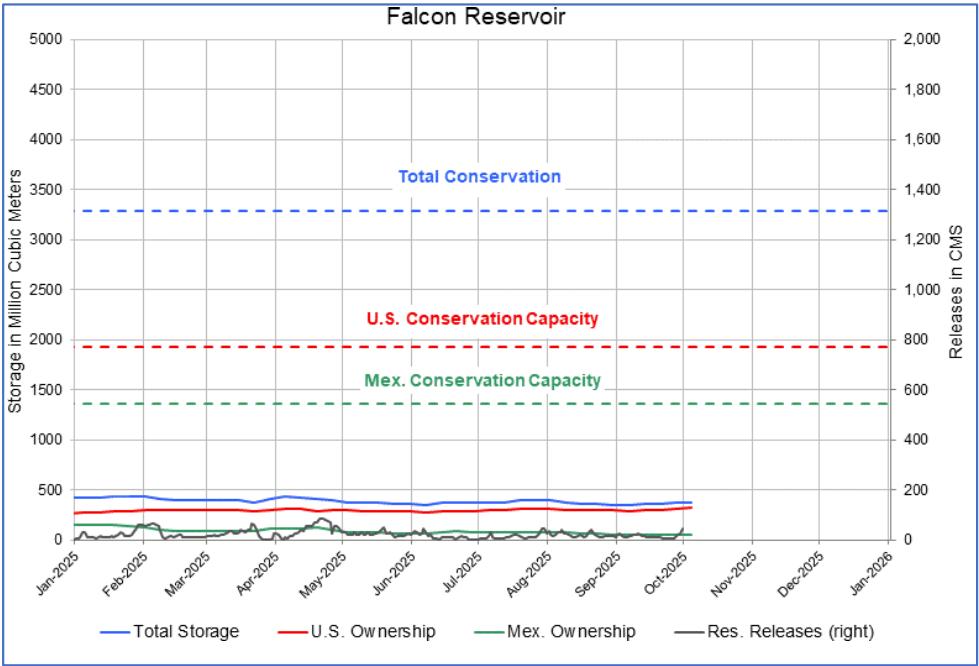
For any Region M meeting information, please visit website: <http://riograndewaterplan.org> or <https://www.lrgvdc.org/>

- Reservoir Levels as of October 16, 2025 ([www.IBWC.gov](http://www.IBWC.gov))



AMISTAD  
RESERVOIR

FALCON  
RESERVOIR



**ITEM # 5. B.**

**HEALTH &  
HUMAN  
SERVICES**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

B. Health & Human Services

Area Agency on Aging Program Action Item .....Margarita Lopez  
Director

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the recommendation to obtain the GUIDE Contract, which will generate a new, sustainable revenue stream and support caregivers of Medicare participants living with Alzheimer's and Dementia through comprehensive respite services, education, and care navigation.

This contract with Care Coordination Systems, LLC (CCS Health) will allow our organization to participate in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) GUIDE demonstration model by identifying Medicare participants living with Alzheimer's and Dementia and referring their caregivers to the GUIDE program. While CCS Health will coordinate and deliver the caregiver support services, our organization will generate a sustainable new revenue stream through these referrals, helping to strengthen resources for families caring for individuals with dementia.



## Service Level Agreement

**1. Purpose.** The purpose of this Service Level Agreement (this “SLA”) is to outline the policies and procedures established by **Care Coordination Systems, LLC** (“CCS”) to deliver Support Services, Upgrades, and other services pursuant to the Software License Agreement to which this SLA is attached (“the Agreement”). The Customer (as defined in the Agreement) must comply with this SLA in requesting support from CCS and in requesting CCS to provide Support Services provided pursuant to the License Agreement.

**2. Definitions.** As used in this SLA:

(a) **“Error(s)”** means a failure of the Software to operate, function and perform in the manner described in the Specifications, in the Documentation, or by CCS.

(b) **“Maintenance”** means activities of CCS to provide normal software operation through updates, bug patches, fixes and work-arounds in order to ensure the Software operates, functions and performs in accordance with the Specifications. “Maintenance” does not include enhancements or additions to the Software that provide new functionality.

(c) **“Problems”** means Errors, defects, malfunctions, or any nonconformities to any applicable specification set forth in the Specifications.

(d) **“Service Outage”** means any interruption in the availability of the Software to the Customer (excluding Scheduled Maintenance or Emergency Maintenance) during the Customer’s Normal Business Hours, and only if such interruption is due to an Error, and specifically excludes any Non-Standard Services.

(e) **“Support Hours”** means the daytime hours during which CCS provides Support Services for the Software. CCS’ Support Center shall be in operation Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays, from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Eastern Time.

(f) **“Support Services”** shall have the meaning set forth in the Agreement and in this SLA.

(g) **“Customer’s Normal Business Hours”** means the period from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, [zone] Time, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays.

(h) **“Eastern Time” or “[zone] Time”** shall mean Standard Time or Daylight Time for the particular time zone, whichever is currently in effect.

All capitalized terms in this SLA not otherwise defined herein shall have the definitions given them in the Agreement.

### 3. Support Services provided.

(a) During the term of the Agreement, CCS agrees to provide Support Services under the terms set forth in this SLA, which shall include Maintenance and may include Non-Standard Services, as defined herein.

(b) All Support Services performed by CCS under this SLA shall be performed in a professional and workmanlike manner in accordance with general industry standards.

(c) CCS does not warrant that the Support Services or Software will be uninterrupted or error free.

(d) All Support Services shall be provided only to Licensed Users pursuant to a request from an Authorized Customer Contact (as designated pursuant to Section 15 below).

(e) Except for Non-Standard Services, all Support Services are provided at no additional charge to the Customer.

### 4. Support Service Requests.

(a) **Problem reporting and logging.** CCS will provide the Customer with an e-mail address or support process for Authorized Customer Contact(s) to use when requesting Support Services, including Maintenance. If a problem is reported outside of the Support Hours, the time window for expected problem resolution of a Problem will begin when the CCS Support Center re-opens for business during Support Hours.

(b) **Severity Level and response to Support Service requests.** CCS shall specify the "Severity Level" of each Support Service request, including Maintenance, per the following:

#### (1) Severity Level 1 (Highest):

(A) **Characteristics:** Produces an emergency in which the Software is rendered unusable or fails catastrophically, and there is no known workaround. A Severity Level of 1 implies the need to resolve the emergency immediately for Customer to resume standard business operations.

(B) **Response:** CCS will provide acknowledgement, if requested, by email to the Authorized Customer Contact(s) by a qualified member of the CCS staff within two working hours of logging the Problem and determining the Severity Level. CCS will use reasonable commercial efforts to provide a patch, bypass or workaround within two business days from the time the Problem was logged and Severity Level determined by CCS. The delivery of the work-around or emergency

software fix will drop the severity classification of the Problem to a Severity Level of 3.

**(2) Severity Level 2 (Normal):**

**(A) Characteristics:** Produces a failure of at most a single function of the Software, or causes intermittent errors, or impairs the usability of a system component. Alternative temporary measures, possibly non-software based, are available to act as temporary placeholders for the desired processing functions until the Problem can be resolved. A Severity Level of 2 implies the need to resolve the Problem in the normal course of development activities.

**(B) Response:** CCS will provide acknowledgement, if requested, by e-mail to the Authorized Customer Contact(s) by a qualified member of the CCS staff within eight working hours of logging the Problem. CCS will use reasonable commercial efforts to provide a patch, bypass or workaround within five business days from the time the Problem was logged by CCS. The delivery of this work-around or emergency software fix will drop the severity classification to a Severity Level of 3.

**(3) Severity Level 3 (Low):**

**(A) Characteristics:** Produces a situation in which the Software is usable, but there is an effect on the functionality of the Software.

**(B) Response:** CCS will provide acknowledgement, if requested, by e-mail to the Authorized Customer Contact(s) by a qualified member of its staff within eight working hours of logging the Problem. CCS will exercise reasonable commercial efforts to address Problems with a classification of a Severity Level of 3 in a future release of the applicable Program.

**5. Upgrades.** CCS shall provide Upgrades to the Software on an “as available” basis. Upgrades may include defect fixes and standard enhancements to existing features of the Software produced at CCS’ discretion through CCS’ standard development and/or via Work Order. CCS will notify the Customer in advance of any expected changes and provide supporting guidance and documentation.

**6. Support Services.** CCS will provide Support Services as requested by Customer and as described in this SLA, the Agreement, or any applicable Work Order, including, among others, Maintenance, the Support Center during Support Hours, Upgrades, Problem resolution, and for an additional charge, Non-Standard Services.

**7. Non-Standard Services.** Customer may request CCS to perform additional tasks such as specific software development, non-Program specific consulting and other services (collectively, the “Non-Standard Services”). If CCS agrees to perform

any Non-Standard Services, such Non-Standard Services and applicable fees will be documented in a Service Agreement/Work Order.

**8. Scheduled Maintenance.** CCS reserves one regularly scheduled maintenance window per week, of up to four hours' duration outside of the Support Hours, and one weekend per month, in order to maintain the Software and provide and install as available, any Upgrades (the "Scheduled Maintenance"). Customer and CCS will agree to available adequate windows for Scheduled Maintenance for the integration of third party data or applications with the Software, or other integration as may be appropriate and CCS will provide periodic advance written notification of windows for Scheduled Maintenance and consult periodically with the Customer on preferred windows for such Scheduled Maintenance outside of Support Hours. Scheduled Maintenance may result in system and Program unavailability or performance degradation.

**9. Emergency Maintenance notifications.** On rare occasions, CCS may experience the need for emergency maintenance, during which time the Software will be unavailable to Customer ("Emergency Maintenance"). Except in extraordinary circumstances, CCS will notify the Customer a minimum of thirty minutes prior to any Emergency Maintenance. Where practicable, CCS will commence Emergency Maintenance outside of the Customer's Normal Business Hours.

**10. Service level commitment.** CCS shall use commercially reasonable efforts to provide access to the Software with a 99.5% availability during the Customer's Normal Business Hours, excluding Emergency Maintenance. CCS will provide the Authorized Customer Contact(s) with written notice of any Service Outage promptly after CCS becomes aware of the Service Outage. CCS will also provide frequent updates to the Customer until the Service Outage is corrected. Such notification or updates shall include a description of the Service Outage, CCS' current understanding of the cause, and CCS' estimated resolution time. Upon learning of any Service Outage, CCS will devote all reasonably available resources to correcting the Service Outage and restoring system availability. Upon request, CCS shall provide Customer with a report indicating availability of the Software in order to measure CCS' compliance with this provision.

**11. Remedies.** Except as otherwise provided herein, the Customer's sole remedy for interruption in service caused by a Service Outage is for CCS to undertake its applicable Maintenance obligations herein. In the event of a Service Outage that exceeds allotted downtime provided under this SLA and its associated DRP, the Customer's sole and exclusive remedy, and CCS' sole and exclusive liability to the Customer, shall be to provide Customer with a credit against future License Fees for the Software, provided the Customer has notified CCS of the Service Outage in accordance with this SLA or the Agreement, as applicable (unless CCS has already notified Customer of the Service Outage), and provided the Customer has requested such credit in writing within thirty (30) days from CCS' resolution of the Service Outage. Service Outage credit shall be calculated on a cumulative monthly (calendar month) basis from the time of CCS' notification of the Service Outage to Customer or the Customer's notification of the Service Outage to CCS during the Support Hours (or, if after hours, from the time CCS reopens for business) and reimbursement shall be calculated based on full fifteen-minute

increments of Service Outage for any portion thereof. Such calculation shall be based upon the fees paid by Customer to CCS for the Software under the Agreement. The Service Outage credit shall be equal to a prorated portion of the Licensee Fees payable for such month.

**12. Disaster recovery.** Throughout the Term of the Agreement (including any Renewal Term), CCS shall maintain a commercially reasonable data back-up and disaster recovery plan ("DRP") to restore operations in the event of an outage at CCS' primary hosting facility. CCS shall provide a copy of the DRP to Customer upon request and meet with Customer (and any applicable regulatory agency or accrediting body) to discuss and address any comments and concerns, provided such requests and meetings occur no more frequently than one per calendar quarter during the Term and any Renewal Term. CCS shall not degrade or reduce the level of service or protection set forth in the DRP at any time during the Term. CCS shall segregate all Data from data received by CCS outside the scope of the Agreement to which this SLA is attached.

**13. Security audits.**

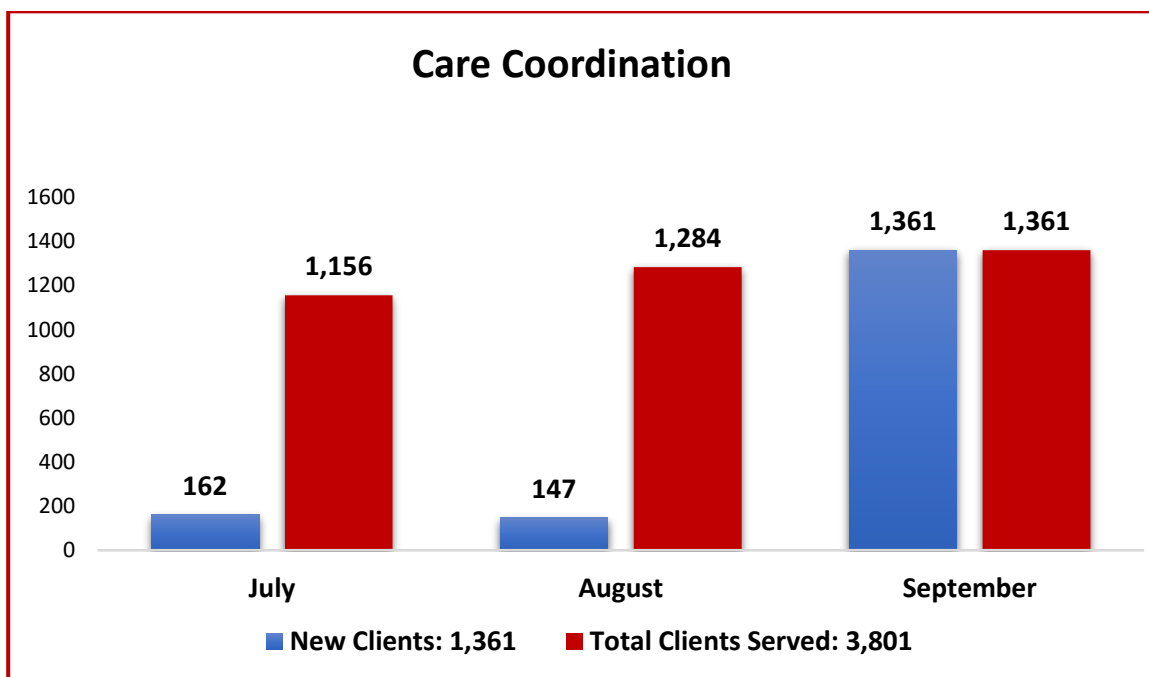
- (a) CCS will maintain HITRUST® certification pursuant to the HITRUST CSF®.
- (b) CCS will provide the Customer with copies of the SOC-1 and SOC-2 reports provided to it by the service organization from which it leases its servers.
- (c) CCS will perform a periodic review of log files to detect unusual activities, and will take other commercially reasonable security measures as necessary.

**14. Limitation on Support Services.** Notwithstanding any other provisions in this SLA, CCS shall provide Support Services, including Maintenance, only with respect to the currently-released version of the Software and the immediately prior version.

**15. Authorized Customer Contacts.** The Customer shall identify by name and location all Customer personnel who may contact CCS representatives (each, an "Authorized Customer Contact"). The personnel identified as an Authorized Customer Contact shall have authority to authorize an investigation of Problems, have knowledge of the rules of engagement for Support Services, including Maintenance, and the authority to accept proposed resolutions to any Problems and instruct CCS to take action on resolutions to such Problems. CCS may, in its sole discretion, rely on the direction and instruction of any Authorized Customer Contact without penalty. The Customer may change its Authorized Customer Contacts at any time. Customer shall provide CCS with a list of its Authorized Customer Contacts once per calendar year. Upon written request by CCS to the Customer, the Customer shall, within seven days, deliver to CCS a current list of Authorized Customer Contacts, provided, however, that CCS shall not make such request any more frequently than once per calendar quarter, and shall not make such request within ninety days of receipt of the annual list.

- **Direct Consumer Services Report – Care Coordination Programs**

- o The Care Coordination Program serviced a total of 1,361 new clients.
- o A total of 3,801 individuals were provided with case management assistance.

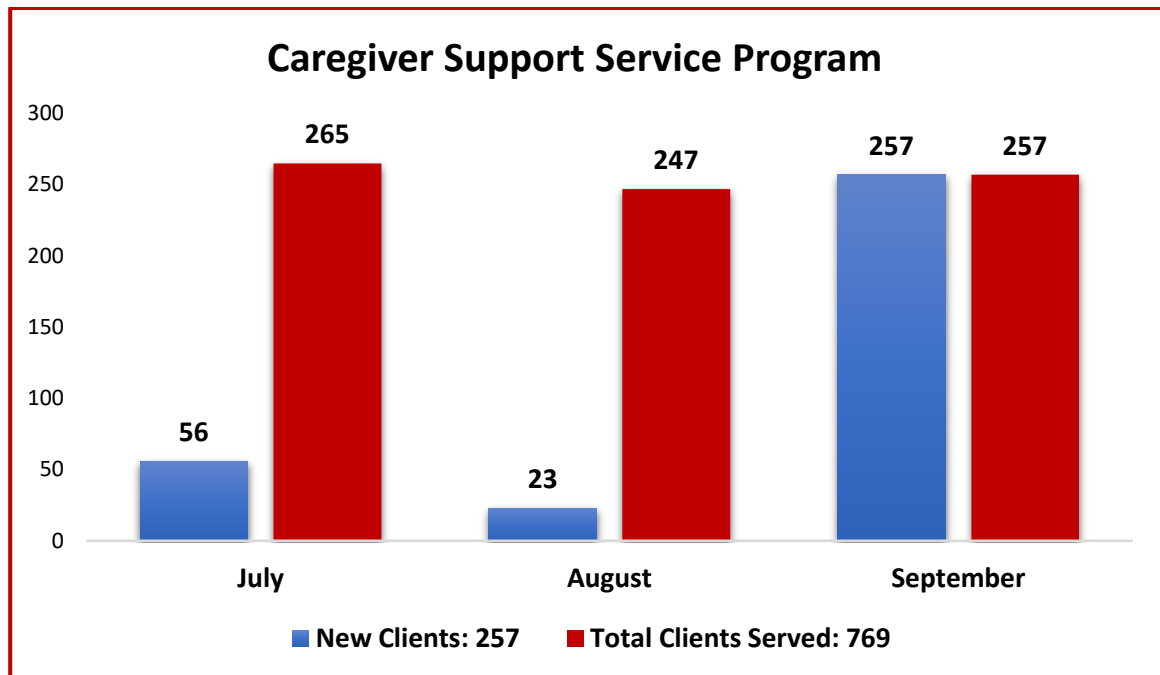


- **Direct Consumer Services Report – Care Coordination Services**

- o *As of this reporting period, a total of **1,361 individuals** are currently **enrolled and awaiting Care Coordination services**. These services include **health maintenance, homemaker assistance, transportation, and residential repair support**. The agency continues to maintain contact and monitor the needs of these individuals while **awaiting final budget approval**. Once funding is authorized, services will be promptly initiated to address the growing demand and ensure timely support for our clients.*

- **Direct Consumer Services Report – Caregiver Support Services Program**

- o The Caregiver Support Services Program serviced a total of 257 new clients.
- o A total of 769 individuals were provided with assistance.



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

- o The Caregiver Support Program currently has **257** individuals awaiting respite services. These services provide essential relief and support to family caregivers who dedicate their time and energy to caring for older adults and individuals with disabilities. The agency is prepared to initiate services immediately upon budget approval, ensuring caregivers receive timely assistance that promotes their well-being and sustainability in their caregiving roles.

- **Direct Consumer Report - Community Development Block Grant**

- o The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program successfully exhausted all allocated funds by July 2025, demonstrating strong community demand and effective utilization of resources. The agency is currently working on finalizing new contract awards from the cities of Pharr, McAllen, Harlingen, Mission, and Precinct No. 3. Once these agreements are executed, services will be promptly initiated in each of the designated areas to continue addressing critical community development and support need.
- o To date, the agency has secured \$134,831 in new CDBG funding, contingent upon the successful execution of the pending city contracts. Additional applications have also been submitted to other municipalities and are currently under review for potential approval or award. These combined efforts reflect the agency's proactive approach to sustaining project momentum and expanding community impact as new funding opportunities become available.

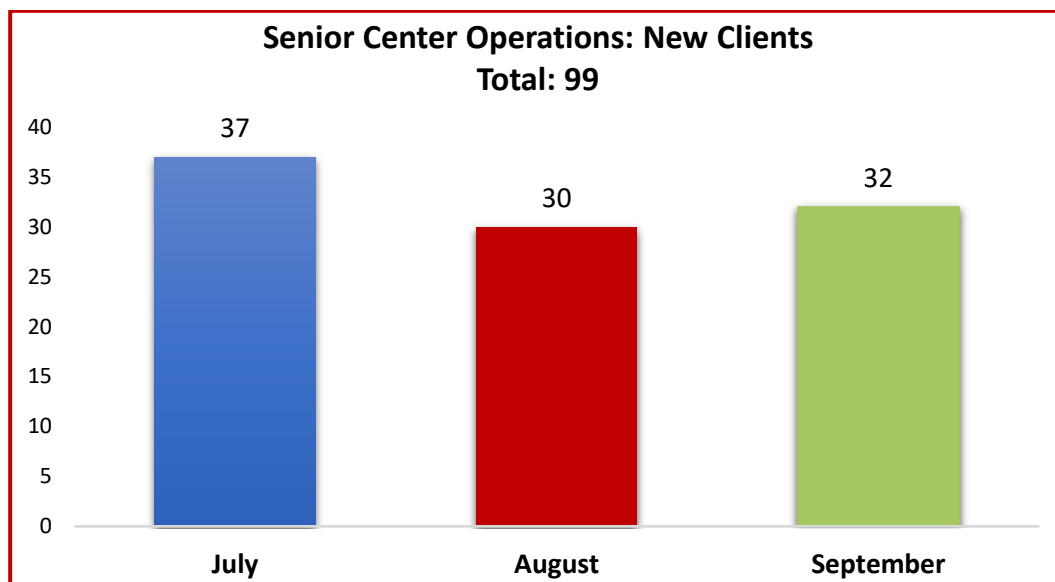
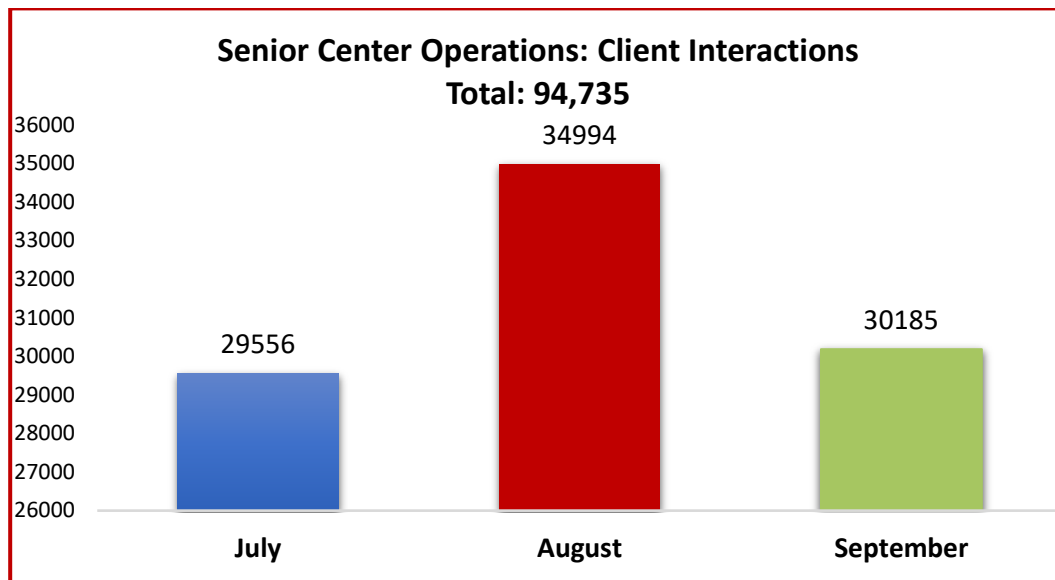
- **Direct Consumer Services – Interest List**

- o As of October 5, 2025, 2, 2251 individuals have expressed interest in our services through the Area Agency on Aging.

| Direct Consumer Services Interest List |              |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Care Coordination Services             | 1,990        |
| Caregiver Support Services             | 261          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                     | <b>1,693</b> |

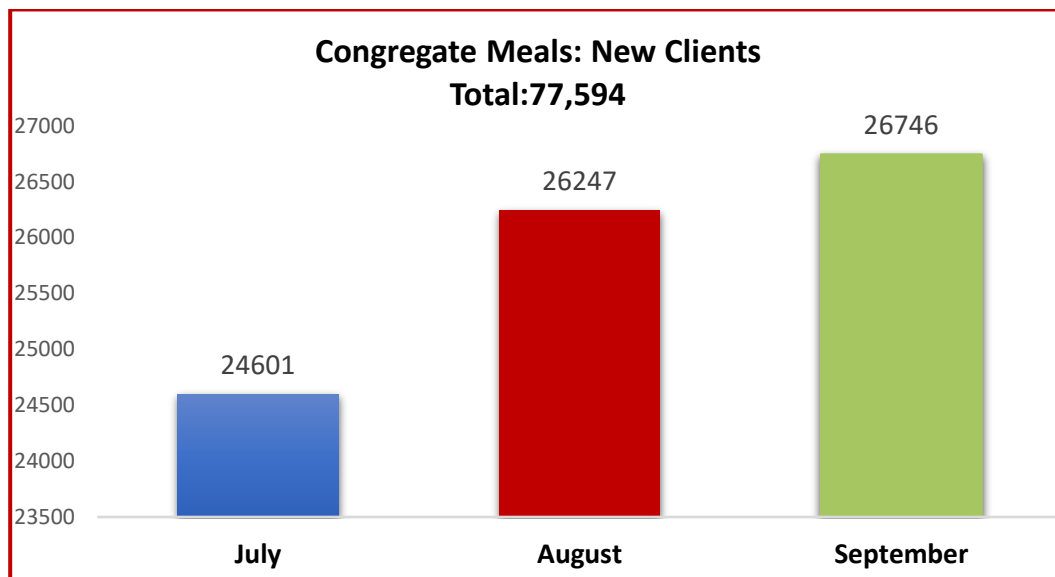
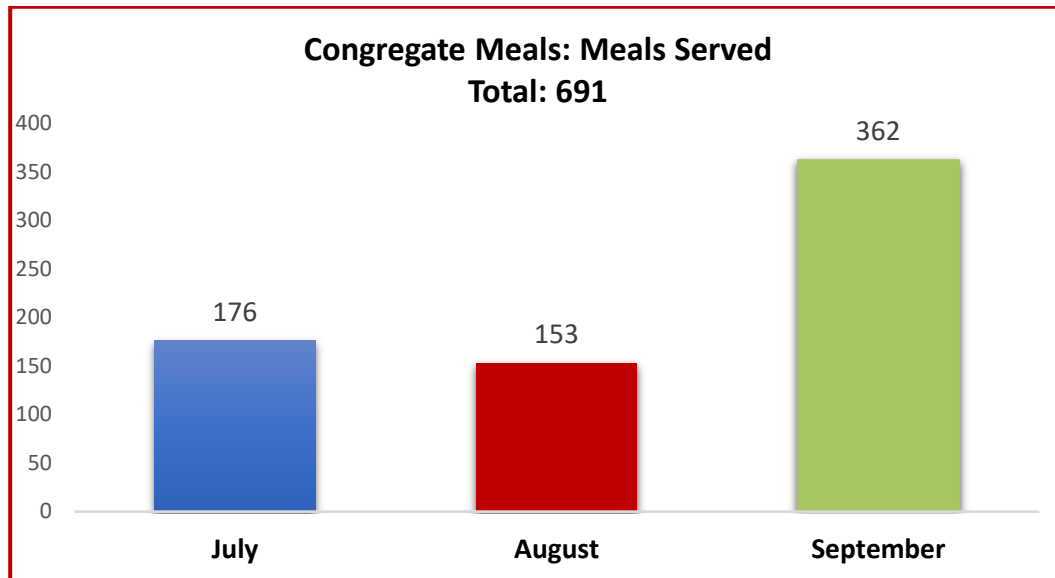
- **Senior Center Operations Report**

- o Program successfully enrolled 99 new clients.
- o Senior Centers conducted 94,735 activities with their clients.



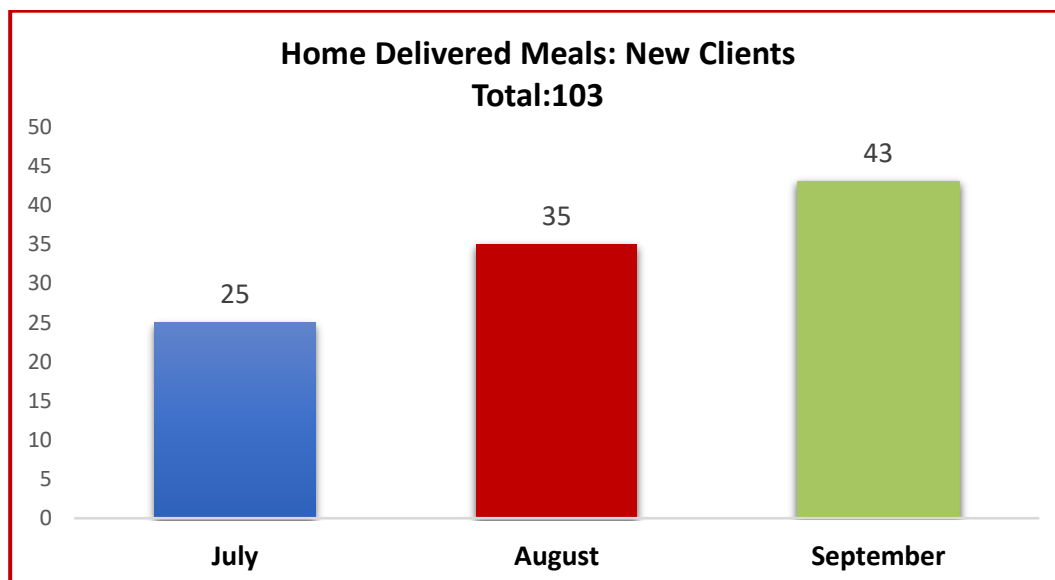
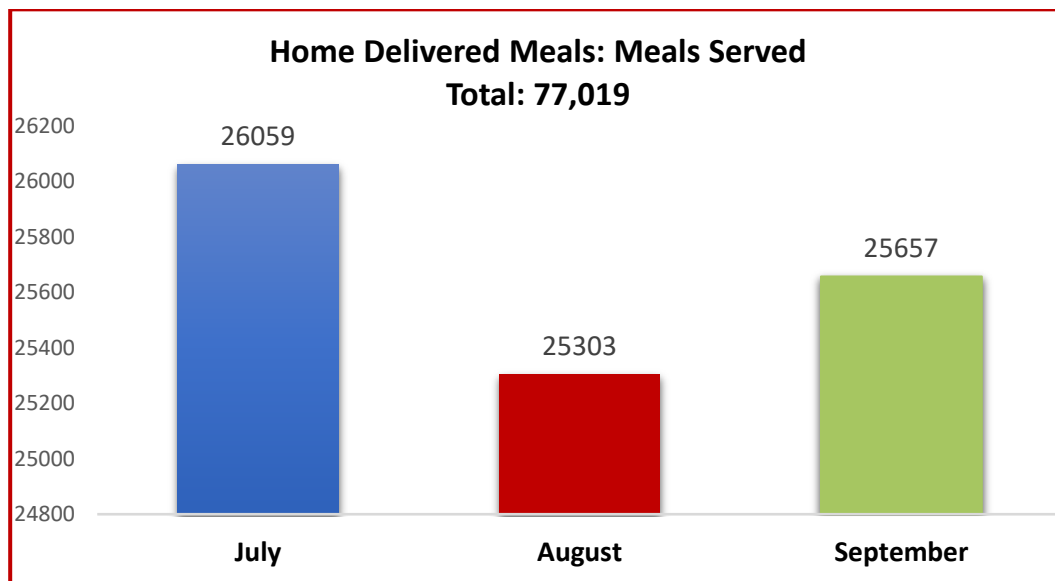
- **Nutrition Program Report – Congregate Meals**

- o Program successfully enrolled 691 new clients into the Congregate Meals program.
- o Program successfully administered 77,594 Congregate meals.



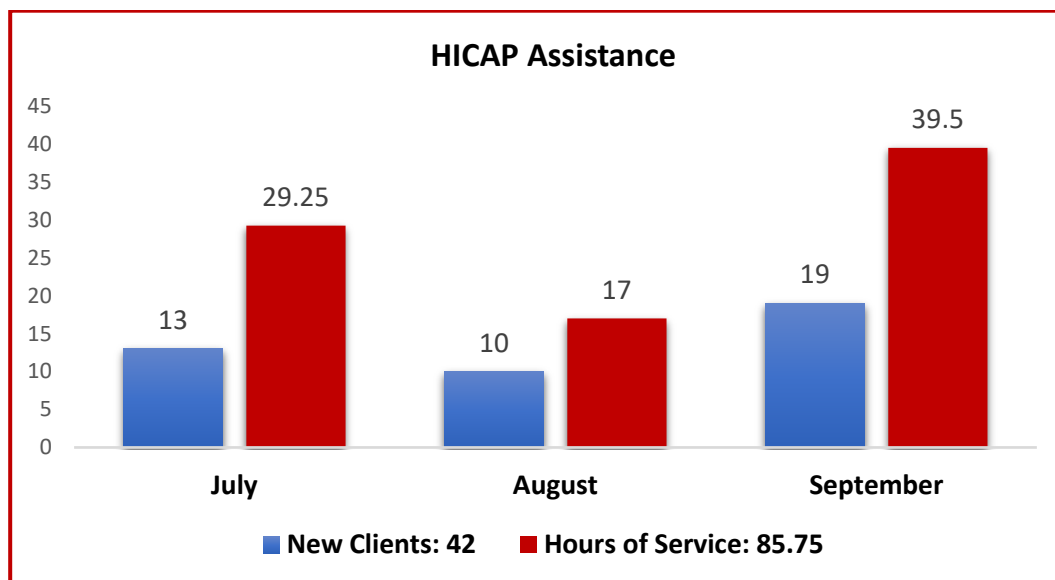
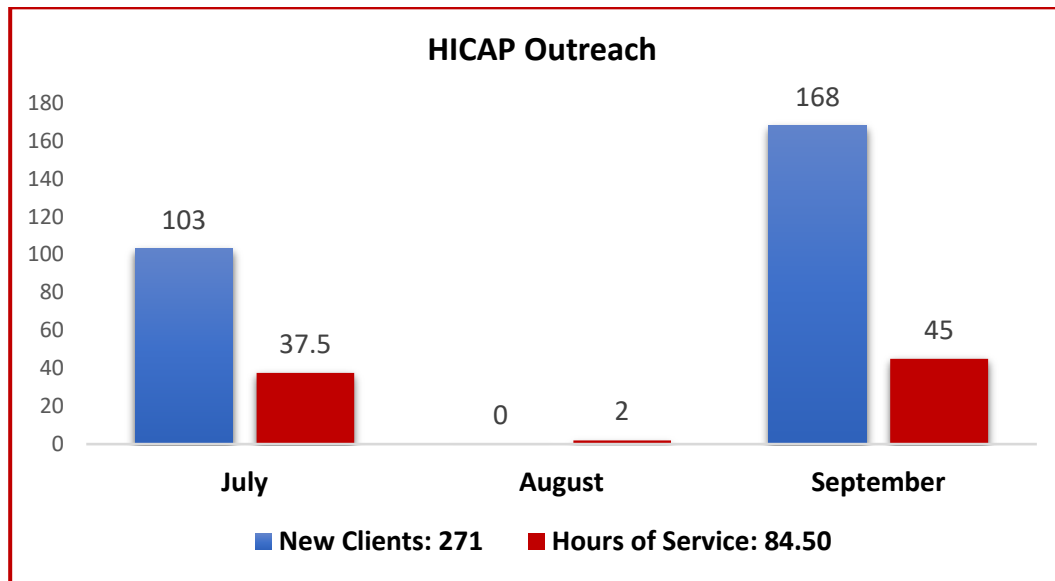
- **Nutrition Program Report – Home Delivered Meals**

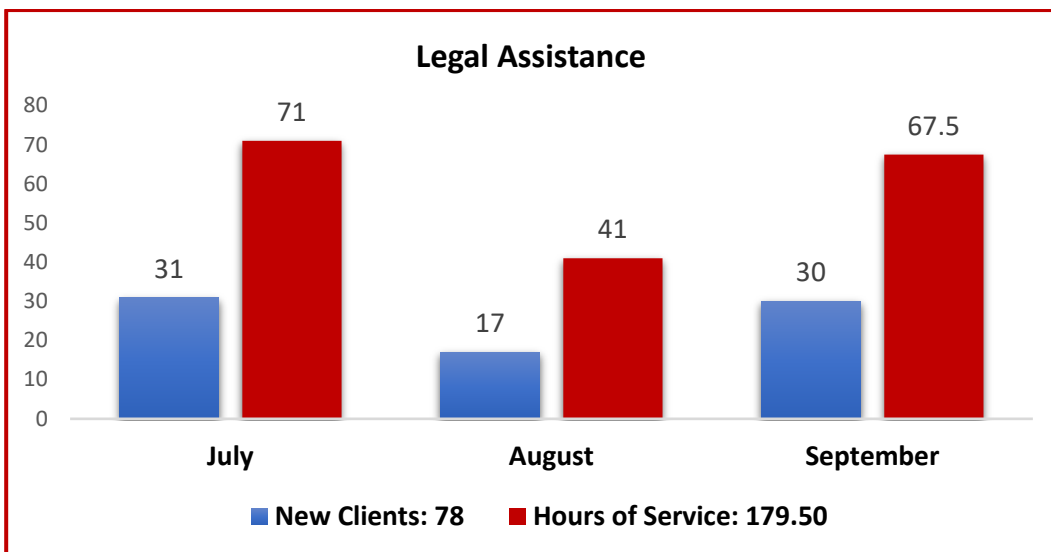
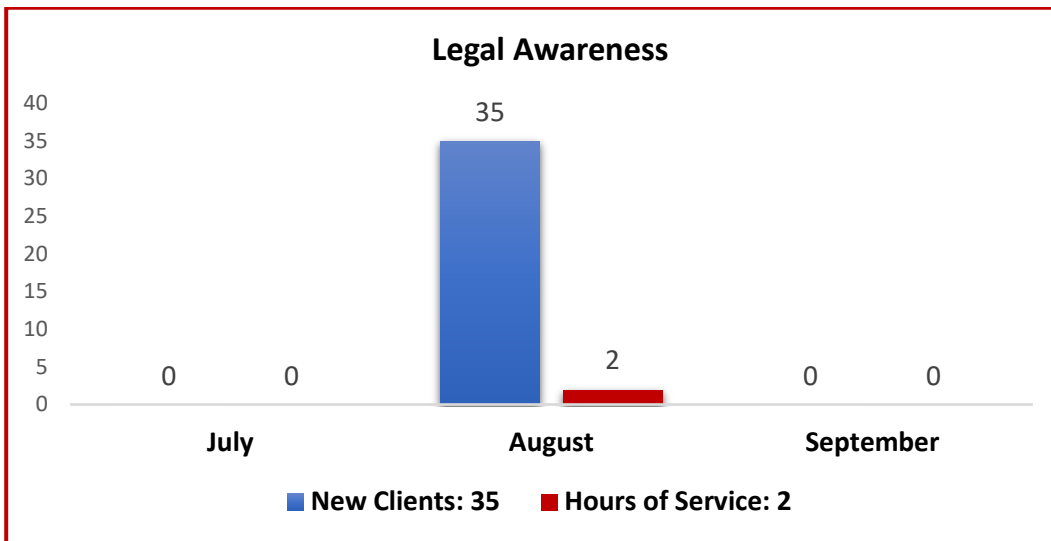
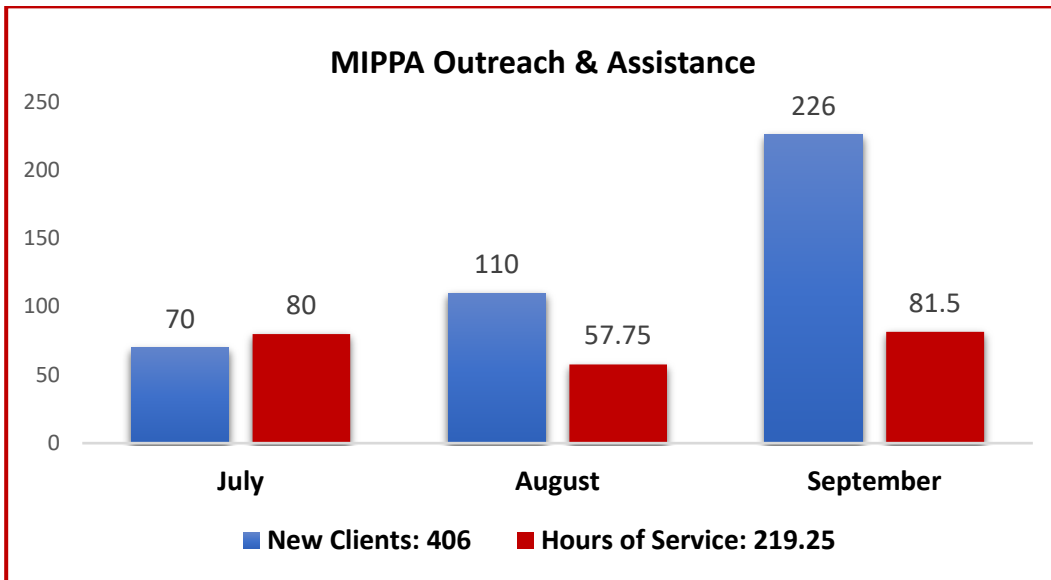
- o Successfully enrolled 103 new clients into the Home Delivered Meals program.
- o Successfully delivered 77,019 Home Delivered meals.



- **Special Services Report – Benefit Counselors Program**

- o Achieved the enrollment of 832 new clients and established 886 contacts through outreach activities and one-on-one assistance.

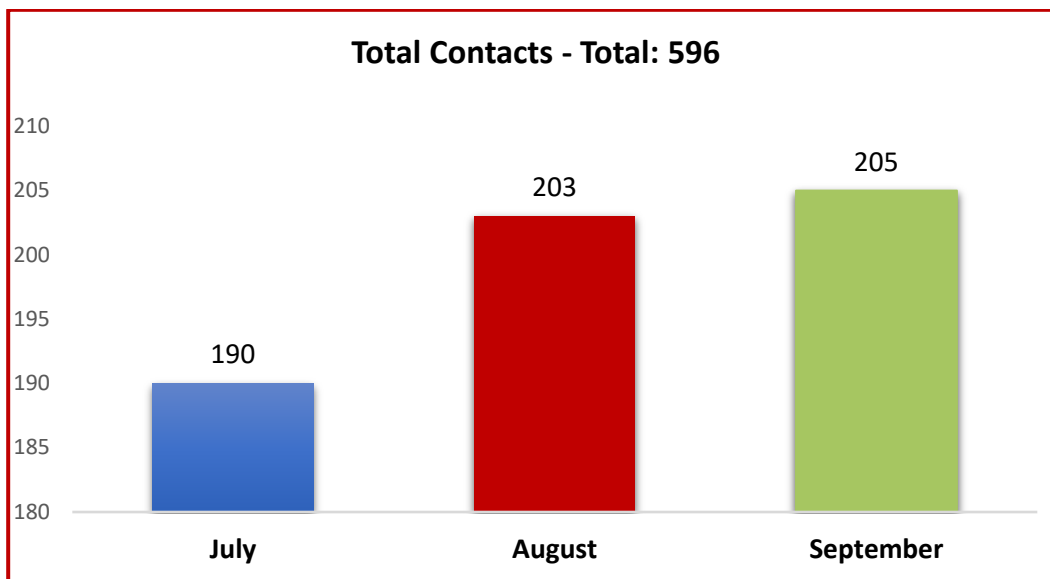
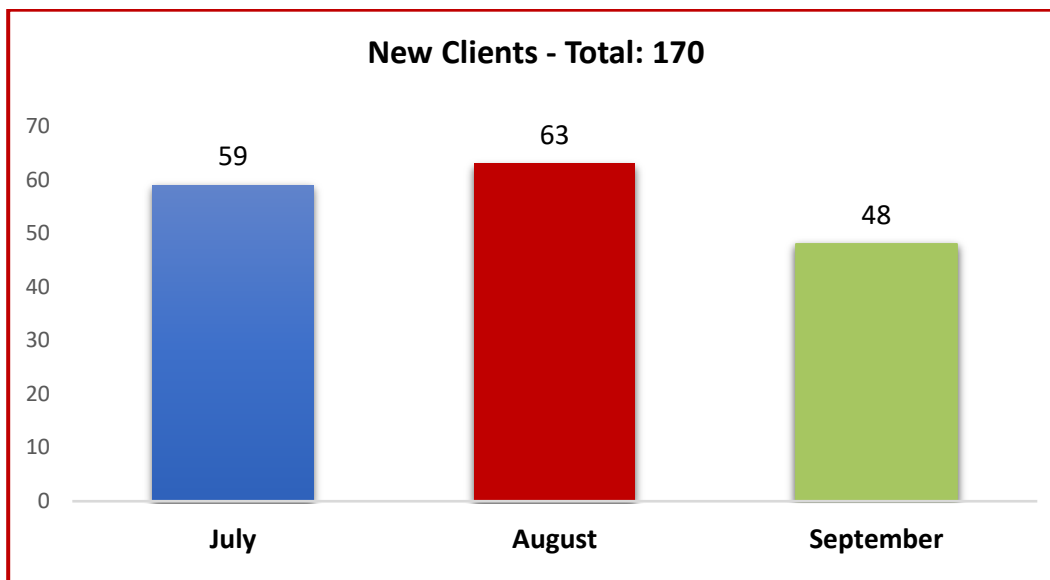




\* Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP)  
\*Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA)

- **Special Services Report – Care Transition Intervention (CTI)**

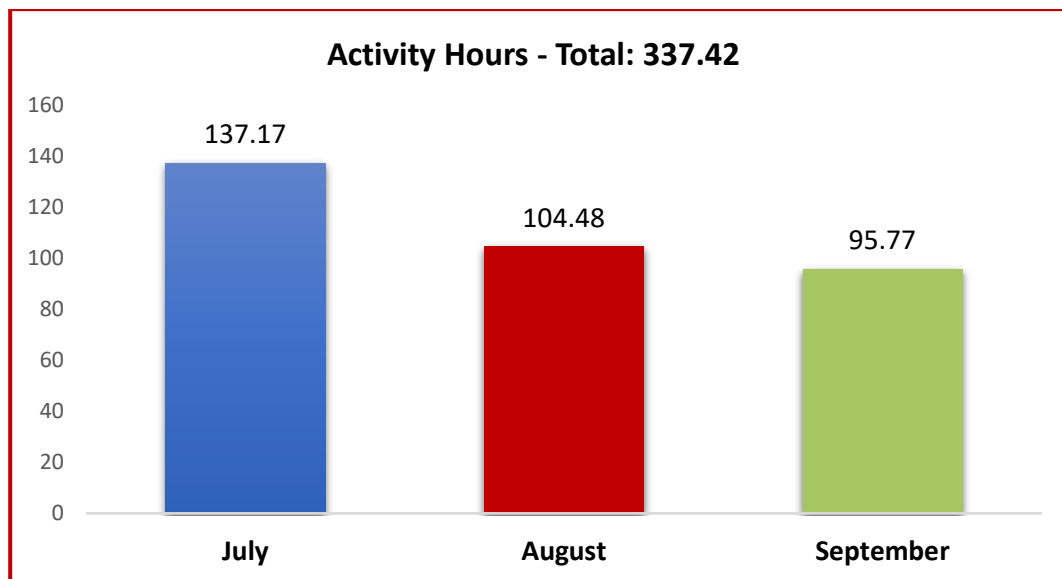
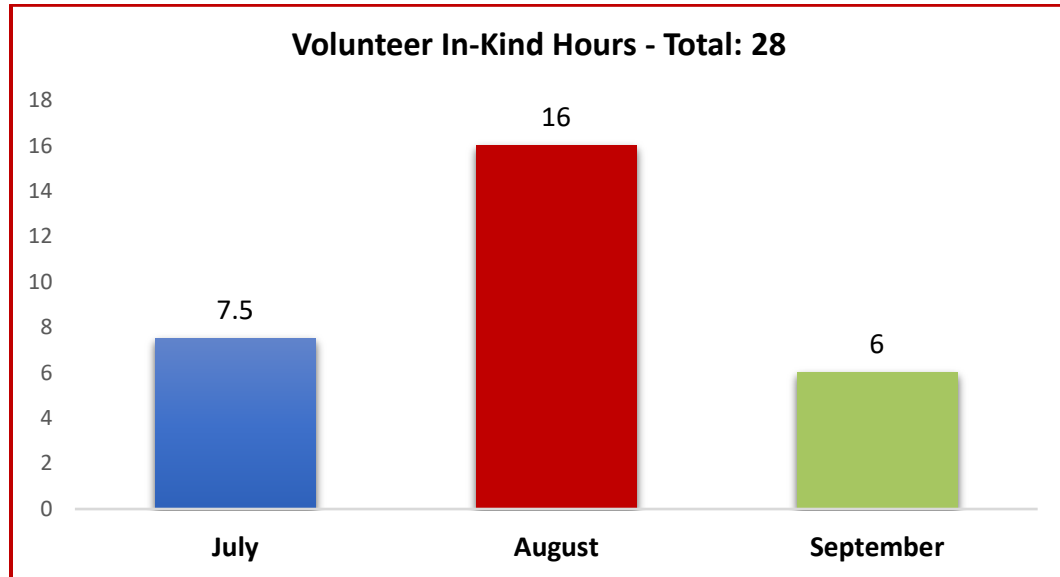
- During the 4th quarter, the Care Transition Intervention (CTI) coaches successfully enrolled 170 new clients.
- They made 596 contacts across a total of six hospitals within the tri-county area.



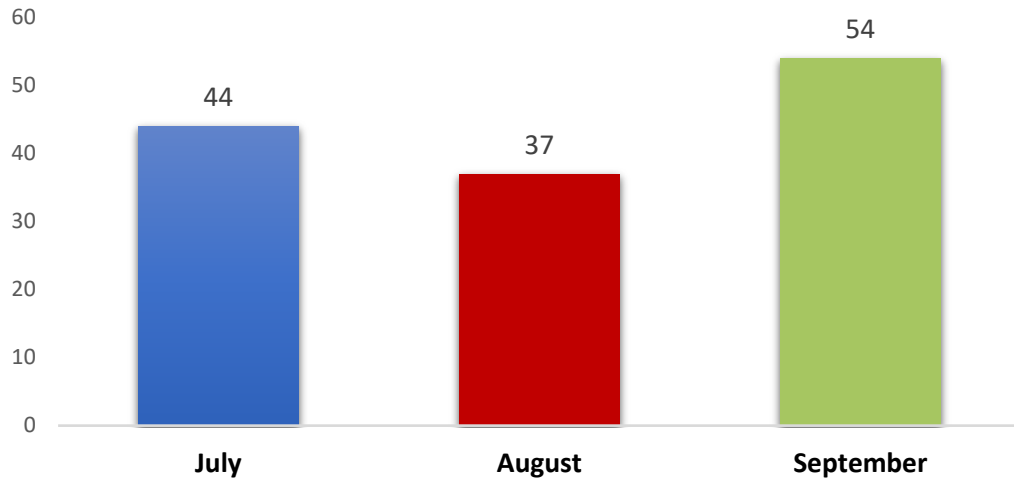
\*6 Hospitals: Valley Baptist Medical Center, Harlingen Medical Center, Knapp Medical Center, Rio Grande Regional Hospital, Mission Regional Medical Center, and Edinburg Regional Medical Center

- **Special Services Report – Ombudsman Program**

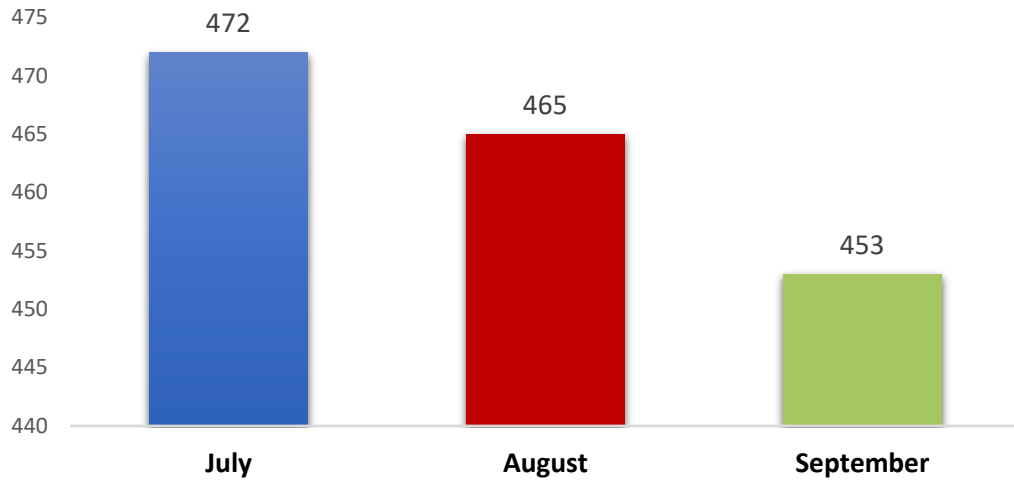
- o The Ombudsman handled 135 complaints.
- o They dedicated 337.42 activity hours and recorded 1,390 activity totals.
- o The volunteers collectively contributed 28 in-kind hours.



**Investigated Complaints - Total: 135**

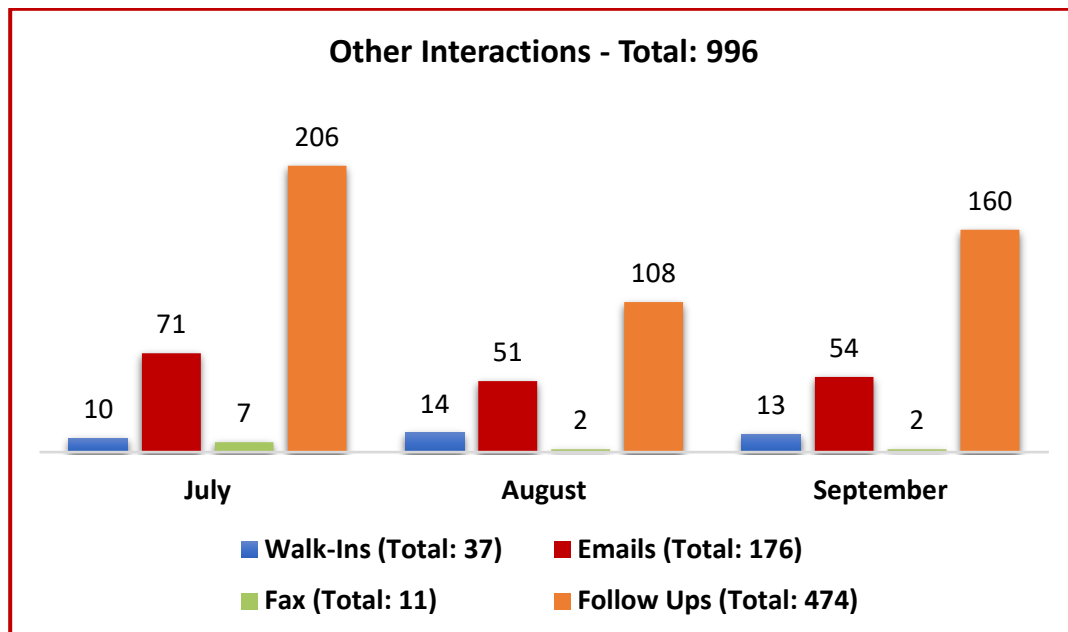
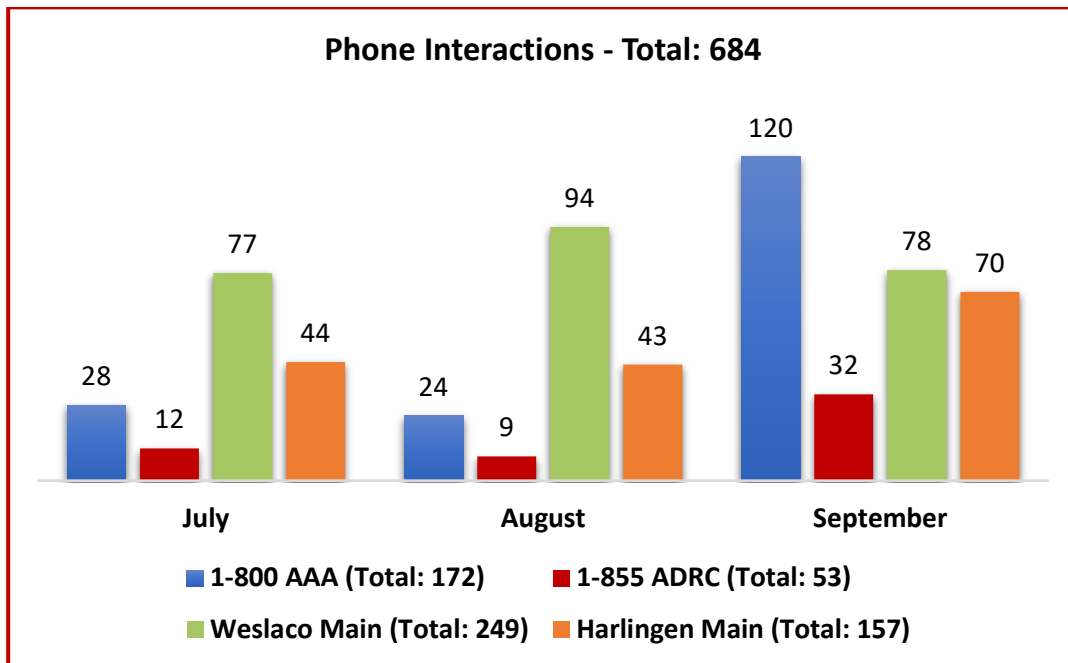


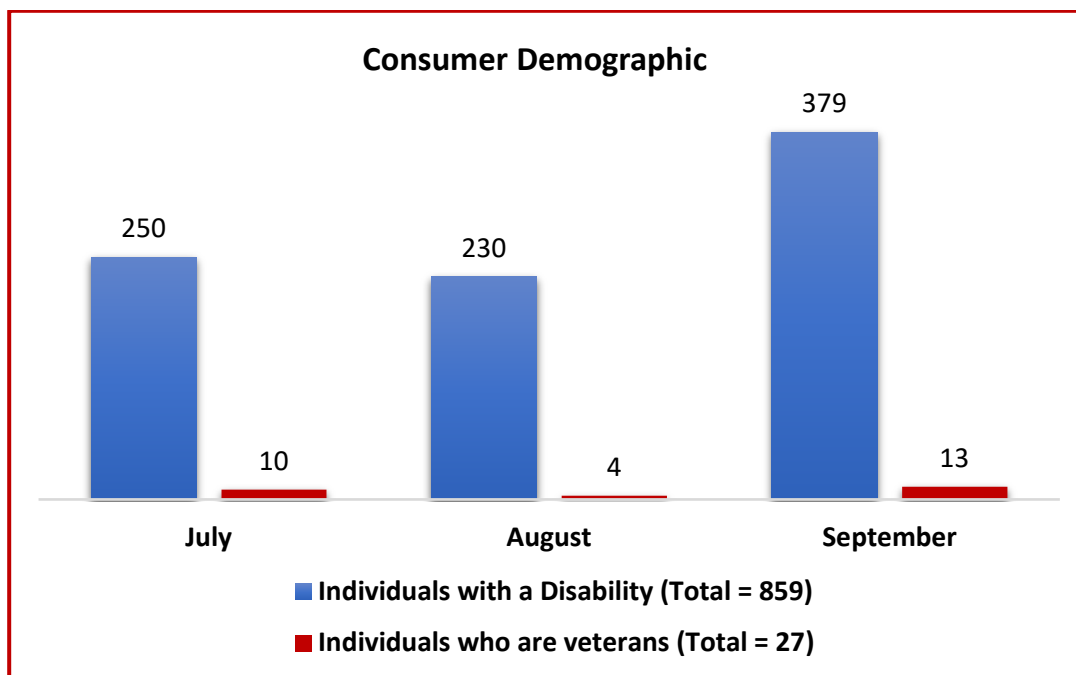
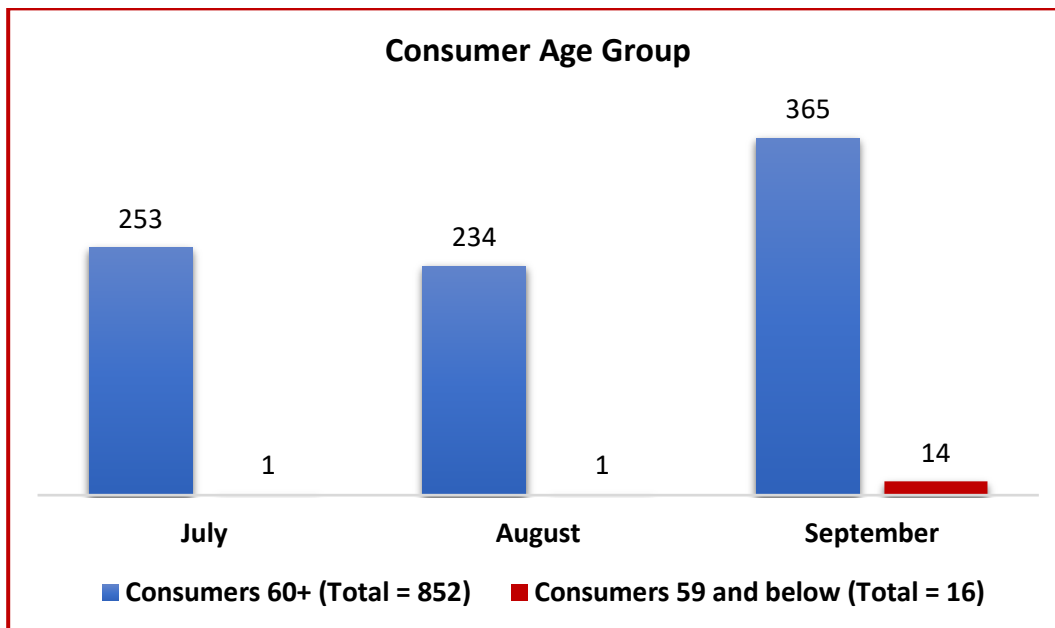
**Activity Total - Total: 1,390**



- **Information Referral and Assistance**

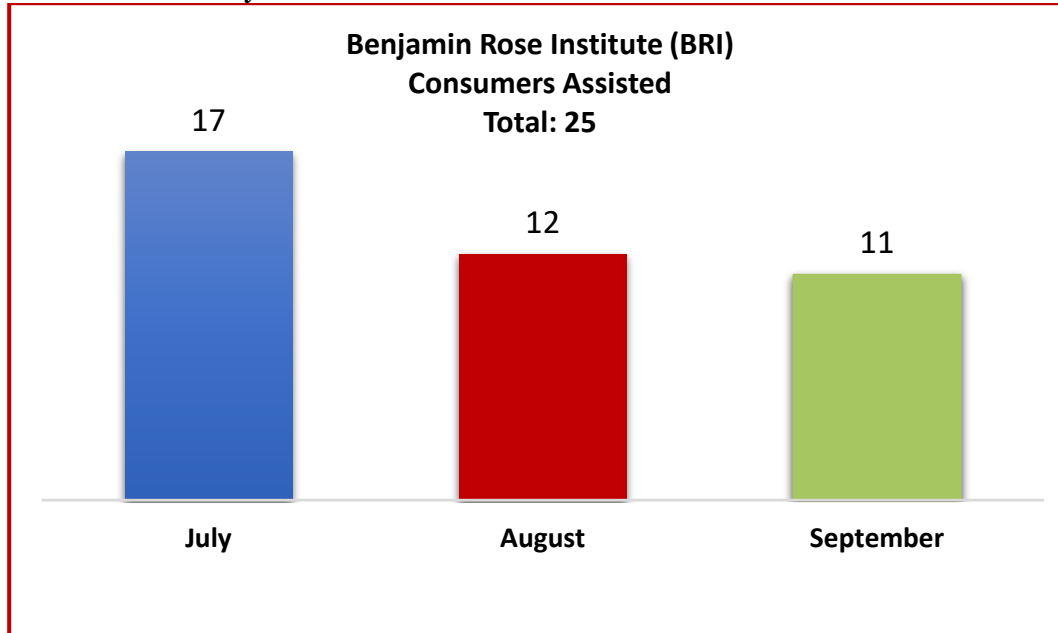
- o The intake team had a total of 1,329 interactions via phone lines, walk-ins, emails, and faxes.





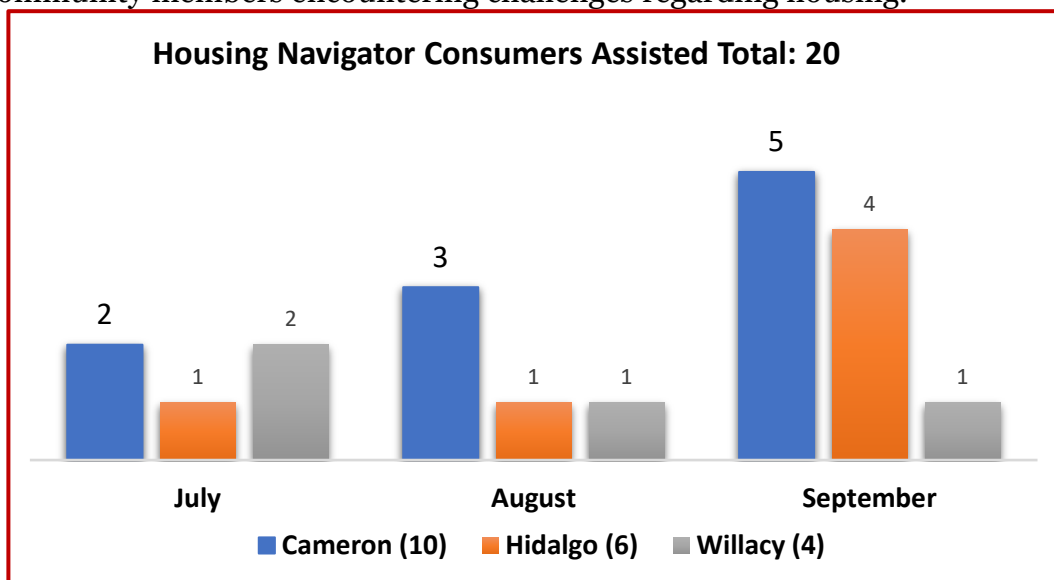
- o **Benjamin Rose Institute (BRI) Care Consultant Report**

- o The Benjamin Rose Institute (BRI) Care Consultants successfully enrolled 40 caregivers across the tri-county area.



- **ADRC Report – Housing Navigator**

- o Provided support to 20 consumers with housing inquiries by offering personalized resources, demonstrating the agency's expertise, and offering valuable support to community members encountering challenges regarding housing.



- o **ADRC Report – Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)**

- o The **Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)** successfully **utilized all Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds by August 2025**, reflecting strong service demand and effective program implementation. The ADRC is currently **awaiting notification of new award allocations**, which will allow continuation of essential services and expansion of support to additional communities once funding is released.

**ITEM # 5. C.**

**PUBLIC  
SAFETY**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public Safety

Program Action Item ..... Cesar Merla  
Assistant Director

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Policies, Procedures and Scoring Criteria for FY2026-2027 Grant Cycle.

The Homeland Security Advisory Committee convened on October 2, 2025 to update and approve the Policy, Procedures and Scoring Criteria for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2026-2027 grant cycle. These steps aim to ensure that the committee operates efficiently, remains aligned with its objectives and abides by the established protocols. The committee's commitment to these considerations will foster a structured approach to its work, contributing to advancing its mission in the Homeland Security Advisory Committee.

\*\*Due to file size, the (HSAC) Policies & Procedures for FY 2026-2027 can be accessed through the link provided on the email.

**Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Homeland Security Advisory Committee  
Policies, Procedures & Scoring Criteria  
FY 2026-2027**



**LRGVDC Public Safety - Homeland Security Program  
301 W. Railroad St.  
Weslaco, TX 78596**

**Contact Us**



**[www.lrgvdc.org](http://www.lrgvdc.org)**



**956-682-3481**

# LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL COG-21

## Homeland Security Advisory Committee

### By Laws, Policies, Procedures and Scoring Criteria for Grants

FY 2026-2027

#### Table of Contents

|                                                                                                                         |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Office of the Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (COG-21) | P.1   |
| Policies Authority                                                                                                      | P.1   |
| Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC)                                                                             | p.1   |
| Funding Sources                                                                                                         | P.1   |
| Grant Eligibility Requirements                                                                                          | P.1   |
| Mandatory Workshop Attendance                                                                                           | P.2   |
| Activity Areas                                                                                                          | p.2   |
| National Priorities Areas                                                                                               | P.2   |
| Risk Methodology                                                                                                        | P.2   |
| Regional Impact and Deployability                                                                                       | P.2   |
| LRGVDC THIRA and SPR                                                                                                    | P.3   |
| LRGVDC Implementation Plan                                                                                              | P.3   |
| Procedures for Grant Application Submittal                                                                              | P.3   |
| Ineligible Grant Applications                                                                                           | P.3   |
| Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Grant Applications Review                                                   | P.3   |
| Prioritization Process                                                                                                  | P.3   |
| Conflict of Interest                                                                                                    | P.3-4 |
| Funding Recommendation Guidelines                                                                                       | P.4   |
| Recommendations of Conditionally Approved Grant Application Projects to LRGVDC Executive Board                          | P.4   |
| Final Review by OOG's Homeland Security Grants Division                                                                 | P.4   |
| Appeals Process                                                                                                         | P.4   |
| Scoring Criteria                                                                                                        | P.5-6 |



## THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS DIVISION AND THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (COG-21)

The Office of the Governor's (OOG) Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) is the entity responsible for administering and awarding a number of grant programs across the State of Texas. The grant funding assists Texas jurisdictions in building, sustaining, and delivering core capabilities to further the National Preparedness Goal which is, *"A secure and resilient Nation with capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk."* The OOG has the final decision on any project, including those administered by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) COG-21. The LRGVDC is one of twenty-four Councils of Government in the State of Texas and is the liaison between the OOG and local jurisdictions in the three-county region, which includes the counties of Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy.

### POLICIES AUTHORITY

The following policies and procedures will govern the LRGVDC's Homeland Security Advisory Committee's (HSAC) application review and prioritization process for designated funding sources. In addition, these policies and procedures will govern the operation of LRGVDC's Homeland Security planning as outlined in the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the OOG's Homeland Security Grants Division and the LRGVDC. These policies are reviewed annually to align with local, regional and state guidelines.

### HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HSAC)

The HSAC was created as a voluntary unincorporated association of the LRGVDC in November 2004. The HSAC is composed of 14 member jurisdictions. The primary responsibility of the HSAC is to assist the LRGVDC in the development, implementation, review, and update of a comprehensive plan to serve the needs of the region in the event of terrorist activities, natural disaster, and man-made disasters; and to evaluate and make recommendations on grant applications submitted by jurisdictions.

*The 3-county member representation for HSAC is:*

*Cameron – 5*

*Hidalgo – 7*

*Willacy - 2*

### FUNDING SOURCES

The HSAC will prioritize the following funding HSGD funding sources:

- Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA)
- State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)

The purpose of this funding is to support state, tribal, and local preparedness activities that address high-priority preparedness gaps across all core capabilities where a nexus to terrorism exists.

### GRANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All applicants regardless of funding status must meet **ALL** the necessary requirements as set forth by the OOG's HSGD's Request for Funding Announcement (RFA), no exceptions. **As a local requirement, all projects must also include language/verbiage that indicates that a project is scalable (reduce total by 10, 20, 30 or other percentage) in order to allow for greater funding opportunities to other regional projects.**

The LRGVDC's Homeland Security staff and the HSAC shall ensure that the funding recommendations on applications are based on the following factors: the LRGVDC's THIRA (Threats and Hazards Identification and Risk Assessment) & SPR (Stakeholder Preparedness Review), the LRGVDC's Implementation Plan, regional impact, deployability, reasonableness, and cost effectiveness.



## MANDATORY ATTENDANCE

The LRGVDC's Homeland Security staff shall conduct one grant application workshop for the Homeland Security Grants Division funding opportunities. All applicants are required to attend the mandatory grant application workshop. Representatives can be any of the three grant authorized officials (Authorized Official, Financial Officer, or Project Director). For this grant process, a consultant or contracted grant writer cannot be the sole representative for the applying jurisdiction or agency. Either of the authorized officials or a representative that is knowledgeable of the project is also required to attend the privatization meeting and must be ready to provide a three minute presentation to the HSAC, the date is to be determined once grant applications are batched back to the LRGVDC Homeland Security Staff

## ACTIVITY AREAS

Grant project applications must support one of the following activity areas for the LRGVDC COG-21 Region, in no **particular** order:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Interoperable Emergency Communications</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Support of First Responder Capabilities</b><br><i>*For grant-related purposes, a Special Response Team must:</i><br>1) indicate FEMA Type capability (if applicable) or<br>if SWAT, indicate type according to the<br>National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA) SWAT Standards<br>2) have some type of formal cooperation in place. i.e., MOU (Memorandum of Understanding); SOP (Standard Operating Procedures); Bylaws; or written agreement.<br><i>A copy must be submitted, or on file, with the LRGVDC's Homeland Security program.</i> |
| <b>Emergency Operations Centers and Technology</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Planning and Community Preparedness</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## NATIONAL PRIORITIES AREAS

The COG will fund a minimum 30% percentage of the total regional allocation to the following areas:

|                                                  |      |
|--------------------------------------------------|------|
| Combating Domestic Violent Extremism             | 7.5% |
| Enhancing Cybersecurity                          | 7.5% |
| Protection of Soft Targets/Crowded Places        | 5%   |
| Intelligence and Information Sharing/Cooperation | 5%   |
| Addressing Emerging Threats                      | 5%   |

## RISK METHODOLOGY

A percentage of funding for each project serves as a guideline in determining the selection of grant project applications that address the needs of the LRGVDC (COG-21) Region.

| ACTIVITY AREAS:                             | LETPA PERCENTAGE: | SHSP PERCENTAGE: |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Interoperable Emergency Communications      | 15%               | 15%              |
| Support of First Responder Capabilities     | 15%               | 15%              |
| Emergency Operations Centers and Technology | 5%                | 10%              |
| Planning and Community Preparedness         | NA                | 25%              |

## REGIONAL IMPACT AND DEPLOYABILITY

Grant projects must have a *regional* impact to the LRGVDC COG-21 Region. Any projects / equipment funded by HSGP must be deployable. Certain exceptions may apply, for example (but not limited to) fixed assets, radio towers, repeaters, etc. **Monetary limit on radios, regardless of manufacture up to \$4000 for portable and \$5000 for mobile and all radios must be LTE Compliant.**



## **LRGVDC THIRA AND SPR**

All applications for projects must be consistent with the capability targets of the current LRGVDC's THIRA (Threats and Hazards Identification and Risk Assessment) process, as well as gaps identified in the LRGVDC's SPR (Stakeholder Preparedness Report). Please contact COG staff for a copy.

## **LRGVDC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

All applications for projects must be consistent with goals and objectives of the LRGVDC's Implementation Plan.

The LRGVDC's Implementation Plan supports the Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan. It establishes priority actions with specific performance measures to be completed by milestones established in the plan. The plan is a roadmap for homeland security preparedness and identifies the resources required to implement the plan. These documents can be found on the LRGVDC's website, under the Homeland Security program section.

## **PROCEDURES FOR GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL**

All applications shall be submitted electronically via the OOG's online grant management system, e-grants: <https://egrants.gov.texas.gov/fundopp.aspx>. All submission deadlines are determined by the Office of the Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division.

## **INELEGIBLE GRANT APPLICATIONS**

Applications created on e-Grants but not certified by the Authorized Officials will not be considered valid and will be denied by the OOG's HSGD. The OOG's HSGD reserves the right to deny applications that do not meet the guidelines for LETPA or SHSP grants.

## **HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HSAC) GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW**

The HSAC will review and score project applications for the LRGVDC (COG-21) Region.

## **PRIORITIZATION PROCESS**

HSAC members will review project applications. Members will use a review sheet to record points. The review sheet is reviewed and updated annually to align with local, regional, and state guidelines. A copy of the review sheet can be found on COG's website. Only LRGVDC's Homeland Security staff will tabulate points on review sheets.

Depending on ongoing health and safety factors, the prioritization meeting will be either online or in person. The authorized official, financial director, project director, grant wrighter or a representative that is knowledgeable of the project is required to attend the prioritization meeting and must be ready to provide a maximum three minute presentation to the HSAC, the date is to be determined once grant applications are batched back to the LRGVDC Homeland Security Staff.

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The COG shall ensure that members of the COG's governing body, the HSAC, and COG staff abstain from scoring and voting on any grant application other than a grant application submitted by a COG, during the prioritization process if the member or an individual related to the member within the third degree by consanguinity or within the second degree by affinity:

- a. Is employed by the applicant agency and works for the unit or division that would administer the grant, if awarded.
- b. Serves on any governing board that oversee the unit or division that would administer the grant, if awarded.
- c. Owns or controls any interest in a business entity or other non-governmental organization that benefits, directly or indirectly, from activities with the applicant agency.
- d. Receives any funds, or a substantial amount of tangible goods or routine services, from the applicant agency as a result of the grant, if awarded.



If an HSAC member has a conflict of interest regarding a grant application, the COG will ensure that the committee member abstains from voting, commenting, or otherwise influencing the prioritization process for that entity's specific project. If any applicant, HSAC member, COG personnel, or other individual, has reason to believe that favoritism or inappropriate actions occurred during the scoring or prioritization of PSO/HSGD projects, the COG shall ensure that the concerns are shared with PSO/HSGD as soon as possible.

### **FUNDING RECOMMENDATION GUIDELINES**

The HSAC reserves the right to recommend an amount less than the requested amount based on the budget cost effectiveness, reasonableness, and/or previous grant performance under present/past funding sources.

The COG/HSAC reserves the right to deny recommendations for funding on any application based on but not limited to:

- ineligible activity not permitted under the funding source
- ineligible line item(s) not permitted under the funding source
- project does not align with regional priorities
- eligibility criteria not met by applicant

All project grant applications prioritized by the HSAC are conditionally approved until the OOG's HSGD gives the final approval.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS OF CONDITIONALLY APPROVED GRANT APPLICATION PROJECTS TO LRGVDC EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The HSAC's recommended list of prioritized projects will be submitted to the LRGVDC's Board of Directors for review. The LRGVDC's Board of Directors reserves the right to endorse or disallow the HSAC's recommendations. COG staff shall notify all applicants of the approved priorities within (30) calendar days of board's approval.

\*The OOG's HSGD, however, will make the final approval on all conditionally approved projects.

### **FINAL REVIEW BY OOG'S HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS DIVISION**

The prioritized list of conditionally approved projects recommended for funding by the LRGVDC (COG-21) will be forwarded to the OOG by COG staff. If there are discrepancies on project grant applications, the OOG's HSGD staff will contact the applicant directly. All funding decisions made by the OOG's HSGD's Executive Director are final.

### **APPEALS PROCESS**

An applicant may appeal the actions of the HSAC based on procedural violation(s). The appeal must be submitted in writing to the LRGVDC's Board of Director's Chair within ten (10) regular business days from the date of the email notification. Please note that appeals cannot be based on areas of discretion in the HSAC's scoring criteria. Appeals made regarding an HSAC decision will be handled by the LRGVDC only.

The OOG's HSGD does not accept or provide an appeals process. If an applicant appeals a decision to the OOG's HSGD, the applicant will be requested to go back to their regional council of government for resolution.

**HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**SHSP&LETPA Application Scoring Sheet**

|                             |  |                  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| <b>Funding Opportunity:</b> |  | <b>Date:</b>     |  |
| <b>Agency/Jurisdiction:</b> |  |                  |  |
| <b>Project Title:</b>       |  | <b>Regional:</b> |  |
| <b>Presenter:</b>           |  | <b>LETPA:</b>    |  |
| <b>Amount Requested:</b>    |  | <b>NPA:</b>      |  |

### Regional Priorities (40 points)

| Question                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Scale              | Score |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| How well does the project address the gaps and capability targets within the LRGVDC region's Stakeholder Preparedness Report (SPR) and Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Implementation Plan (IP)? | 0-10               |       |
| Does the project sustain an existing capability?                                                                                                                                                                              | 0-10               |       |
| Is this project identified as a regional priority?                                                                                                                                                                            | Yes = 10<br>No = 0 |       |
| Does the application document a benefit to other agencies/organizations through written agreements, contracts, or plans?                                                                                                      | 0-10               |       |

### State and Federal Requirements (30 points)

| Question                                                                                                                                                                | Scale             | Score |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Does the project provide a clear nexus to terrorism?                                                                                                                    | 0-10              |       |
| Does the project confidently address one or more core capabilities identified within its corresponding activity area as determined by the Request For Assistance (RFA)? | 0-10              |       |
| Is this project a national priority area (NPA)?                                                                                                                         | Yes = 5<br>No = 0 |       |
| Is this project a law enforcement terrorism prevention activity (LETPA)?                                                                                                | Yes = 5<br>No = 0 |       |

### Application & Project Effectiveness (30 points)

| Question                                                                                                             | Scale | Score |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Is the project, as well as its goals, activities, and milestones reasonable and necessary?                           | 0-10  |       |
| Will the project's funding according to its budget line items adequately accomplish the stated goals of the project? | 0-10  |       |
| Was a representative/presenter from the applicant agency at the scoring meeting and knowledgeable about the project? | 0-10  |       |

**Project Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Continued on Back**

**HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**SHSP&LETPA Application Scoring Sheet**

|                             |  |                  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| <b>Funding Opportunity:</b> |  | <b>Date:</b>     |  |
| <b>Agency/Jurisdiction:</b> |  |                  |  |
| <b>Project Title:</b>       |  | <b>Regional:</b> |  |
| <b>Presenter:</b>           |  | <b>LETPA:</b>    |  |
| <b>Amount Requested:</b>    |  | <b>NPA:</b>      |  |

**Vote Exemption Status**

*Per the **Homeland Security Advisory Committee** bylaws and the requirements established by the State of Texas Office of the Governor's (OOG) Homeland Security Grant Division (HSGD), no committee member from the applicant agency may vote on a project. While a member of the committee may present a project application for funding consideration, no member shall advocate or attempt to influence the committee concerning their jurisdiction's application after their presentation or during the scoring/ranking process.*

|                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am not employed by or directly affiliated with the applicant agency.                                                                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am either employed by or am directly affiliated with the applicant agency and therefore cannot vote or provide comment or discussion on the project. |
| <b>Comments:</b><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>                                                                                                                        |

**Member Voting Agreement**

I, as a member of the **Homeland Security Advisory Committee** Advisory Committee, hereby agree that I have scored this application in honesty and fairness, without duress or influence from external parties. I further agree that all comments and scores are my own. I agree that I understand the bylaws, scoring practices, and funding process of this committee and agree to the requirements established by the Office of the Governor's Homeland Security Grant Division.

|              |           |      |
|--------------|-----------|------|
|              |           |      |
| Printed Name | Signature | Date |

**Continued on Back**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public Safety

Program Action Item ..... Cesar Merla  
Assistant Director

2. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Bylaws and Membership Roster for FY2026-2027 Grant Cycle.

The Homeland Security Advisory Committee convened on October 2, 2025, to update and approve the Bylaws and Membership Roster for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2026-2027 grant cycle. These steps aim to ensure that the committee operates efficiently, remains aligned with its objectives, and abides by the established protocols. The committee's commitment to these considerations will foster a structured approach to its work, contributing to advancing its mission in the Homeland Security Advisory Committee.

\*\*Due to file size, the (HSAC) Bylaws for FY 2026-2027 can be accessed through the link provided on the email.

**Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Homeland Security Advisory Committee  
Bylaws & Membership  
FY 2026-2027**



**LRGVDC Public Safety - Homeland Security Program  
301 W. Railroad St.  
Weslaco, TX 78596**

**Contact Us**



**[www.lrgvdc.org](http://www.lrgvdc.org)**



**956-682-3481**



## **Article I - Name, Purpose, Responsibilities**

The Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) was created as a voluntary, unincorporated association of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) in November of 2004.

The HSAC's primary responsibility is to assist the LRGVDC in the development, implementation, review, and update of comprehensive plans to serve the needs of the region in the event of terrorist activities, natural disasters, and man-made disasters and to evaluate and make recommendations on grant applications submitted by eligible jurisdictions.

Subject to LRGVDC Board of Directors specifying otherwise, the HSAC's specific responsibilities are:

1. The prioritization of funding proposals to determine their consistency with applicable regional plans and furnishing these evaluations to the LRGVDC Board of Directors.
2. To advise LRGVDC's member cities, counties, and special districts, directly or through the LRGVDC Board of Directors, on matters within their jurisdiction pertaining to emergency preparedness, homeland security and other matters.
3. To identify regional gaps, existing capabilities, available resources and to establish goals and priorities.
4. Identify trainings and exercises/workshops.

## **Article II Membership**

The HSAC is composed of 14 member jurisdictions, and shall be appointed members based upon the following criteria:

1. Member Jurisdictions from Cameron County, 5 representative(s) jurisdictions  
Member Jurisdictions from Hidalgo County, 7 representative(s) jurisdictions  
Member Jurisdictions from Willacy County, 2 representative(s) jurisdictions
2. The 14 member jurisdictions which are presently members of the HSAC (under existing criteria, Article II- Qualifications, Section 3) shall remain as "permanent" members of the HSAC, so long as they remain eligible pursuant to these bylaws.
3. Upon a vacancy, as described hereunder, the jurisdiction within that affected county shall appoint a replacement candidate. Thereafter, the proposed candidate must be confirmed by simple majority of all HSAC members present i.e. the person with the most votes.
4. A representative of the LRGVDC Board of Directors may serve on the advisory committee.
5. A LRGVDC staff member, designated by the LRGVDC Board of Directors, shall act as HSAC Liaison, and shall attend each HSAC meeting.



### Term

1. If the member were to become ineligible, the individual may be reappointed once the individual meets all qualifications listed under existing criteria as annotated in Article II- Qualifications, Section 3
2. In the case of a city vacancy, the mayor or city manager must send their recommended member for the appointed seat. If the position is a county vacancy, the county judge or authorized representative must send in their recommendation for that vacancy. Ratification of the replacement to serves as a qualified member is retained only by the LRGVDC Board of Directors.
3. All members will be renewed and approved by the LRGVDC Board of Directors on an annual basis beginning on the first Thursday in October of the Federal Fiscal Year.
4. There is no maximum amount of terms that a member can serve on the HSAC.
5. A member may be removed for good cause at any time by the LRGVDC Board of Directors.

### Qualifications

1. To be eligible for membership on the HSAC, a jurisdiction must have an up-to-date and approved Emergency Management Plan on file with the State of Texas-Office of Homeland Security. The plan must comply with all the requirements and regulations under the Homeland Security Presidential Directives (HSPD) 5. This directive authorized the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, Local and Tribal governments to increase interagency cooperation and coordination effectively and efficiently in order to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity.
2. Member jurisdictions shall appoint individuals to exercise the member's voting and other privileges on the HSAC. Such individuals shall be employees of the member jurisdiction with experience in any of the categories enumerated in paragraphs 3 (A-G) below. Each member jurisdiction shall appoint a primary representative and three alternates/proxies to represent the jurisdiction on the HSAC. Such designation shall follow their own jurisdiction's local protocol and shall present in writing by an Authorized Official such as but not limited to the county judge or highest elected official, county administrator or designee, city mayor, and submitted to the HSAC by an authorized representative of the member jurisdiction. The designation may be changed from time to time by the member jurisdiction by an amended written designation. No person, other than the person listed as an alternate/proxy shall be eligible to exercise voting and privileges on behalf of the primary member.
3. Member jurisdictions shall designate individuals to represent it on the HSAC who have experience in the categories listed below; provided, however, that member jurisdictions shall, subject to the requirements of paragraph 2 above, have discretion to appoint such individuals as they deem appropriate to represent it on the HSAC.



- A. Emergency Management
- B. Law Enforcement
- C. Fire Service
- D. Emergency Medical Services
- E. Special Needs Community
- F. Public Health
- G. Public Works

#### Vacancy

A vacancy occurs when:

1. A member jurisdiction becomes ineligible for a period of more than one (1) calendar year; or
2. A member is not reappointed; or
3. A member resigns (resignations shall be in writing to the LRGVDC HSAC liaison and the Advisory Committee Chair); or
4. A member is removed; or
5. A member no longer meets the qualification requirements.

#### Attendance

1. Attendance records documenting HSAC member absences will be maintained by the LRGVDC-HSAC Liaison and internal staff. If none of the representatives designated by a member is able to attend a scheduled meeting, notification must be provided to the HSAC liaison prior to the meeting.
2. An HSAC Member or the member's alternate/proxy is expected to attend all regular meetings. Failing to attend at least 50% of the HSAC meetings during a calendar year, may be subject to removal from the HSAC. The member will be electronically notified upon the fourth (4th) absence to advise the member of the six (6) absence rule. On the sixth (6) absence, the member will be notified in writing (both email and hardcopy letter) that is signed by the LRGVDC Executive Director of such removal.
3. Members so removed may appeal in writing (both email and hardcopy letter) to the LRGVDC Board of Directors within two (2) weeks of the date of notification. Appeals will be handled in a timely manner as designated by the LRGVDC Board of Directors and the member will be notified in writing (both email and hardcopy letter) of the decision.



## **Article III – Officers**

### **Election**

1. The HSAC shall elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Parliamentarian from among the primary representatives designated by the member jurisdictions. Election of a Chair, Vice-Chair and Parliamentarian will occur at the time of member elections/renewals on the first Thursday of October of the Federal Fiscal Year. Only the individual elected by the HSAC shall be eligible to carry out the functions of the office to which that person is elected, *i.e.*, alternate/proxy representatives from the same member jurisdiction can not serve in the officer's absence unless duly elected. Thereafter, the purposed candidate must be confirmed by simple majority of the HSAC members *i.e* the majority of the votes.

### **Term**

1. Elected Officers serve 2 year terms beginning on the date of election. Upon HSAC and LRGVDC Board of Directors approval, Officers will serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms.

### **Vacancy**

1. In the event an Officer is unable to fulfill his or her term, the HSAC shall elect a replacement at a regular or specially called meeting, who will serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

### **Duties**

1. The Chair presides at the meetings of the HSAC and shall have full voting privileges.
2. The Vice-Chair performs the Chair's duties in the absences of the Chair. In the event both the Chair and Vice-Chair are absent from a meeting, the HSAC Parliamentarian will preside over the meeting.
3. The Parliamentarian ensures that the meeting is kept in order and proceeds in a timely manner. The Parliamentarian may serve in place of the Vice-Chair in the vent the designated individual is not present. The Parliamentarian may also serve as the presiding member of the HSAC in the event that both the Chair and Vice-Chair are not present.
4. If the Chair, Vice-Chair and Parliamentarian are not present during the meeting, the HSAC shall select who presides over the meeting.

### **Other Officers**

The HSAC may elect other Officers from time to time to carry out its responsibilities. This may be done by a simple majority vote of the HSAC members at any regularly scheduled meeting where a quorum is present.



## **Article IV- Meetings**

### **Regular Meetings**

1. The HSAC shall meet a minimum of 6 times a year (no meeting in July), to include the prioritization meeting at a time and place specified by the HSAC Liaison. Should there be a conflict in schedules, such as a holiday or an agreed change to the movement of a meeting: the meeting will be rescheduled at a time that is appropriate. Notes: Change all sections that state 6 meetings.
2. Written notice, including an agenda, of each regular shall be prepared by the LRGVDC HSAC liaison and electronically transmitted to each HSAC member at least five (5) business days before the meeting date. However, if the notice is not provided within the time indicated, and a quorum of HSAC members are present, the meeting may proceed and the defect in notice shall not affect the validity of any action taken at such meeting.
3. HSAC may conduct telephone and videoconference calls to conduct meetings. These meetings must be set up to provide live two-way communication during the entire conference call and the identity of each HSAC member must be clearly stated prior to speaking.

### **Special Meetings**

1. The HSAC shall meet specially if called by the LRGVDC Board of directors, the LRGVDC HSAC liaison, the HSAC Chair, or requested in writing by at least one Third, four (4) members of the membership, excluding vacancies, of the HSAC.
2. A request by the membership for a special meeting must be in writing or in electronic format, addressed to the Chair, and must describe the purpose of the meeting. Only that business reasonably related to the purpose or purposes described in the request may be conducted at a special meeting.
3. Notice of any special meeting shall be given at least 72 hours prior to the special meeting.

### **Quorum and Action**

1. A majority of the total voting membership, excluding vacancies, constitutes a quorum for conducting HSAC business.
2. A majority vote of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present is necessary for action by the HSAC. During a meeting at which a quorum has been established, and then subsequently lost due to members leaving, all remaining business items requiring an HSAC vote or action must be postponed until the next scheduled meeting at which a quorum is established.
3. A HSAC member may not transfer voting rights to the proxy of another jurisdiction.



### Open Meetings and Records

1. All regular meetings of the HSAC shall be open to the public. Minutes of the HSAC meetings, documents distributed, and other records are the property of LRGVDC. These materials are available for public view, at the LRGVDC offices, upon receipt of a written request by the interested party.
2. Except where these bylaws require otherwise, *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern the conduct of HSAC meetings in the event of any dispute regarding the conduct of business.
3. The HSAC Committee may conduct business via conference call and/or electronic transmissions, with any actions taken by the HSAC Committee being placed on the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting for ratification by the board.

### Conflict of Interest

1. An HSAC member other than an elected public official, who is a member of the governing body, an officer, or an employee of an applicant for funding and who has a financial interest or business relationship with a vendor or proposed vendor must disclose his or her status before the application is considered by the HSAC and may not participate in discussion of or vote on the application. The member is counted in determining the existence of a quorum.
2. A vote cast in violation of this section is not counted.
3. For purpose of this section a number is deemed to have a financial business interest with a vendor or proposed vendor if the member or member's spouse or a relative of the member or spouse within the degree or consanguinity has an interest with such vendor as defined in Chapter 171 the Local Government Code.
4. Enforcement of the conflict-of-interest policy for the grant review process:
  - i. Members of the COG's governing body, the HSAC and COG staff must abstain from scoring and voting on any grant application submitted during the prioritization process if the member or an individual related to the member within the third degree by consanguinity or within the second degree by affinity:
    - a. Is employed by the applicant agency and works for the unit or division that would administer the grant, if awarded.
    - b. Serves on any board that oversees the unit or division that would administer the grant, if awarded.
    - c. Owns or controls any interest in a business entity or other non-governmental organization that benefits, directly or indirectly, from activities with the applicant agency.
    - d. Receives any funds from the applicant agency as a result of the grant, if awarded; or
    - e. Uses or receives a substantial amount of tangible goods, services, or funds from the applicant agency
  - ii. Additional conflict of interest requirement or mitigations may be required, including written disclosures and implementation of confidentiality policies and protocols.



## Professional Conduct

HSAC members should maintain objectivity and professionalism when carrying out business of the HSAC. In the event an HSAC member acts in a manner which brings the work of the HSAC into question or controversy, it shall be the responsibility of the LRGVDC Board of Directors to address the incident.

## Article V- Committee

### Ad Hoc

1. Ad hoc committees may be appointed by the Chair with the approval of the HSAC and shall serve for special purpose to comply with special needs.
2. Membership on ad hoc committees shall be established to achieve the purpose for which the committee was created.
3. The method for calling ad hoc committee meetings shall be the same as that for calling HSAC meetings or at the discretion of the ad hoc committee membership to discharge their responsibility.
4. Chairs of the ad hoc committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the HSAC.

### Article VI Amendments

#### By LRGVDC Board of Directors

The LRGVDC Board of Directors may amend these bylaws at a regular or special meeting. The written text of the proposed amendment will be considered.

#### By Homeland Security Advisory Committee

The HSAC may recommended amendments to these bylaws by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of its membership at a regular or special meeting. The written text of a proposed amendment must be included with the notice of the meeting at which the amendment will be considered. A recommendation for amendment adopted by the HSAC is not effective unless approved by the LRGVDC Board of Directors.

### Effective Date

An Amendment to the bylaws takes effect when approved by the LRGVDC Board of Directors unless the amendment specifies a later effective date. Copies of amended bylaws will be distributed to Committee members by the Committee liaison.



**Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (COG-21)**  
**Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC)**  
**FY 2026**

**Chair**  
**Tom Hushen, EMC**  
***Cameron County***

**Vice Chair**  
Jeff Johnston, Assistant City Manager/EMC  
***City of McAllen***

**Parliamentarian**  
Odee Leal, EM Administrator/EMC  
***City of Brownsville***

Alfredo Alvear, Police Chief/Assistant EMC  
***City of Harlingen***

Hector Gonzalez, Police Chief  
***City of Los Fresnos***

Jim Pigg, Fire Chief/EMC  
***City of South Padre Island***

Omar Garza, Fire Chief/EMC  
***City of Edinburg***

Ricardo Saldana, EMC  
***Hidalgo County***

Jesus Ortega, Lieutenant/EMC  
***City of Hidalgo***

Michael Silva, Interim Fire Chief  
***City of Mission***

Dr. Johnathan Flores, City Manager  
***City of Pharr***

Antonio (Tony) Lopez, Fire Chief/EMC  
***City of Weslaco***

Uvaldo Zamora, Police Chief  
***City of Raymondville***

Frank Torres, EMC  
***Willacy County***

Rev. 9/18/2025



## Bylaws History

Adopted 12/04

Amendment to Article IV-Meetings 09/05

Amendment to Article II- Qualifications 10/05

Amendment to Article I - Name, Purpose, Responsibilities 10.7.2010

Amendment to Article II – Membership 10.7.2010 (all subcategories were revised)

Amendment to Article III – Officers 10.7.2010

Amendment to Article IV – Meetings 10.7.2010

Amendment to Article IV – Amendments 10.7.2010

Amendment to Article II – Membership 04.04.2013 (Opening paragraph and item 4)

Amendment to Article II - Terms 04.04.2013 (Item 1 and added item 4)

Amendment to Article II – Qualifications 04.04.2013 (Item 2, revised sentence 4)

Amendment to Article II - Membership 04.08.2015 (Item 5 added)

Amendment to Article II – Membership: Term 04.08.2015 (Removed Item 1)

Amendment to Article II – Membership: Qualifications 04.08.2015 (Revised Item 2)

Amendment to Article II – Membership: Attendance 04.08.2015 (Revised Item 3)

Amendment to Article IV – Meetings: Regular 04.08.2015 (Item 3 added)

Amendment to Article IV – Meetings: Conflict of Interest (Added Item 4)

Amendment to Article I, II, IV-03/07/2019

Amendment to Article I, IV-12/28/21

Amendment to Articles I-V – 08/03/2023

Renewed October 29, 2025

DRAFT

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public Safety

Program Action Item ..... Cesar Merla  
Assistant Director

3. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Policies and Procedures and Scoring Criteria for FY2026-2027 Grant Cycle.

The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee convened on October 8, 2025, to update and approve the Application Scoring Criteria for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2026-2027 grant cycle. These steps aim to ensure that the committee operates efficiently, remains aligned with its objectives, and abides by the established protocols. The committee's commitment to these considerations will foster a structured approach to its work, contributing to advancing its mission in the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee.

\*\*Due to file size, the (CJAC) Bylaws for FY 2026-2027 can be accessed through the link provided on the email.

**Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Criminal Justice Advisory Committee  
Policies, Procedures  
& Scoring Criteria  
FY2026-2027**



**LRGVDC Public Safety - Criminal Justice Program  
301 W. Railroad St.  
Weslaco, TX 78596**

**Contact Us**



**[www.lrgvdc.org](http://www.lrgvdc.org)**



**956-682-3481**



## Table of Contents

|                                                                                                        |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Office of the Governor's Criminal Justice Division and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council | P.3   |
| Policies Authority                                                                                     | P.3   |
| Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC)                                                             | P.3   |
| Funding Sources                                                                                        | P.3   |
| Grant Eligibility Requirements                                                                         | P.4   |
| Mandatory Grant Workshop                                                                               | P.4   |
| Applications                                                                                           | p.4   |
| Equipment Only Funding Requests                                                                        | P.4   |
| Ineligible Applications                                                                                | P.4   |
| LRGVDC's Criminal Justice Regional Strategic Plan                                                      | P.4   |
| Prioritization Process                                                                                 | P.5   |
| Conflict of Interest                                                                                   | P.5   |
| Notification of Prioritization Results                                                                 | P.6   |
| Local Appeals Process                                                                                  | P.6   |
| Final Review by CJD                                                                                    | P.6   |
| Scoring Criteria                                                                                       | P.7-8 |



## **THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE GRANTS DIVISION AND THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

The Office of the Governor's (OOG) Criminal Justice Division (CJD) is the entity responsible for administering and awarding a number of grant programs across the State of Texas. The grant funding assists Texas jurisdictions to improve public safety and support victims of crime by filling system gaps and promoting innovative solutions to common challenges. The LRGVDC is one of twenty-four Councils of Government (COG) in the State of Texas and is the liaison between the OOG and local jurisdictions in the three county regions, which includes the counties of Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy.

### **POLICIES AUTHORITY**

The following policies and procedures will govern the LRGVDC's Criminal Justice Advisory Committee's (CJAC) application review and prioritization process for designated funding sources. In addition, these policies and procedures will govern the operation of LRGVDC's Criminal Justice planning as outlined in the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between CJD and the LRGVDC. These policies are reviewed annually to align with local, regional and state guidelines.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CJAC)**

The CJAC is a volunteer committee comprised of a multi-disciplinary representation of members from the region as per CJD requirements. Members are appointed by the LRGVDC's Executive Committee. The responsibility of the CJAC is to advise the LRGVDC on matters related to criminal justice.

The discipline areas include:

- citizens or parents
- substance abuse prevention
- education, juvenile justice
- law enforcement
- mental health
- non-profit organizations
- prosecution or courts
- victim services
- municipalities/counties

No single group or discipline may constitute more than one-third (1/3) of the CJAC.

### **FUNDING SOURCES**

The CJAC will review and prioritize the following CJD funding sources:

- General Victim Assistance Direct Services Program
- Violent Crimes Against Women Justice and Training Program
- Criminal Justice Programs
- Juvenile Justice and Truancy Prevention
- Child Sex Trafficking
- Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Ready Facilities Program



## **GRANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

All applicants regardless of funding status must meet ALL the requirements as set forth by the Office of the Governor/Public Safety Office's Criminal Justice Division's Request for Funding Announcement (RFA), no exceptions.

The LRGVDC's Criminal Justice staff and the CJAC shall ensure that the funding recommendations on applications are based on the following factors: the LRGVDC's Criminal Justice Strategic Plan, CJAC Policies, CJD requirements, reasonableness, and cost effectiveness.

## **MANDATORY GRANT WORKSHOP**

All applicants are required to attend one grant workshop sponsored by the LRGVDC's Criminal Justice staff. Representatives can be one of the three grant designated officials, or a knowledgeable employee of the agency that is applying. Applicants who fail to attend a mandatory grant workshop shall be ineligible. Applicants can attend the grant workshop virtually if not physically able to attend.

## **APPLICATIONS**

All applications shall be submitted on CJD's online grant management system, [egrants.gov.texas.gov](http://egrants.gov.texas.gov). All submission deadlines are determined by the Office of the Governor/Public Safety Office's Criminal Justice Division.

## **EQUIPMENT ONLY FUNDING REQUESTS**

Applicants requesting funding for equipment only and no programmatic services, will be considered a biennium only applicant.

## **INELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS**

Duplicate applications submitted for more than one COG administered CJD funding source will be considered under one funding source only. Applicants will be responsible for deciding which funding source they will apply under.

The CJAC reserves the right to deny recommendation for funding on any application, ineligible activity or line item that is not permitted under the funding source. LRGVDC staff will notify the Criminal Justice Division of such decisions.

## **LRGVDC's CRIMINAL JUSTICE REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN**

All eligible applications must address one or more of the priorities outlined in the regional strategic plan. The plan is available on the LRGVDC's website, [www.lrgvdc.org](http://www.lrgvdc.org).

The regional strategic plan describes the following:

- how local communities are engaged in the planning process
- how the data is used to support the plan
- stakeholders participating in the planning process
- gaps in resources for criminal justice needs
- criminal justice priorities identified during the planning process
- how the plan will be used by the CJAC during the prioritization process



## **PRIORITIZATION PROCESS**

CJAC Members will be given a minimum of two-weeks to review and prioritize applications. Members will use a scoring instrument to record and tabulate application scoring. COG staff will tabulate scores and compile a priority list. The scoring instrument is reviewed annually and is updated as needed to reflect local, state, and federal guidelines. Once the scores are tabulated, the CJAC will hold a prioritization meeting to review rankings and determine budget allocations.

- **Tie Breaking Procedures**

The highest and lowest score will be removed and recalculated to obtain the new aggregated score and will not affect the overall rankings of all the other applicants.

Depending on ongoing health and safety factors, the prioritization meeting will be either online, or in person. Applicants will be notified of the prioritization meeting date and platform, but attendance is not mandatory.

The CJAC reserves the right to recommend an amount less than the requested amount based on the budget cost effectiveness, reasonableness, or previous performance under all funding sources.

COG staff will submit the CJAC's recommended priority lists for all the funding categories to the LRGVDC Board of Directors to review and approve. The LRGVDC Board of Directors reserves the right to endorse or disallow the CJAC's recommendations. Once approved, the COG will submit the approved priority lists of grant projects to CJD. All projects are conditionally approved until CJD makes the final determination.

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The COG shall ensure that members of the COG's governing body, the CJAC, and COG staff abstain from scoring and voting on any grant application, other than a grant application submitted by a COG, during the prioritization process if the member or an individual related to the member within the third degree by consanguinity or within the second degree by affinity:

- is employed by the applicant agency and works for the unit or division that would administer the grant, if awarded;
- serves on any governing board that oversees the unit or division that would administer the grant, if awarded; or
- owns or controls any interest in a business entity or other non-governmental organization that benefits, directly or indirectly, from activities with the applicant agency; or
- receives any funds from the applicant agency as a result of the grant, if awarded; or
- receives any funds, or a substantial amount of tangible goods, or services, from the applicant agency as a result of the grant, if awarded.

If a CJAC member has a conflict of interest regarding a particular grant application, the member must abstain from voting, commenting, or otherwise influencing the prioritization process from the entire fund source in that category.

If any applicant, CJAC member, COG personnel or other individual has reason to believe that favoritism or inappropriate actions occurred during the scoring or prioritization of PSO/CJD projects, the COG shall ensure that concerns are shared with PSO/CJD as soon as possible.





[illegible]

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public Safety

Program Action Item ..... Cesar Merla  
Assistant Director

4. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Bylaws and Membership Roster for FY2026-2027 Grant Cycle.

The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee convened on October 8, 2025, to update and approve the for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2026-2027 grant cycle. These steps aim to ensure that the committee operates efficiently, remains aligned with its objectives and abides by the established protocols. The committee's commitment to these considerations will foster a structured approach to its work, contributing to advancing its mission in the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee.

\*\*Due to file size, the (CJAC) Bylaws for FY 2026-2027 can be accessed through the link provided on the email.

**Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Criminal Justice Advisory Committee  
Bylaws & Membership  
FY2026-2027**



**LRGVDC Public Safety - Criminal Justice Program  
301 W. Railroad St.  
Weslaco, TX 78596**

**Contact Us**



**[www.lrgvdc.org](http://www.lrgvdc.org)**



**956-682-3481**



#### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of the Committee shall be the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC).

#### **ARTICLE II - AUTHORITY**

The CJAC is hereby created by the LRGVDC under the authority of the LRGVDC Bylaws. The CJAC is a subcommittee of the LRGVDC Board of Directors. The CJAC shall furnish policy guidance to the LRGVDC Board of Directors and shall recommend programs to reduce crime and improve the criminal justice system throughout the region.

#### **ARTICLE III - FUNCTIONS OF COMMITTEE**

The CJAC shall carry out the following:

1. Advise the LRGVDC's Board of Directors on matters related to criminal justice.
2. Provide input on the LRGVDC's Regional Criminal Justice Strategic Plan.
3. The CJAC reviews and prioritizes grant applications submitted to CJD.

Funding sources under the CJAC Committee are:

- General Victim Assistance - Direct Services Programs
- Violent Crimes Against Women Criminal Justice and Training Projects – Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking
- Criminal Justice Programs
- General Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Programs
- Truancy Prevention
- Child Sex Trafficking
- Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Ready Facilities Program

#### **ARTICLE IV - PROCEDURES, MEMBERSHIP, AND RECORDS**

The following rules shall govern the procedures, membership, and records of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC).

##### **Parliamentary Authority**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the CJAC in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the CJAC may adopt.

##### **Election of Officers**

The CJAC shall elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Parliamentarian/Secretary from among the primary representatives. Election of a Chair, Vice-Chair and Parliamentarian will occur at the time of member elections/renewals on the first Wednesday of October of the Federal Fiscal Year. Only the individual elected by the CJAC shall be eligible to carry out the functions of the office to which that person is elected, i.e., alternate/proxy representatives from the same member area cannot serve in the officer's absence unless duly elected. Thereafter, the purposed candidate must be confirmed by simple majority of the CJAC members i.e the majority of the votes.



### Officers

The officers shall be a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Parliamentarian/Secretary. The election for the officers shall be conducted at a regularly scheduled CJAC meeting and approved by the LRGVDC Board of Directors biennially.

Elected Officers will serve a two (2) year term which will begin on the first meeting in October of the Federal Fiscal Year. These officers shall constitute the CJAC Executive Committee. Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties shall each have a representative on this committee.

In the event of the Chairperson's vacancy, the Vice Chairperson will ascend to Chairperson and the Parliamentarian/Secretary will ascend to Vice Chairperson thus creating a vacancy of Parliamentarian/Secretary who will be nominated from the corresponding county. In order to ascend, officers must attend all meetings.

If neither the Vice Chairperson or the Parliamentarian/Secretary accept the automatic ascension to Chairperson, nominations of CJAC members who have served for two (2) or more years on the CJAC may be submitted and voted into office by members by simple majority vote.

### Membership

Total CJAC membership shall be twenty-eight (28) persons appointed for a term of two (2) years elected by the CJAC members and ratified by the LRGVDC Board of Directors. A single group/discipline may not constitute more than one-third (1/3) or nine (9) of the CJAC and must be a representative of any the three (3) counties.

The CJAC membership must have a multi-disciplinary representation of members from the region. The CJAC's membership must include individuals from the following groups/disciplines:

- citizens or parents
- substance abuse prevention
- education
- juvenile justice
- law enforcement
- mental health
- nonprofit organizations
- prosecution or courts
- victim services
- municipalities/counties

The CJAC's members' terms will begin on the first meeting in October at the beginning of the Federal Fiscal Year. Vacancies shall be filled by the CJAC members to complete an unexpired term as a replacement from the same county, not to exceed the (1/3) membership rule. There is no maximum number of terms that a members can serve. All persons nominated by the CJAC shall be submitted for approval to the LRGVDC Board of Directors. LRGVDC staff shall offer an annual CJAC training for all current and new members and the assigned alternate/proxy. An Ex-Officio Liaison can be appointed by the LRGVDC Board of Directors as a liaison to the CJAC with no voting powers. A signed Biennium Commitment Statement will be included as a requirement of all CJAC members before they can participate in any official proceedings. This acknowledgement will be signed biennially by all CJAC members and will explain the six (6) Total Absences rule.



### Professional Conduct

Members will maintain objectivity and professionalism when carrying out business of the CJAC. In the event a CJAC member acts in a manner which is not objective or professional, it shall be the responsibility of the CJAC Executive Committee to address the incident with the LRGVDC CJAC Liaison. Once the CJAC Liaison is notified, the CJAC Liaison will report to the LRGVDC Board of Directors of any incidents, actions and recommendations.

### Vacancy

A vacancy occurs when:

- 1) A member's term expires, and the member is not reappointed.
- 2) A member resigns (resignations shall be in writing to the LRGVDC CJAC).
- 3) A member may be removed upon recommendation of three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of the CJAC's quorum.
- 4) A member no longer meets the discipline requirements as listed under membership or attendance; or on the advice of the board of directors.
- 5) A member dies.

### Alternates

- 1) CJAC Members shall name up to two (2) alternates/proxy at the time they sign the Biennium Commitment Statement. An alternate cannot represent more than one member.
- 2) Alternates shall, insofar as possible, represent the same functional discipline as primary Criminal Justice Advisory Committee members subject to applicable regulations and guidelines outlined in Article III (Memberships) of these bylaws.
- 3) Only primary Criminal Justice Advisory Committee members or their designated alternates shall have voting privileges during any committee meeting.
- 4) Prior to any scheduled CJAC meetings, the primary member must provide training to their alternate(s).
- 5) During the grant priority process, alternates cannot have voting privileges unless the alternate(s) was present during the grant category that is being presented.

### Voting

- 1) Each member of the CJAC or the alternate/proxy shall have one (1) vote.
- 2) Each member or his/her alternate must be present to cast a vote.
- 3) The Member or Alternate who is present at roll call shall be the only one authorized to vote on any action items for that meeting.
- 4) For the prioritization meeting(s), the Member or Alternate who is present at roll call shall be the only one authorized to vote on any action items for that category.

### Officers Duties

- 1) The Chairperson shall preside at CJAC meetings.
- 2) In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall assume the duties of the Chairperson, or in the event of the Chairperson's inability or refusal to act, the Parliamentarian/Secretary shall have the powers of, and shall perform the duties of the Chairperson.
- 3) In the absence of both Chairperson and Vice Chairperson the Parliamentarian/Secretary shall assume the duties of the Chairperson. The Parliamentarian/Secretary shall give advice on parliamentary procedures to officers and members of the CJAC.
- 4) In the event there is no officer present, the CJAC Members can select a member to preside over the meeting.



### Quorum for Business

The quorum for transaction of any business shall be fifty-one percent (51%) of the voting membership present. A quorum for this committee consists of fourteen (14) members with a majority of being eight (8) members.

### Attendance

Consecutive Absence Rule. Members and/or alternates/proxy who fail to attend six (6) total meetings shall be subject to removal from the CJAC. After the fourth absence, LRGVDC staff will notify the CJAC member to advise him/her of the Total Absence Rule by email and written correspondence.

On the fourth absence, the member will be notified by regular and electronic mail to inform him/her of the attendance provision. After the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) absence, a member will be subject to removal, and a letter, signed by the LRGVDC Executive Director will be sent to the member informing him/her of their removal. Members so removed may appeal in writing (both email and hardcopy letter) to the LRGVDC Board of Directors within two (2) weeks of the date of notification. Appeals will be handled in a timely manner as designated by the LRGVDC Board of Directors and the member will be notified in writing (both email and hardcopy letter) of the decision. Throughout the appeal process, the LRGVDC staff will keep the LRGVDC Board of Directors informed. An absence from any subcommittee meeting is exempt from the Total Absence rule.

The total absence rule applies starting the first meeting in October of the Federal Fiscal Year.

### Meetings

Regular meetings will be held eleven (11) months of the calendar year with the purpose to modify/review the bylaws, policy manual and membership for a new grant cycle, for a training session regarding scoring procedures prior to new grant cycle, and to prioritize grant applications. Special meetings will be called to orient new members about the function of the CJAC and to address other business that the CJAC deems necessary. The Chairperson shall announce the meeting and provide written notice of the date, hour, place and subject of the meeting via the LRGVDC staff. This notice shall be submitted at least (72) hours in advance of the meeting date, in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. CJAC meetings may be conducted via teleconference call and/or video call using either Microsoft Teams, Zoom or another approved format.

### Minutes

Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded by the staff of the LRGVDC Criminal Justice Department.



### Temporary Subcommittees

The Chairperson of the CJAC shall be responsible for the designation of the membership of any standing and temporary subcommittees. Subcommittees shall be created to improve the quality of service provided by the CJAC.

The subcommittees are comprised of the following categories:

Membership Subcommittee which will be assigned with:

- Reviewing and recommending new appointments to the CJAC;
- Review and recommend nominees to the Executive Board; and
- If a member appeals their removal from the CJAC based on the consecutive absence rule, the committee will consider the appeal and make the recommendation to the CJAC board.

Bylaws Subcommittee which will be assigned with reviewing and recommending any revisions of the bylaws on an annual basis.

Policies and Procedures Subcommittee which will be assigned with reviewing and recommending any revisions the policies and procedures on an annual basis.

### **ARTICLE V - ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF THESE BY-LAWS**

The following rules shall govern the procedures for the adoption and amendments of the bylaws contained herein.

#### Adoption of Amendments

These bylaws may be adopted by the Board of Directors of the LRGVDC. An Amendment to these procedures may be proposed by a majority vote of the CJAC members present. A proposed amendment passed by the CJAC shall be submitted for approval to the LRGVDC Board of Directors one week prior to a regular monthly meeting of the LRGVDC Board of Directors.

*Disclosure: Bylaws implemented at the local level can only be superseded by the State of Texas,*

**Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (COG-21)**  
**Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC)**  
**FY 2026**

**Patrick “Kelley” McCormick-Chair**  
Hidalgo County

**Patricia “Cookie” Bader- Vice Chair**  
Hidalgo County

**Robert Lopez– Parliamentarian**  
Hidalgo County

**Annie Romero**  
Cameron County

**Mario G. Perea**  
Cameron County

**David K. Longoria**  
Cameron County

**Gloria Ocampo**  
Cameron County

**Laura Soule**  
Cameron County

**Luis Saenz**  
Cameron County

**Pablo Almaguer**  
Cameron County

**Rose Gomez**  
Cameron County

**Rosie Mendoza**  
Cameron County

**Tom Hushen**  
Cameron County

**Antonio “Rick” Gonzalez**  
Hidalgo County

**Carla Rodriguez**  
Hidalgo County

**Christina Sprawls**  
Hidalgo County

**Eddie Guerra**  
Hidalgo County

**Mark Perez**  
Hidalgo County

**Toribio “Terry” Palacios**  
Hidalgo County

**Rosa Hernandez**  
Hidalgo County

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Rosie Martinez</b><br>Hidalgo County   |
| <b>Robert Lopez</b><br>Hidalgo County     |
| <b>Maryann Denner</b><br>Hidalgo County   |
| <b>Annette Hinojosa</b><br>Willacy County |
| <b>Frank Garcia</b><br>Willacy County     |
| <b>Uvaldo Zamora</b><br>Willacy County    |
| <b>Raul Garza</b><br>Willacy County       |
| <b>Monica H. Sanchez</b><br>Regional      |

DRAFT

# Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

## Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public Safety.....Cesar Merla, Assistant  
Director

### Criminal Justice Program

- Staff hosted the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Meeting on October 8, 2025, at the LRGVDC Ken Jones Executive Board in Weslaco, TX
- Staff attended the National Night Out (NNO) in Cameron County on October 7, 2025, at the Harlingen Annex in Harlingen, TX
- Staff attended the City of Alton National Night Out (NNO) on October 23, 2025, at the Sylvia Vela Park in Alton, TX
- Staff attended the Willacy County Sheriff Office National Night Out (NNO) on October 24, 2025, at the Willacy County Livestock Show Grounds, Raymondville, TX

### Homeland Security Program

- Staff hosted the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Meeting on October 2, 2025, at the LRGVDC Ken Jones Executive Board in Weslaco, TX
- Staff attended the webinar RGV Long Term Disaster Response Committee Meeting on October 8, 2025
- Staff member participated in the webinar on October 9, 2025, on the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) Public Safety Office Preparedness Programs Monthly call.
- Staff hosted the Rio Grande Regional Response Group (RGRRG) meeting on October 15, 2025, at the LRGVDC Small Board room, in Weslaco.

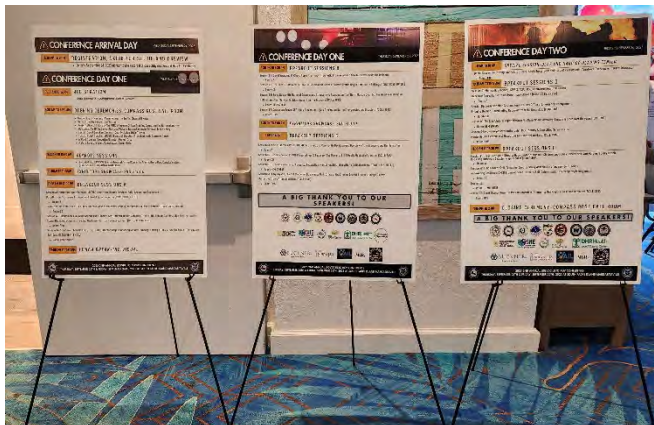
- Staff attended the webinar on October 21, 2025, for Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) eLearning “Sounding the Alarm: How NWS&COG’s Can Maximize IPAWS for Public Safety.
- Staff attended on October 22, 2025, the Regional Cyber Tabletop Exercise for Local Government Leaders Jose "Pepe" Salinas Memorial Recreation Center, Pharr, TX
- Staff hosted the Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholders Preparedness Review (SPR) 2025 Workshop, October 23, 2025, in the LRGVDC Ken Jones Executive Board in Weslaco, TX
- Staff attended the webinar for Port Corpus Christi Marine Fog Seminar on October 30, 2025.



LISTO RGV Keynote  
Speaker  
Rosie Martinez



LISTO RGV Breakout Session  
Transition



LISTO RGV Posted Agenda



LISTO RGV Deaf and Hard of Hearing Live Panel with  
Q&A

**ITEM # 5. C.**

**LOWER RIO  
GRANDE VALLEY  
ACADEMY**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Department Reports

Public Safety .....Javier Solis Jr  
Assistant Director

Lower Rio Grande Valley Academy

- LRGV Academy staff attended National Night Out Events in Weslaco and Rio Grande City. Staff provided educational information on the dangers of drunk driving and promoted academy programs to the community.
- LRGV Academy assisted with reporting TCOLE hours for the 2025 LRGV Conference and 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual RGV 911 District Wellness Seminar
- The 230<sup>th</sup> LRGV Police Academy in Rio Grande City graduated on October 8, 2025. This marked a major milestone in Starr County and LRGV Academy history. This was the first ever graduating police academy in Starr County.
- Our 231<sup>st</sup> Academy commenced on October 10, 2025. This is the first police academy to be hosted by the City of Weslaco and the Weslaco Police Department.
- LRGV Academy is working with the Mission Police Department to host the 232<sup>nd</sup> Police Academy which is set to commence on January 5, 2026. We have started administering entrance exams and will begin background investigations in November.
- Coordination for LRGV Academy sessions 233 and 234 are currently underway with both sessions set to begin in April of 2026.

**October 2025 Program Training Report**

- Inservice Courses
- Officers Trained
- Contact Hours





- Processed and Documented all Training Files for Both Conferences

- Reported Training Hours for 129 TCOLE Licensees.

- 584 Contact Hours Reported to TCOLE

- We did it all while attending our own TCOLE Conference for program compliance!





**CONGRATULATIONS RIO GRANDE CITY CLASS 230!  
FIRST POLICE ACADEMY TO EVER GRADUATE IN STARR COUNTY!!**

# Weslaco 231st Academy



**ARE YOU  
READY**

**JOIN THE LRGV ACADEMY NOW &  
WALK THE BLUE LINE  
TESTING FOR MISSION ACADEMY NOW OPEN**



Scan QR Code to register.  
Visit our Website for Eligibility, Entrance Steps, Veteran Eligibility Benefits, and more  
<https://www.lrgvdc.org/academy.html>

**MISSION  
POLICE  
ACADEMY  
CLASS 232  
TESTING NOW  
OPEN!!**



**ITEM # 5. C.**

**RIO GRANDE  
VALLEY  
EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATION  
DISTRICT**

# Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors Meeting

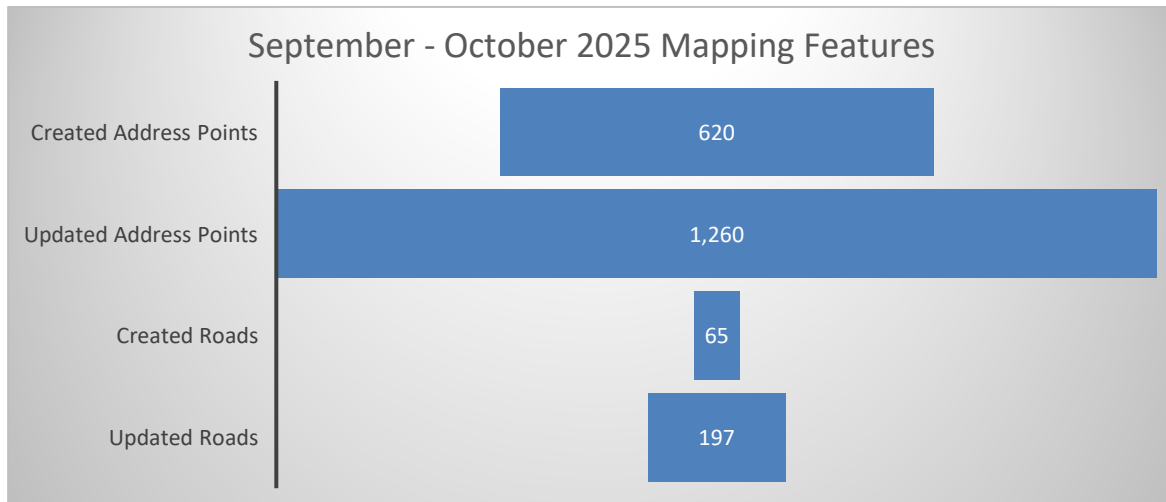
Wednesday, October 29, 2025

## Item #5: Department Reports

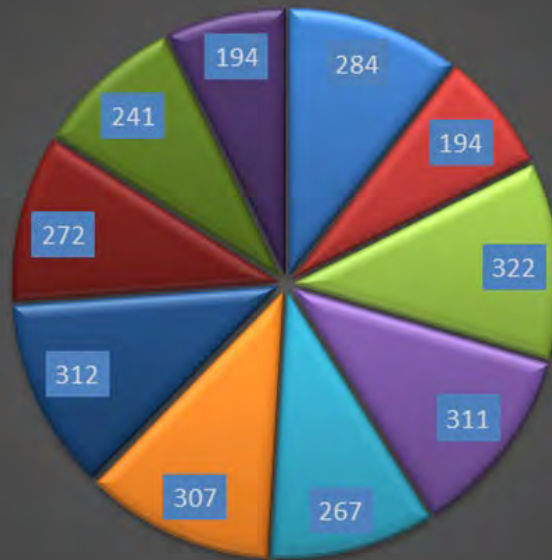
### C. Public Safety

#### Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District Status Report

- **GIS Division**  
GIS team members Monica Estrada, Rosemary Contreras, and Joe Garcia attended this year's Texas Public Safety Fall Symposium from October 5-8 in Denton, TX, where they attended several 9-1-1 GIS sessions including a meeting with the Texas 9-1-1 GIS Users Group.
- GIS team members Jacob Salinas and Monica Estrada finished several ArcGIS Enterprise upgrades including GIS Server, Portal Server, Web Adaptor Server, GIS Data Store, Workflow manager Server, and our Versioned Enterprise Geodatabase to the latest ArcGIS 11.5.1 platform.

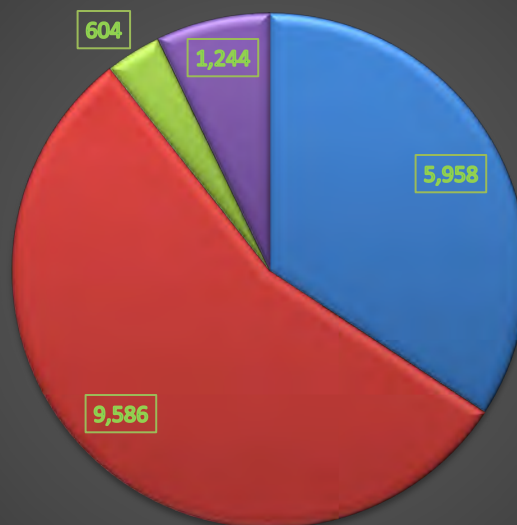


## 2025 Address Tickets Totals



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

## 2025 Total Production : GIS



Created Address Points Updated Address Points Created Roads Updated Roads

- 9-1-1 | Information Technology

The Information Technology Division completed Visio network diagrams that outline the topology of our internal and 9-1-1 networks. These diagrams include details such as network devices, IP addresses, and configurations, and will serve as a valuable reference for troubleshooting and future planning.

The team is also working with our GIS team to provide a CAD spill via DB9 to a server, which allows current ALI/ANI data to be plotted on a live map. This setup will give call information visibility to areas that do not have an active PSAP, helping improve situational awareness across the region.

We remain committed to maintaining 99.999% 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

**The LISTO RGV Conference 2025, September 25 – 26, 2025.** Brought to you by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Public Safety Division, was packed with learning, networking, and prevention.

- **Weslaco Police Department National Night Out, September 27, 2025.** RGV911 had such a great time chatting with the community and spreading the word on the importance of 911.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Public Safety Wellness Seminar, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.** RGV911 is honored and proud to have hosted this special event for our incredible public safety community. This seminar was created with our 911 telecommunicators in mind — the true first responders who serve as the vital link between the public and emergency services.

The 3rd Public Safety Wellness Seminar was a success, held on September 30 at the Mission Event Center. This year, the seminar reached a new level of excellence by introducing, for the first time, an exhibit hall specifically tailored to the needs of 911 telecommunicators and public safety professionals. The exhibit hall provided attendees with valuable resources, demonstrations, and tools designed to support their vital work in emergency response and public safety.

The seminar featured engaging keynote speakers who shared insights on wellness, mental health, and professional development. These presentations offered attendees practical strategies to manage stress, improve resilience, and maintain a healthy work-life balance—an essential focus for those serving on the front lines of public safety.

A highlight of the event was the award ceremony, recognizing the dedication and excellence of public safety personnel in the region. Among the honorees:

**Lydia Olalde**, PSAP Supervisor from **Weslaco Police Department**, was recognized as **PSAP Supervisor of the Year**, honoring her leadership, commitment, and exemplary service.

**David Monroy**, 911 Telecommunicator from **Pharr Communications**, received the **Sandra Coronado Award** for outstanding performance and excellence as a 911 telecommunicator.

The seminar not only celebrated the achievements of these outstanding professionals but also provided an opportunity for attendees to connect, network, and share best practices with colleagues across the public safety community.

Overall, the 3rd Public Safety Wellness Seminar was a remarkable event that combined education, recognition, and wellness in a way that truly honored the dedication of public safety professionals throughout the region.

# RGV 911 2025 Wellness Seminar



# RGV 911 2025 Wellness Seminar



# RGV 911 2025 Wellness Seminar



# RGV 911 2025 Wellness Seminar



# Sandra Coronado Award



David Monroy  
Pharr Public  
Safety

# PSAP Supervisor of the Year Award



Lydia Olalde  
Weslaco  
Police  
Department

RGV911 LISTO Conference September 2025



RGV911 LISTO Conference



Weslaco PD National Night Out



**ITEM #5. D.**

**TRANSPORTATION**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation - Action Item

Valley Metro Status Report .....Rene Garza  
Supervisor

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve the updated Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan for Valley Metro.

Staff requests Board approval for the update of the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan for Valley Metro. Section updates will comply with FTA's PTASP program stipulations.

Table 1: Agency Information Organizational Chart

Table 3: ASP Record of Changes Annual Reviews

Table 6: Flexed Route Safety Performance Targets

Table 7: Demand Response Safety Performance Targets

The Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) is a federally required document that outlines a transit agency's approach to managing safety risks and ensuring the well-being of passengers, employees, and the public. It establishes safety objectives, performance targets, and procedures for hazard identification, risk management, and safety performance monitoring.

The plan also defines the roles and responsibilities of key personnel and promotes a safety management system (SMS) framework to foster a proactive safety culture throughout the organization.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation - Action Item

Valley Metro Status Report .....Rene Garza  
Supervisor

2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve contract award for Bulk Diesel, DEF and Fluids for Valley Metro Transit Operations and other departments within the LRGVDC.

Staff is seeking Board approval of the Bulk Diesel, DEF and Fluids contract award and entering into an agreement with vendor for LRGVDC Valley Metro Transit Operations.

A formal procurement has been conducted for this requisition resulting in the recommendation to award vendor Maverick Fuels LLC., based on the evaluations.

Valley Metro procures bulk diesel fuel, Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF), and related maintenance fluids to support its transit operations across the region. The most recent Request for Proposals outlines stringent standards for DEF (including compliance with ISO 22241) to ensure purity and safe system performance. [BidNet Direct+1](#) Annually, Valley Metro consumes tens of thousands of gallons of diesel to power its fleet and integrates the supply of engine oils, coolants, and lubricants into a consolidated procurement strategy — securing economy of scale and maintaining consistent quality across the system. [lrgvdc.org+1](#)



## Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Bid Tabulation Sheet



It is hereby certified that the tabulation presented below accurately and completely reflects the information submitted in the proposal forms by each bidder. All data has been transcribed directly from the original bid documents without modification or alteration.

**Project Name:** Bulk Diesel, DEF and Fluids for LRGVDC Valley Metro Transit Operations

**Project Ref:** 2025-03

**Project #:** NA

**Project Close Date:** 05/21/2025

**Project Bid Opening:** 05/22/2025

| No. | Bidder                   | Diesel FTL (7,500)                      | Diesel LTL (-7,500)                     | Fees                                      | DEF                                  | 15w-40      | 5w-30      | Red 50/50  | Yellow 50/50 | ATF        |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| 1   | Maverick Fuels           | OPIS Rack Average<br>HRL + (\$0.21)     | OPIS Rack Average<br>HRL + (\$0.12)     | No Other Fees                             | \$3.50/gal                           | \$11.75/gal | 10.75/gal  | \$7.50/gal | \$7.25/gal   | 11.73/gal  |
| 2   | Petroleum Traders Corp.  | OPIS Daily Average<br>BRO - (\$0.0111)  | No bid                                  | Applicable Fees                           | No Bid                               | No Bid      | No Bid     | No Bid     | No Bid       | No Bid     |
| 3   | Safety Kleen Systems*    | No Bid                                  | No bid                                  | NA                                        | No Bid                               | \$9.74/gal  | \$8.64/gal | \$535.00?  | \$4.54/gal   | \$9.02/gal |
| 4   | JPAC Global Energy, LLC* | OPIS Daily Rack +<br>Fixed Differential | OPIS Daily Rack +<br>Fixed Differential | Included in Fixed<br>Differential Pricing | Argus or MBA +<br>Fixed Differential | No Bid      | No Bid     | No Bid     | No Bid       | No Bid     |

The tabulation of bids provided herein is for informational and evaluation purposes only. It does not constitute a notice of intent to award, a determination of responsiveness or responsibility, nor a guarantee of contract award to any bidder. Inclusion of a vendor's bid in this tabulation does not imply acceptance or approval by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC). All bids remain subject to further review, analysis, and formal approval in accordance with applicable procurement regulations, including but not limited to those of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and the LRGVDC's internal procurement policies and procedures. The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive informalities or minor irregularities, and make an award in the best interest of the agency.

\* Bidder has been deemed disqualified.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Sign:

Date:

05/26/2025

Asst. Director of Business Operations





## LRGVDC Proposal Talley Sheet

RFP 2025-03: Bulk Diesel, DEF and Fluids for LRGVDC Valley Metro Transit Operations

### Project Evaluation Members



Evaluator Name

| #      | Proposer                         | Tom Logan | James Campbell | Hector Martinez | Hector Martinez | Patricia Torres | Felipe Lopez | Javier Dominguez | -  | -  | Totals |
|--------|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|----|----|--------|
| Fuels  |                                  |           |                |                 |                 |                 |              |                  |    |    |        |
| 1      | Maverick Fuels                   | -         | 68             | 65              | -               | -               | 93           | 70               | -  | -  | 296    |
| 2      | Petroleum Traders                | -         | 48             | 45              | -               | -               | 73           | 45               | -  | -  | 211    |
| 3      | <del>JPAC Global Energy*</del>   | NA        | NA             | NA              | NA              | NA              | NA           | NA               | NA | NA | NA     |
| Fluids |                                  |           |                |                 |                 |                 |              |                  |    |    |        |
| 1      | Maverick Fuels                   | -         | 60             | 60              | -               | -               | 70           | 70               | -  | -  | 260    |
| 2      | <del>Safety Kleen Systems*</del> | NA        | NA             | NA              | NA              | NA              | NA           | NA               | NA | NA | NA     |
| 3      |                                  |           |                |                 |                 |                 |              |                  |    |    |        |

\* Bidder Deamed Disqualified

Recommended vendor derived from highest score from the tally above. - **Fuels**

Maverick Fuels

Recommended vendor derived from highest score from the tally above. - **Fluids**

Maverick Fuels

Recommended Proposer

The scoring values presented in this tally are, to the best of the Procurement Department's ability, accurate and transcribed directly from the individual evaluations submitted by the members of the Project Evaluation Committee. The vendor recommendation reflects not only the highest cumulative score based on the established evaluation criteria, but also the extent to which the proposal aligns with the goals, priorities, and operational needs of the LRGVDC.

It is important to note that this recommendation does not constitute a final award decision. It represents the conclusion of the evaluation phase. The final scoring results and vendor recommendation will be formally submitted to the Board of Directors for review and final approval.

\*One or more proposals were deemed non-compliant with the submission requirements of RFP 2025-03 and have been disqualified from scoring and further consideration. Disqualified proposals are noted accordingly in the tabulation for transparency. Determination is available on the bidders proposal review.

Procurement Signature\*

Jun 3, 2025

Date

Tom Logan (Jun 3, 2025 10:33 CDT)

Valley Metro Signature\*

Jun 3, 2025

Date

# Maverick Fuels

***Best and Final Offer for the Bid submitted on May 18, 2025.***

## **No Change to the Diesel**

Base Index Price: Current OPIS Rack Average for Harlingen, TX

+*plus*

## **Fixed Markup:**

Transport >7000 gallons = (+) 0.21 per gallon

Transport <7000 gallons = (+) 0.12 per gallon

***No additional freight and/or delivery Fees Apply***

## **Pricing**

DEF : \$3.00 per gallon

15w40 Drum: \$12.10 per gallon

5w30 Drum: \$11.10 per gallon

ATF Drum- \$650 per drum

Red Coolant: \$7.00 per gallon

Yellow Coolant: \$6.75 per gallon

**Michelle Schuler**

Michelle Schuler (Oct 15, 2025 15:30:57 CDT)

Michelle Schuler

**Maverick Fuels, LLC**

Manager

Oct 15, 2025

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation - Action Item

Valley Metro Status Report ..... Rene Garza  
Supervisor

3. Consideration and **ACTION** on Approval of entering into a building lease agreement for the Edinburg Transit Terminal.

Staff is seeking Board approval on entering into a building lease agreement between the Edinburg Economic Development Corporation (EEDC) and LRGVDC, Valley Metro.

LRGVDC Valley Metro recommends setting the lease rate for the Edinburg Economic Development Corporation (EEDC) at \$1.15/SF/month for their occupancy of 4,133 Sq ft of ground-floor office space at the Edinburg Terminal. This rate reflects strategic considerations, market data, and in accordance with federal compliance guidance. The proposed rate accounts for EEDC's substantial in-kind and financial contributions to the project, including:

- Land Donation: EEDC gifted the parcel for the terminal, eliminating acquisition costs.
- Design Drawings: EEDC funded architectural and engineering services, reducing Valley Metro's capital burden.
- Local Match Support: EEDC provided a 20% match toward both the terminal construction and the first-floor finish-out, directly supporting the build out of the leased space.
- Long Term Lease: EEDC is willing to enter a long-term lease as reflected on the draft Lease Agreement.
- Parking Lot: EEDC is willing to participate in the construction of the parking lot to include financial contributions to cover the cost of construction and any shortfalls. These contributions materially offset the lease value and justify a rate above the baseline market recommendation.

## INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR LEASE AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

STATE OF TEXAS           §  
                                          §  
COUNTY OF HIDALGO   §

This Interlocal Agreement for Lease and Transportation Services is made and entered into this 14 day of November 2025 by and between Edinburg Economic Development Corporation, (hereinafter "LESSEE"), and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, (hereinafter "LESSOR").

In consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein set forth, and other good and valuable consideration, LESSEE and LESSOR agree as follows:

### ARTICLE 1

#### LEASED PREMISES

LESSOR does hereby demise and lease to LESSEE, and LESSEE does hereby lease from LESSOR the following: Edinburg Transfer Station Facility. The lease premises constitutes office space located at 617 W. University Drive, Edinburg, TX 78539 (See Exhibit "A").

### ARTICLE 2

#### TERM

201 The initial term of this Lease shall be for five (5) years, unless sooner terminated, commencing December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, or at which time the space becomes available. This Lease will be automatically renewed on an annual basis; thereafter, not to exceed five (5) years, unless the LESSOR or LESSEE gives the other party 120-days notice of non-renewal before the applicable renewal date.

202 During any renewal period, either party may terminate this lease for any reason or no reason by giving the other party 120-days written notice.

### ARTICLE 3

#### RENT

301 LESSEE agrees to pay to LESSOR as a fixed rent, the sum of One Dollar and 15 No/100<sup>th</sup> (\$1.15) per sq. feet monthly on the commencing date of this lease agreement and each subsequent month throughout the term of this Lease, based on fair market value and for the economic development of the City. This amount totals to \$4,746.00 monthly following the non-terminal space of

4,133 sq. ft. This rate shall be reviewed every five (5) years to ensure alignment with market rates, with any increase or decrease capped at 5% per adjustment period.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **USE OF PREMISES**

4.01 LESSEE shall use the Lease Premises for various programs under EEDC or tenants. LESSEE'S use of the premises shall not unreasonably interfere with the other uses of the Lease Premises by LESSOR.

4.02 LESSEE shall have unlimited access to the building twenty-four (24) hours per day. Security of the individual office spaces will be the responsibility of the respective tenant.

4.03 LESSEE shall promote the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, Valley Metro.

4.04 LESSOR shall have access to the building and parking at no cost during normal business hours with reasonable advance notice to LESSEE, or at any time without notice in case of emergency involving safety, security, or urgent maintenance needs.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **MAINTENANCE AND SURRENDER**

5.01 (a) LESSEE shall provide normal maintenance or minor remodeling needs, at LESSEE'S expense, for the Lease Premises are listed in Article 1. "Normal maintenance" shall be defined as routine cleaning, minor repairs costing less than \$2,000 per occurrence, and general upkeep that maintains the property in its current condition. If the Lease Premises require repairs or replacement that are outside the scope of normal maintenance or remodeling, as determined by mutual agreement of both parties, then LESSOR shall be responsible to make such repairs or replacement at LESSOR's expense.

(b) If the Lease Premises require maintenance, remodeling or repair, which solely in the opinion of the LESSEE, are too costly and render this Lease Agreement uneconomical, then LESSEE may terminate this Lease Agreement upon sixty (60) days written notice without penalty.

(c) If the Lease Premises require maintenance, remodeling or repair, which solely in the opinion of the LESSOR, are too costly and render this Lease Agreement uneconomical, then LESSOR may terminate this Lease Agreement upon ninety (30) days written notice.

5.02 LESSEE shall provide or procure custodial services for interior maintenance and cleaning of the Leased Premises exclusively by LESSEE.

5.03 Upon breach of the terms and agreements in this Lease Agreement by either party hereto, which breach shall not have been cured within thirty (30) days of written notice of same, the non-breaching party may terminate this Lease Agreement upon written notice to the breaching party.

## ARTICLE 6

### **OBLIGATIONS OF LESSOR AND LESSEE**

601 **Alterations, Additions and Improvements.** All alterations, additions and improvements to the Leased Premises shall be made by the LESSEE, provided prior approval by LESSOR has been obtained for such improvements, prior to the installation or construction of same, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Alterations, additions, and improvement expenses shall be the obligation of LESSEE.

On expiration of the term of this Lease, LESSEE shall be allowed to remove any equipment or fixtures which LESSEE has installed or constructed; however, if such removal damages the Leased Premises, LESSEE shall repair or pay for the repair of any such damage.

602 **Signs.** LESSEE shall have the right to erect signs on the Leased Premises. LESSEE shall remove all signs at the termination of this Lease and shall repair any damage and close any holes caused by such removal.

603 **Utility Charges.** LESSEE shall pay all utility charges for the Leased Premises for water, sewer, solid waste removal, gas, electricity and any agreed security\fire service. LESSEE shall pay the bill within thirty (30) days of the date of the bill.

## ARTICLE 7

### **INSURANCE**

7.01 **Content Insurance.** LESSEE may provide, at its sole discretion, a fire and extended coverage insurance policy on personal property placed by LESSEE on the Leased Premises. LESSOR shall not be liable for any damage to or loss of LESSEE's personal property regardless of cause, except for damage resulting from LESSOR's gross negligence or willful misconduct.

7.02 **Fire and Casualty Damages.** LESSOR shall provide fire and extended coverage insurance on the Leased Premises. If the building on the Leased Premises should be totally or partially destroyed by fire, tornado or other casualty and, if insurance coverage is not sufficient to rebuild or repair, this Lease shall terminate by LESSOR giving LESSEE written notice thereof; otherwise, LESSOR shall use such insurance proceeds for the repair or rebuilding of the premises. Rent shall be abated or partially

abated in such amounts as may be agreed by LESSOR and LESSEE accordingly to useful area during the repair or rebuilding period. In the event all or any part of the Leased Premises shall be damaged by fire, casualty or other causes, or in the event all or any part of the Leased Premises is taken in any condemnation proceedings, LESSEE shall have the right to cancel this Lease, if in the sole judgment of LESSEE such casualty or condemnation proceeding has made the Leased Premises unsatisfactory for use by the LESSEE.

7.03 **Liability Insurance.** Each party shall carry liability insurance in the amount of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate. To the extent allowed by Law, each party agrees to indemnify and hold the other harmless for any negligent or intentional act performed by such party relating to the use or occupancy of the leased Premises. Each party shall provide the other with a certificate of insurance naming the other as an additional insured within 30 days of execution of this agreement and annually thereafter.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **INSPECTION BY LESSOR**

8.01 LESSEE shall permit LESSOR and its agents to enter into and upon the Leased Premises at mutually agreeable times for the purpose of inspecting the same or for the purpose of maintaining or making repairs to the Leased Premises required hereby.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **ASSIGNMENT AND SUBLEASE**

9.01 LESSEE shall not assign or sublet any part of the Leased Premises herein without prior written consent from the LESSOR, which such consent will not be unreasonable withheld.

9.02 If LESSOR denies LESSEE's request to sublease or assign and such denial is determined to be unreasonable, LESSEE shall have the right to terminate this Lease with sixty (60) days written notice without penalty.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **DISCLAIMER**

10.01 **Disclaimer.** LESSEE represents that the Leased Premises will be used for administrative functions of LESSEE. LESSEE acknowledges that it has made full and complete inspection of the Leased Premises and has independently satisfied itself that the Leased Premises are suitable for the stated

use. LESSOR hereby disclaims, that this Lease Agreement carries with it any implied or expressed warranties by LESSOR and that such space is fit or suitable for any Intended use or purpose of LESSEE, including but not limited to law or regulations meeting the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act or similar State of Texas.

10.02 **Parties Bound.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective administrators, legal representatives, successors and assigns where permitted by this Agreement.

10.03 **Texas Law to Apply.** This Agreement shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, and all obligations of the parties created hereunder are performable in the Hidalgo County, Texas.

10.04 **Legal Construction.** In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof, and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

10.05 **Prior Agreements Superseded.** This Agreement constitutes the sole and only Agreement of the parties hereto and supersedes all prior written or oral agreements between the parties respecting the within subject matter.

10.06 **Amendments and Modifications.** No amendment, modification or alteration of the terms hereof shall be binding unless the same be in writing, dated subsequent to the date hereof and duly executed by the parties hereto.

10.07 **Notices.** Any and all notices or other communications required or permitted to be given pursuant to this agreement shall be in writing and shall be considered as properly given if sent by facsimile transmission or mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows:

LESSEE:

Edinburg Economic Development Corp.  
Attn: Raudel Garza, Executive Director  
3111 W. Freddy Gonzalez Dr.  
Edinburg, TX 78539

LESSOR:

Lower Rio Grande Development Council  
Attn. Manuel Cruz, Executive Director  
301 W. Railroad St  
Weslaco, TX 78596

**10.08 Rights and Remedies Cumulative.** The rights remedies provided by this Lease Agreement are cumulative, and the use of any one right or remedy by either party shall not preclude or waive its right to use any or all other remedies. Said rights and remedies are given in addition to any other rights the parties may have by law, statute, ordinance or otherwise.

**10.09 Quiet Enjoyment.** LESSOR covenants and agrees that LESSEE on paying the rent and other charges herein provided for and observing and keeping the covenants, conditions, and terms of this Lease on LESSEE'S part to be kept or performed, shall lawfully and quietly hold, occupy, and enjoy the Leased Premises during the term of this Lease Agreement without hindrance or molestation of LESSOR or any person claiming under LESSOR.

**10.10 Environmental Representations By LESSOR.** LESSOR represents and warrants to LESSEE, which representations and warranties shall survive termination of this Lease, that as of the date hereof the Leased Premises are free of compounds defined as hazardous materials, substances, pollutants or contaminants under any federal or Texas statute, regulations, rule or ordinance, or amendments thereto, including without limitation the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, and/or the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. LESSOR agrees, which agreement shall survive termination of this Lease Agreement, that if any contamination of said Leased premises is alleged to have occurred before the occupancy of said Leased Premises by LESSEE, then all obligation and liabilities for such contamination by LESSOR in connection therewith are assumed by LESSOR AND LESSOR shall indemnify and hold LESSEE harmless from any liability or obligation relating to or associated with such contamination. LESSOR'S obligation to hold LESSEE harmless shall include but not be limited to defending all claims suits and administrative proceedings (with counsel approved by LESSEE) even if such claims, suits or proceedings are groundless, false or fraudulent and/or the expense of the same become due, any and all judgments, penalties, or other sums relating directly to or associated with such claims, suits or proceedings.

**10.11 Environmental Representations By LESSEE.** LESSEE represents and warrants to LESSOR, which representations and warranties shall survive termination of this Lease, that during the term hereof it will not, knowingly, contaminate the Leased Premises in violation of any federal or Texas statute, regulation, rule or ordinance, or amendments thereto, including without limitation the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. LESSEE agrees, which agreement shall survive termination of this Lease Agreement, that if any contamination of the Leased Premises is caused by LESSEE, then all obligation and liabilities for such contamination by LESSEE in connection therewith are assumed by LESSEE and LESSEE shall indemnify and hold LESSOR harmless from any

liability or obligation relating to or associated with such contamination. LESSEE'S obligation to hold LESSOR harmless shall include but not be limited to defending all claims suits and administrative proceedings (with counsel approved by LESSOR) even if such claims, suits or proceedings are groundless, false or fraudulent and/or the expense of the same become due, any and all judgments, penalties, or other sums relating directly or indirectly to or associated with such claims, suits or proceedings.

10.12 **Common Area Restrictions.** Common areas are not to be used other than for the benefit of all tenants unless prior written approval is obtained from all tenants.

10.13 **Waiver of Default.** No waiver by the parties hereto of any default or breach of any term, condition or covenant of this Lease shall be deemed to be a waiver of any other breach of the same or any other term, condition or covenant contained herein.

10.14 **Attorney's Fees.** In the event LESSOR or LESSEE breaches any of the terms of this Agreement whereby the party not in default employs attorneys to protect or enforce its rights hereunder and prevails, then the defaulting party agrees to pay the other party reasonable attorney's fees so incurred by such other party.

10.15 **Force Majeure.** Neither LESSOR nor LESSEE shall be required to perform any term, condition or covenant in this Lease so long as such performance is delayed or prevented by force majeure, which shall mean acts of God, strikes lockouts, materials or labor restrictions by any governmental authority, civil riot, floods and any other cause not reasonably within the control of LESSOR or LESSEE, and which by the exercise of due diligence LESSOR or LESSEE is unable, wholly or in part, to prevent or overcome.

[REST OF THE PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY]

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned LESSOR and LESSEE hereto execute this Agreement as authorized by the respective governing bodies, as of the day and year first above written.

LESSOR:

**LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manuel Cruz, Executive Director  
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

LESSEE:

**EDINBURG ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Raudel Garza, Executive Director  
Edinburg Economic Development Corporation

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Emmanuel Espinoza, EEDC Attorney



## COLDWELL BANKER COMMERCIAL

### RIO GRANDE VALLEY

The office property at **617 W University Dr., Edinburg, TX** is a Class A, two-story office building built in 2018 with approximately 18,450 square feet of space, featuring about 9,225 SF per floor, located in a high-traffic area adjacent to the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and important county and city government buildings. This prime location sees roughly 18,000 vehicles daily, making it highly visible and suitable for professional services. An analysis of the property was formulated on Loopnet.com with as pertinent parameters. This analysis can be found at: <https://www.loopnet.com/property/617-w-university-dr-edinburg-tx-78539/48215-E330000226000500/>

### Competitive Analysis of Office Lease Rates:

- **Current Availability & Rates for 617 W University Dr:** The specific current lease rate for this property is not publicly Listed, and the property is no longer actively advertised on LoopNet or Crexi, tools usually used by Coldwell Banker Commercial professionals to determine comparative data. The data was gathered and analyzed through direct research within a 10 mile radius of the target property in an effort to give a true sample of office space lease rates.
- **Local Market Context:**
  - Other office properties in Edinburg show varied pricing structures; for example, an office listing of 1,470 SF is valued for sale at \$475,000, implying a sale price of about \$323/SF, suggesting lease rates could be competitive given this market value.
  - General office lease rates in cities in the Rio Grande Valley similar to Edinburg often range broadly from \$10 to \$18 per square foot annually for Class A spaces, depending on location, finish quality, demand, and other pertinent details, with parking at the site also taken into consideration.
- **Comparable Nearby Locations:**
  - The nearby area includes retail and Class A office buildings that advertise lease rates around \$8 per SF annually. However, given the location of the target property in relation to numerous high traffic centers, a slightly higher lease rate is warranted for this particular property (\$10-\$12/SF).
  - Other commercial spaces along University Drive are available but with limited public rate disclosure.
- **Summary of Competitive Position:**
  - Although the 617 W University Dr property benefits from excellent frontage, proximity to a major university and government centers, and high daily traffic, the lack of parking space directly at the site undoubtedly decrease the fair assessment of lease rate.
  - Without current listing data, an estimated lease rate for this Class A office could reasonably be expected in the **\$10-\$12 per SF per year range**, reflecting its quality, size, and location.
  - Lower-tier office or mixed-use properties nearby might lease for less, near \$8-\$10 per SF annually, highlighting 617 W University Dr's position as a premium option.

508 E. Dove Avenue | McAllen, TX 78504 | Office: 956.631.1322 | Fax: 956.994.0443

The property information herein is derived from various sources that may include, but not be limited to, county records and the Multiple Listing Service, and it may include approximation. Although the information is believed to be accurate, it is not warranted, and you should not rely upon it without proper verification. Not intended as a solicitation if your property is already listed by another broker. Affiliated real estate agents are independent contractors, not employees. 2022 Coldwell Banker. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker and the Coldwell Banker logos are trademarks or Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. The Coldwell Banker System is comprised of company owned offices which are owned by a subsidiary or Anywhere Advisors, LLC and franchised offices which are independently owned and operated. The Coldwell Banker System fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act.



- Nearby residential rentals at a different address (617 DFW Dr) show monthly rents around \$900 for a 1,000 SF apartment, but this is unrelated to the commercial office market.

If further context regarding the assessment need to be discussed, I am open to doing so at your convenience.

956-451-2030 Cell  
956-631-1322 Office  
956-994-0443 Fax  
[sdopp@cbcriograndevalley.com](mailto:sdopp@cbcriograndevalley.com)  
[www.cbcriograndevalley.com](http://www.cbcriograndevalley.com)

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Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation

Valley Metro Status Report ..... Tom Logan  
Director

- Ridership Report

**Total Ridership September 2025:**

Total ridership: **33,212 riders**

**Breakdown of Ridership per system:**

**Small Urban and Rural Ridership** (Sept 2024 - Aug 2025):

- Total ridership: **11,029**  
**Valley Metro (Small Urban):** 10,988 riders  
**TSTC:** 195 riders

**Large Urban Ridership** (Sept 2024 - Aug 2025):

- Total ridership: **113,076**  
**UTRGV:** 91,047  
**Valley Metro:** 20,694 riders  
**STC:** 1,335 riders

## RURAL AND SMALL URBAN RIDERSHIP REPORT

Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 YEAR TO DATE TOTALS

|             | Route            | Total Passenger Trips | Route Activity | Area(s) Served                                                  |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| RURAL       | Route 50-A       | 1,547                 | 14%            | Brownsville, Port Isabel                                        |
|             | Route 50-B       | 1,698                 | 15%            | Brownsville, Port Isabel                                        |
|             | Route 60         | 968                   | 9%             | Roma, Rio Grande City                                           |
|             | Route 61         | 282                   | 3%             | Rio Grande City                                                 |
|             | Route 62         | 335                   | 3%             | Rio Grande City                                                 |
|             | Greenline - 1    | 491                   | 4%             | Rio Grande City                                                 |
|             | Blue Line Sunday | 48                    | 0%             | Brownsville, Port Isabel                                        |
|             | Willacy Express  | 128                   | 1%             | Willacy-Cameron                                                 |
|             | Willacy (DR)     | 236                   | 2%             | Willacy County                                                  |
|             | Starr (DR-1)     | 426                   | 4%             | Starr County                                                    |
|             | Starr (DR-2)     | -                     | 0%             | Starr County                                                    |
|             | Zapata (DR)      | 169                   | 2%             | Zapata County                                                   |
|             | Zapata Express   | 41                    |                |                                                                 |
| SMALL URBAN | Route 31-2       | 936                   | 8%             | Cameron-Hidalgo                                                 |
|             | Route 40         | 764                   | 7%             | Harlingen                                                       |
|             | Route 41         | 803                   | 7%             | Harlingen                                                       |
|             | Route 42         | 240                   | 2%             | San Benito                                                      |
|             | Route 44         | 383                   | 3%             | Primera, La Feria, Santa Rosa                                   |
|             | Route 45-1       | 705                   | 6%             | Cameron County                                                  |
|             | Route 45-2       | 1,024                 | 9%             | Cameron County                                                  |
|             | <b>TOTAL</b>     | <b>11,224</b>         | <b>100%</b>    | <b>**Total Ridership Count subject to change when finalized</b> |

|                 | Rural | Urban | Total |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Flex Routes     | 6     | 7     | 13    |
| Express Routes  | 2     | 0     | 2     |
| Demand Response | 4     | 0     | 4     |
|                 | 12    | 7     | 19    |



*"Connecting the Valley One Ride at a Time"*

FY 2025 VALLEY METRO RIDERSHIP REPORT

| RIDERSHIP BY CITIES - PICK-UP LOCATION |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|----------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

| RIDERSHIP BY COUNTY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

[illegible]

# LARGE URBAN RIDERSHIP REPORT

Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 - YEAR TO DATE RIDERSHIP

|                    | Route             | Total Trips    | Route Activity             | Area(s) Served                                                          |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LARGE URBAN ROUTES | Route 10          | 1,618          | 1% Edinburg                |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 12          | 585            | 1% Edcouch, Elsa, Edinburg |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 14          | 3,821          | 3% Edinburg                |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 15          | 430            | 0% Edinburg                |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 16-1        | 1,931          | 2% Courthouse Circulator   |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 16-2        | 2,379          | 2% Courthouse Circulator   |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 17          | 91             | 0% Edinburg T-line         |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 20          | 2,127          | 2% Mission                 |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 30          | 732            | 1% Pharr, San Juan         |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 31-1        | 1,862          | 2% Hidalgo-Cameron         |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 31-3        | 1,466          | 1% Hidalgo-Cameron         |                                                                         |
|                    | Route 32          | 169            | 0% Donna                   |                                                                         |
|                    | Purple Line       | 297            | 0% Weslaco, Pharr          |                                                                         |
| EXPRESS            | Redline 1         | 1,539          | 1% Rio Grande Valley       |                                                                         |
|                    | Redline 2         | 1,393          | 1% Rio Grande Valley       |                                                                         |
|                    | Redline 3         | 254            | 0% Rio Grande Valley       |                                                                         |
|                    | STC JagExpress YL | 1,335          | 1% Weslaco, Pharr, McAllen |                                                                         |
|                    | Vaquero Express   | 91,047         | 81% Edinburg               |                                                                         |
|                    | <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>113,076</b> | <b>100%</b>                | <small>**Total Ridership Count subject to change when finalized</small> |



|                   | Total |
|-------------------|-------|
| Flex Routes       | 13    |
| Metro Express     | 3     |
| STC Jag Express   | 1     |
| Vaquero Express   | 1     |
| Total Large Urban | 18    |

*"Connecting the Valley One Ride at a Time"*

# FY 2025 VALLEY METRO RIDERSHIP REPORT

### RIDERSHIP BY CITIES - PICK-UP LOCATION

[illegible]

## RIDERSHIP BY SYSTEM

[illegible]

## LARGE URBAN RIDERSHIP COUNT

[illegible]

## RIDERSHIP BY COUNTY

[illegible]

## RIDERSHIP BY PRECINCTS

[illegible]

# **Regional Transportation Advisory Panel (RTAP) Sub-committee Meeting Activity:**

## **Upcoming RTAP Meeting Summary**

### **RTAP upcoming meeting discussions:**

September meeting was rescheduled for October 02, 2025. The upcoming meeting began with consideration and action on approval of minutes from the July 24, 2025 meeting. Members had the opportunity to review and approve the previous meeting's record to ensure accuracy and completeness.

On the agenda the committee had to take consideration and action on the nomination and appointment of the RTAP Executive Member for the Secretary position. This item allowed members to discuss and act on filling the vacant role within the RTAP Executive Committee.

Valley Metro provided RTAP Subcommittee updates. These updates included recent activities, progress reports, and upcoming priorities identified in the Five-year Regional Public Transportation Cooperation Plan by the subcommittee.

The meeting also included discussion and recommendations on several key items, including the upcoming National RTAP Conference, "Wrangling Access and Mobility on Rural and Tribal Transit," scheduled for December 7–10, 2025, in Austin, TX. Additionally, members reviewed and updated the agency stakeholder and proxy member form for Fiscal Year 2026. Discussion also focused on reviewing current membership and addressing underrepresentation from key stakeholder groups, such as Veterans Affairs, Bicycle and Pedestrian organizations, Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), and Senior Centers.

Finally, all transit providers shared updates covering performance metrics, service changes, ongoing projects, funding opportunities or applications, and public engagement efforts. These reports provided valuable insight into regional transit activities and upcoming initiatives.

## **Valley Metro received one of the newest additions to our fleet.**

This is a 2023 Ford Starcraft Allstar, assigned as Vehicle #2501

The Type XI vehicle is in excellent condition and fully equipped for accessibility with a wheelchair lift.

It runs on diesel fuel, was purchased from Model 1 at a cost of \$267,421.57 and is fully funded through TxDOT under the 5310 Project.

This vehicle was officially accepted into service on September 2, 2025, and will support our ongoing efforts to provide safe, reliable and accessible transportation throughout the region.



# RGV BCycle: Project Upgrade 2025 Award

LRGVDC Valley Metro, was awarded \$800,000 through the RGVMPPO Category 7 (STBG Carryover) Funds for the RGV BCycle Upgrade Project.

This project will modernize and expand the region's bikeshare system by adding 150 new 3-speed bikes, spare batteries, docks, kiosks, and communication technology. Upgrades will support new services in areas of Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy Counties, as well as to expand access in Cameron County, Harlingen and Brownsville This upgrade will improve system reliability and enhance multimodal connectivity across the Rio Grande Valley.

## PROJECT GRAND TOTAL

| Part no. | BCYCLE ELECTRIC BIKES           | UNIT \$     | QTY | TOTAL \$            |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------|-----|---------------------|
| 590839   | Bikes (3-speed) includes shroud | \$ 2,715.00 | 150 | \$407,250.00        |
| W581583  | -E-Bike Key                     | \$ 7.00     | 0   | \$-                 |
| 580867   | -Spare Battery                  | \$ 455.00   | 55  | \$25,025.00         |
| 580908   | -Battery Charger                | \$ 83.00    | 28  | \$2,324.00          |
| 596163   | -Battery Charger Cable set      | \$ 5.00     | 28  | \$140.00            |
|          | -Bike Shipping                  | \$ 90.00    | 160 | \$14,400.00         |
|          | Bike Sub-Total:                 |             |     | <b>\$449,139.00</b> |

| Part no. | BCYCLE 3.0 STATION                                   | UNIT \$     | QTY | TOTAL \$            |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----|---------------------|
| 600903   | 3.0 Dock                                             | \$ 1,885.00 | 120 | \$226,200.00        |
| 5257547  | Battery Charger                                      | \$ 32.21    | 30  | \$966.30            |
| 5255793  | -Spare Battery                                       | \$ 222.00   | 30  | \$6,660.00          |
| 1052305  | -Baseplate (2 dock single sided, 3 dock doublesided) | \$ 665.00   | 11  | \$7,315.00          |
| 5252597  | - Endcap Kit                                         | \$ 599.68   | 6   | \$3,598.08          |
| 5252598  | - Ballast Kit                                        | \$ 713.38   | 11  | \$7,847.18          |
| 5252599  | - Ballast Removal Tool                               | \$ 53.65    | 3   | \$160.95            |
| 5268526  | - Dock Fastener Pack (Baseplate install) (2 docks)   | \$ 29.02    | 7   | \$203.14            |
|          | 3.0 Dock Shipping (Estimated)                        | \$ 100.00   | 120 | \$12,000.00         |
|          | Station Sub-Total:                                   |             |     | <b>\$264,950.65</b> |

|  | ONGOING BCYCLE SOFTWARE & DATA FEES          | UNIT \$   | QTY | TOTAL \$           |
|--|----------------------------------------------|-----------|-----|--------------------|
|  | - Annual Enterprise Software Fee (per dock)* | \$ 143.33 | 120 | \$17,199.60        |
|  | - Annual Dock Communication Fees (per dock)  | \$ 60     | 120 | \$7,200.00         |
|  | Contingency                                  |           |     | \$61,510.75        |
|  | Software/data fees Sub-Total:                |           |     | <b>\$85,910.35</b> |

**Total RGV Bcycle Project: \$ 800,000**

## Route 40 – Medical Bus Stop Request:

Evaluating feasibility of two new bus stops along Treasure Hill

Intended to improve access to:

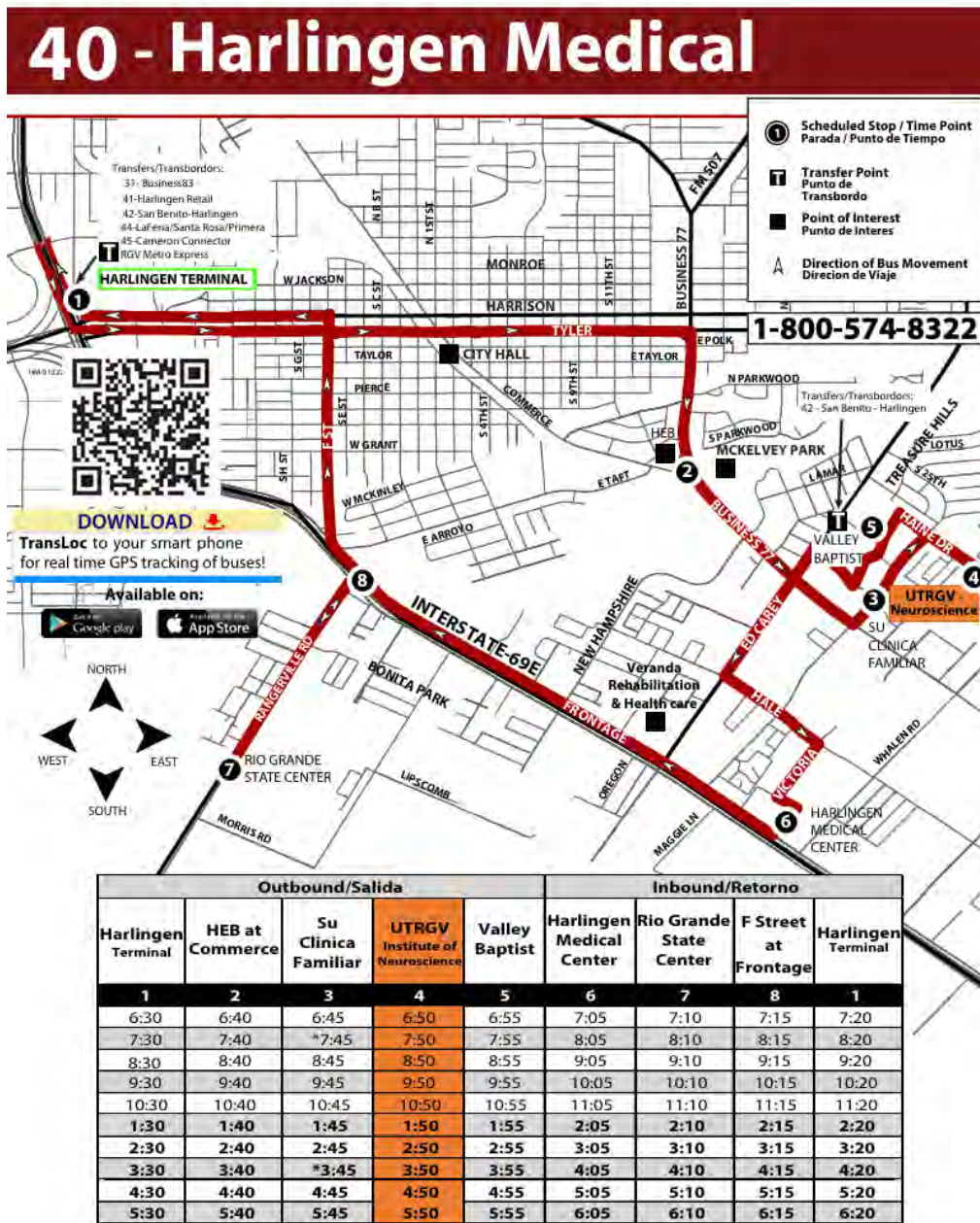
VA Harlingen Health Center

VA Harlingen Outpatient Clinic

Stops would be served by Route 40 – the Medical Route

Goal:

Enhance mobility for veterans and residents attending medical appointments



# SUPERIOR HEALTH – SENIOR PACHANGA

📍 107 N. Sunflower Rd Edinburg, Tx 78542

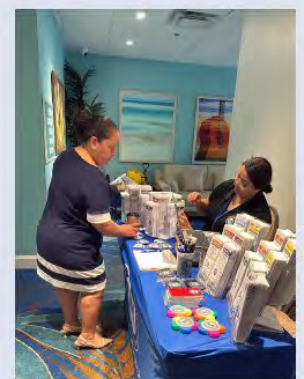
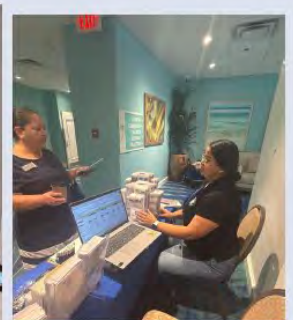
- ❖ Valley Metro attended the Superior Health Senior Pachanga to strengthen its commitment to community engagement and promote accessible transportation options for older adults in the region. The event, which celebrates senior wellness and connection, provided an ideal platform for Valley Metro to share information about its curb-to-curb demand response services, discounted fares for seniors, and flexible transit routes across counties like Cameron, Willacy, Hidalgo, Zapata and Starr



# LISTO RGV 2025 CONFERENCE

📍 310 Padre Blvd, South Padre Island, TX 78597

- ❖ Valley Metro participated in the Listo RGV 2025 conference to reinforce its commitment to regional collaboration and community resilience. As a key transportation provider in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, Valley Metro used the platform to engage with local governments, emergency responders, and public service organizations to discuss integrated mobility solutions that support disaster preparedness and economic development.



# WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING –TRAVEL TRAINING

📍 617 W University Dr, Edinburg, TX 78539

❖ Valley Metro participated in the Week Without Driving campaign to raise awareness about the challenges faced by individuals who rely on public transportation, walking, biking, or other non-driving modes of travel. By joining the initiative, Valley Metro aimed to highlight the importance of equitable and accessible mobility options across the Rio Grande Valley, especially for seniors, students, people with disabilities, and low-income families.

Sept 27 - Oct 4

**WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING**

**SEPT 27 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**  
Bicycle safety and maintenance workshop  
Location: UTRGV Edinburg Campus, E-9 parking lot (Schunior & Sugar)

**SEPT 29 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**  
At the Intersection of Transportation and Accessibility  
Location: Zoom

**SEPT 29 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM**  
Opening Reception  
Location: UTRGV CESS Building, 1407 E Freddy Gonzalez

**SEPT 30 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**  
Connecting our Rio Grande Valley Community Through Transit Services  
Location: Hybrid SSW Conference Room (UTRGV EINNV 1.123 & Zoom)

**OCT 1 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**  
Walk/Bike Audit (No need to bring a bicycle)  
Location: Meet at School of Social Work Conference Room

**OCT 1 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM**  
UTRGV Non-drivers panel  
Location: Zoom

UTRGV | UT Health  
Rio Grande Valley

**2025**

Please contact the team at [weekwodrivingrgv@gmail.com](mailto:weekwodrivingrgv@gmail.com) to request accommodations.



# 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

**RGVMPO**

**No Status  
Reports**