

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



**AGENDA**

MEETING OF THE LRGVDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

=====  
LRGVDC Main Campus, 301 W. Railroad Street, Building B Weslaco, TX 78596

**Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 12:00 noon**

Audio access is available by calling +1 (872) 240-3412, Access Code: 227-708-269

Presiding: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mayor Norma Sepulveda, President

=====  
**Item #1: Call to Order**

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

**Item #2: Consideration and ACTION to Approve Meeting Minutes (October 25, 2023)..... 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

**Item #3: Public Comment**

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

A. Consideration and **ACTION** on Date and Time for Annual Report and Budget Committee Meeting. .... Manuel Cruz  
Executive Director

B. Consideration and **ACTION** on Vacancy of the LRGVDC Executive Committee Members..... Manuel Cruz  
Executive Director

C. Executive Director Report

- 1. Introduction of New Staff Members
- 2. 2024 Board Meeting Schedule
- 3. Updates on Regional News, Funding Opportunities, Training, and Legislation

**Item #5: Department Reports**

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

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC).
2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee (RWRAC) Officer.
3. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Nominee Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee (RWRAC) Nominations for Special Purpose District-Drainage for Hidalgo County and Special Purpose District for Irrigation Category.
4. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Service Terms of Committee Members Appointed in Odd Years.

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 Service.....Margarita Lopez  
Director**

Program Status Reports

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

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

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

Program Status Reports

- Criminal Justice & Homeland Security Program Status Report

Regional Police Academy Program.....Manuel Cruz  
Executive Director

Program Status Reports

- Regional Police Academy Status Reports.....Manuel Cruz  
Executive Director
- Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District Status Report.....Dennis Moreno  
Assistant Director
  - GIS Division
  - Community Engagement Division
  - 9-1-1 | Information Technology

**C. Valley Metro Transportation.....Tom Logan  
Director**

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve the update of the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan for Valley Metro.
2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve the purchase of Bus Shelters and associated equipment through LRGVDC Procurement policies.
3. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve the purchase of Hardware and bus-associated equipment through LRGVDC Procurement policies.

Valley Metro Status Reports

- Ridership Report
- Regional Transportation Advisory Panel (RTAP) Activity
- Public Outreach Events

**D. Rio Grande Valley MPO Status Report.....Luis Diaz  
RGVMPO Executive Director**

**Item #6: New or Unfinished Business**

**Item #7 Adjourn**

**\*REMINDER\***  
 Next Meeting:  
**Wednesday, January 31, 2024**  
**12:00 noon**

Agenda items may be considered, deliberated, and/or acted upon in a different order than those numbered above. The Board of Directors of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council reserves the right to adjourn into an Executive (Closed) session at any time during this meeting to discuss any of the items listed on this agenda as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapters 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and 551.075, Texas Government Code. No final action will be taken in the Executive Session. **PUBLIC INPUT POLICY:** "At the beginning of each LRGVDC meeting, the LRGVDC will allow for an open public forum/comment period. This comment period shall not exceed one-half (1/2) hour, and each speaker will be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes to speak. All individuals desiring to address the LRGVDC must be signed up to do so prior to the open comment period. The purpose of this comment period is to provide the public with an opportunity to address issues or topics under the jurisdiction of the LRGVDC. For issues or topics that are not otherwise part of the posted agenda for the meeting, LRGVDC members may direct staff to investigate the issue or topic further. No action or discussion shall be taken on issues or topics which are not part of the posted agenda for the meeting. Members of the public may be recognized on posted agenda items deemed appropriate by the Chair as these items are considered, and the same 3-minute time limitation applies.

**ITEM #2.**

**MINUTES**

# MINUTES

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

12:00PM WEDNESDAY, October 25, 2023

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

PRESIDING: President Jim Darling

- DRAFT -

President Jim Darling called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. Roll Call was taken, and a quorum was declared.

**Present:** Mr. Jim Darling

Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza, City of Mission  
Commissioner Ernesto "Ernie" Garcia, Willacy County  
Mayor John Cowen, City of Brownsville  
Commissioner David Garza, Cameron County  
Velinda Reyes, Hidalgo County  
Councilman Johnny Garcia, City of Edinburg  
Omar Quintanilla, City of McAllen  
Armando Garcia, City of Mercedes  
Commissioner Edward Gonzales City of Raymondville  
Mayor Ricardo Rick Guerra City of San Benito  
Ms. Veronica Gonzales, UT Rio Grande Valley  
Mr. Paul Hernandez, South Texas College  
Mr. Troy Allen, Delta Lake ID  
Ms. Ann Williams Cass, Member at Large  
Ms. Lupita Sanchez Martinez, Grass Roots ORG

**Absent:**

Mayor David Suarez, City of Weslaco  
Mayor Norma Sepulveda, City of Harlingen  
Commissioner J.R. Garza, City of Alamo  
Commissioner Betty Rodriguez, City of La Villa  
Mayor Mike Carter, City of Laguna vista  
Mayor Jaime Gonzalez, City of Los Indio's  
Mayor Ambrosio "Amos" Hernandez, City of Pharr  
Commissioner Marco "Markie" Villegas, City of San Juan  
Ms. Cledia Hernandez, TSTC  
Mr. Ronald Mills, Willacy Co. Nav Dist.  
Mr. Eleazar Garcia Jr, Member at Large

President Jim Darling moved to item # 2. Consideration and Action to Approve Meeting Minutes (September 27, 2023). *Troy Allen motioned to approve the presented minutes from September 27, 2023. Ms. Norie Gonzalez Garza seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously upon a vote.*

President Jim Darling next moved to Item # 3 Public Comment, there being none, he moved to item # 4.

#### **Item #4. Administration**

- A. Consideration and Action to Adopt Annual Investment Policy and Accept Quarterly Investment Report/Policy. Presented by Crystal Balboa, Finance Director, both the Policy and Report were presented in packet given to the members for review. With no further comment or questions, it was up for approval by Board Members. *Commissioner David Garza made a motion to approve the Annual Investment Policy and Report. Troy Allen seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.*

Consideration and Action to Approve the LRGVDC to Request Proposals from Financial Institutions for Line of Credit and Executive Director to Execute Competitive Proposal for Future Acquisition of Real Property, Construction Sites and Administration Operations. Mr. Cruz explained that as the LRGVDC keeps expanding its operations within Willacy, Cameron, and Hidalgo Counties, a line of credit would greatly benefit the LRGVDC for the purpose of its operations. A line of credit provides the LRGVDC with a flexible solution to cover short-term cash-flow gaps whenever we are faced with unexpected challenges and hardships. Operations won't have to be paused, invoices to vendors are paid, and the lights continue to stay on. This opportunity would also build business credit and as the LRGVDC's credit score improves, we would potentially access more funding opportunities and better financing terms, other alternatives that would benefit the LRGVDC, and this would be an effective way to build a relationship with lenders. Jim Darling had a question, he asked under the City Law it's like a loan, you must have an interest in sinking fund, so how do you establish or is that the same requirement for a Council of Governments? If so, how do we establish the Sinking Fund or Guarantee that? Mr. Cruz then went on to explain to everyone that most of the funds are reimbursed by all the funding agencies. Mr. Cruz stated that they do have some local funds, which are membership contributions from Local Governments that participate in the LRGVDC. Any fees associated with these loans will be researched to make sure that the funding agency will allow it and when we request a line of credit it would be strictly for the programs that might need advance funds for operational/project costs. Mr. Cruz also explained that from time to time, state and federal agencies' seasonal downturns and delayed reimbursements have led to cash flow issues, which in turn impedes LRGVDC day to day business operations. Commissioner Garza stated that this would be a good idea due to not having a meeting in November and getting started on this ASAP.

*Commissioner David Garza made a motion to approve Request Proposals from Financial Institutions for Line of Credit and Executive Director to execute Competitive Proposal for Future Acquisition of Real Property, Construction Projects, and Administrative Operations Norie seconded the motion, and upon vote the motion was carried unanimously.*

#### **B. Executive Report**

1. Mr. Cruz mentioned to the board that up next, was Staff Recognition for Years of service. Mr. Cruz asked Mr. Darling to step up to the Podium to take pictures with staff. They presented employees from 5-25 years of service with the LRGVDC.
2. Following was Staff Recognition Mr. Cruz then Introduced all New Staff Members.
3. There were no updates on Regional News, Funding Opportunities, Training or Legislation. But Mr. Cruz let everyone know that with the election coming up he mentioned Proposition 8. This is regarding the Texas Broadband Infrastructure Fund. This would be about \$1.5 billion that would be allocated to expand Internet availability in Texas. Currently, 7 million or more homes lack access. Also, a portion of money is being used to upgrade 911 systems throughout the State of Texas. He mentioned that there were currently 14 propositions out there and asked for everyone's support for prop 8.

Mr. Cruz Concluded his report and handed it over to other directors and gave them opportunity to present their action items and reports for their programs.

Without questions from the board, Mr. Jim Darling moved to Item # 5 Department Reports.

#### **Item #5: Department Reports**

#### **A. Community & Economic Development**

1. Consideration and Action to Approve Texas Commission on Environmental. Quality (TCEQ) Resolution for the FY 2024/2025 Regional Solid Waste Grants Program application. The LRGVDC shall submit the Signed resolution with the LRGVDC COG Application. Mrs. Melisa Gonzales states that this resolution is required as part of the application submittal to TCEQ, she asks the board if there are no further questions. Jim Darling then asked if this proposal for solid waste part of Solid Waste in underserved areas was. Melisa then stated it would be an addition to it. Mrs. Gonzales states that the RFP's will not open till January. This year they decided to increase it from 25-30,000 and that they will be giving out 4 awards, 2 per year. ***Troy Allen made a motion to approve The Texas Commission on Environmental. Quality (TCEQ) Resolution for the FY 2024/2025 Regional Solid Waste Grants Program application. Mayor Rick Guerra seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***
2. Consideration and Action to Approve Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) member. Mrs. Gonzales informed the board that Mr. Alan Williams who is now with Region One Education Service Center has stepped up to fill the Environmental vacancy. Melisa mentioned that once they get Mr. Alan on board, they will have 2 vacancies available, 1 for small cities and for the educational seat. Mrs. Gonzales will reach out to them and get these positions filled ASAP and will present them to the board for approval. Commissioner David Garza asked if Mr. Alan will qualify as Education Member, Mrs. Gonzales then replies with Yes but since he is an environmentalist, they would prefer him to stay as their environmental vacancy. During the discussion Commissioner David Garza would like Mr. Alan Williams to fill the Education and they will later find one for Environmental. ***The Commissioner David Garza made motion to approve Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Education member. Norie Gonzalez seconded the motion, upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

#### Program Status Reports

Mrs. Melisa Gonzales announced to the board that The Partnership with UTRGV had submitted the RGV recomplete plan for funding. Mrs. Gonzales went on to the 2<sup>nd</sup> announcement. On Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Ken Jones Board Room they will be hosting the Texas Department of Agricultural Award Ceremony. She mentioned that the awards were for CDBG Cities, there will be about 7 communities that will be getting an award and have been asked to come in. Mrs. Gonzales extended the invitation to the board for whoever would like to attend.

Without questions from the board Mr. Jim Darling moved to Item B, Health and Human Services

#### **Health and Human Services**

Consideration and Action to Approve the Area Agency on Aging Citizens Advisory Council Rules of Function. Ms. Lopez explains to the board that the Document was revised to meet the goals and objectives set forth by the Area Agency on Aging Policies and Procedures relating to its citizens advisory committee. The Older Americans Act (OAA) and the Area Plan. ***Troy Allen made motion to approve The Area Agency on Aging Citizens Advisory Council Rules of Function. Mayor Rick Guerra seconded the motion, upon vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

Consideration and Action to Approve the New Officers to the Citizens Advisory Council. Ms. Lopez announced that the Citizen Advisory Council members were present at the October 10, 2023, meeting and elected new officers: Ms. Connie Garza as Chairperson and Ms. Kendra Stein as Vice Chairperson Ms. Garza has been a member of the Council since February 2018 representing Hidalgo County. Both officers bring to the table leadership, experience, and commitment to serving the community. The newly elected officers will serve a one-year term. ***Commissioner Ernie Garcia made a motion to Approve the New Officers to the Citizens Advisory Council. Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza seconded the motion, upon vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

#### Program Status Reports

Ms. Lopez mentioned that all her quarterly reports were attached to the board packet and if anyone had any further questions, she would gladly answer them. Ms. Lopez announced two major events coming up this month, 1st on November 16, 2023. The Second Annual Vet Fest is happening in Brownsville Texas. She mentions that she truly is humbled for all the support they have been receiving for this event. Tom Hushen from Cameron County Emergency Management as well as Brownsville Emergency Management Team and Hector Martinez from Brownsville Fire Department have really gone above and beyond to help. Gives a huge thank you to the Public Health Department, and Cameron County Department of Veterans from the Veterans Center in Brownsville. Department of Veterans Affairs, Suicide Prevention Department of Veterans Caregiver, Support, females unite, and the list goes on she mentions. The second announcement is for Save the Date tentative for November 30<sup>th</sup> in Celebration of Veterans Appreciation Celebration that will be held in Harlingen at the Harlingen Convention Center.

#### Public Safety

#### Criminal Justice and Homeland Security

1. Consideration and Action to Approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Recommendation of Appointment of Parliamentarian, Mrs. Odee Leal, EMC from Brownsville, Texas. Mr. Cesar Merla started off by thanking Ms. Lopez and Vanessa Salinas from the HHS Dept. for all that they have done for the Veterans in the community and surrounding areas. Mr. Merla then proceeded with his action item. Mr. Merla stated that The HSAC convened on October 5, 2023, to consider the appointment of Mrs. Odee Leal, the City of Brownsville Emergency Management Coordinator, as Parliamentarian for the committee, and therefore this recommendation requires Board Approval. ***Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Recommendation of Appointment of Parliamentarian Odee Leal, EMC from Brownsville Texas. Mr. Troy Allen Seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***
2. Consideration and Action to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Recommendation on the current Homeland Security Advisory Committee Members for FY 2024. Mr. Merla further explained that the HSAC converted on October 5, 2023, to discuss and approve the current membership roster along with all current and elected members for 2024. This recommendation requires board approval as well. ***Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) Recommendation on approval of the current Homeland Security Advisory Committee Members for FY 2024, Mr. Troy Allen Seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion was carried unanimously.***

#### Program Status Report

#### Criminal Justice Program

Mr. Merla explained to the board that the Criminal Justice Staff attended the UTRGV Vaqueros Stand up against Domestic Violence on October 4, 2023 in Edinburg Texas. And that the staff also hosted the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee on Oct. 11, 23 at the Ken Jones Board Room.



## Homeland Security Program

Mr. Merla showed the board the list of all the Homeland Security Advisory Committee for FY 2024 which he mentioned was in the packet provided to the board. He summarized all the events that staff from Homeland Security attended. They are as follows: Our staff attended the City of Weslaco Fire Department Ribbon Cutting on the Firehouse on September 27<sup>th</sup> in Weslaco, attended webinar Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) eLearning Grant Ethics on October 4, 2023. They also hosted the Homeland Security Advisory Committee meeting on October 5, 2023, at the Ken Jones Board room. They attended the webinar for School Safety Audits: Accessing and Enhancing your Campus Security on October 11, 2023. Virtual the Homeland Security Grant Division (HSGD) Regional Conference call on October 12, 2023. The Willacy County National Night out 2023 in the cities of Sebastian, San Perlita and Lasara Tx, On October 17-19, 2023. Attended the Cameron County Sheriff Office Trick or Treat Festival at Bass Pro Shop in Harlingen, TX on October 26, 2023. Staff also hosted the RGV Emergency Training Alliance Board Meeting on October 26, 2023, at the Ken Jones Board Room.

With no further updates to Homeland Security, Mr. Cruz then moved on to the Regional Police Academy.

## Regional Police Academy

3. Consideration and Action to Approve revisions to the BPOC Rules Handbook, The Lower Rio Grande Valley Academy Basic Peace Officer Course Handbook (BPOC) is provided to all the cadets entering the Academy. This document provides the rules, policies and procedures providing the overall qualifications, grading procedures, entrance requirements, etc. This document is a TCOLE compliance requirement. The revisions in this document are highlighted in yellow and gray to showcase new or revised language. Mr. Cruz then explained that the BPOC handbook will be available to all cadets. He mentioned a notable change, that in the past they had a Makeup Assignment Policy, explained that by TCOLE rules and regulations that does not exist anymore and was removed. As a cadet, qualifying to be a Peace officer, all must attend the full course. This is the most significant item that we did clarification based on TCOLE. ***Commissioner Rick Guerra made a motion to approve revisions to the BPOC Rules Handbook. Troy Allen Seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***
4. Consideration and Action to approve revisions to Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Extension Services for LRGV Academy Site(s). The Interlocal Agreement for Extension services for Academy site(s) was last updated in FY 2019. This ILA is an agreement between the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council and the local law enforcement agency as an Academy Site. As a result, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Academy requests approval for the revisions in the ILA, to address the number of cadets per class, compliance requirements through TCOLE, determine minimum and Maximum enrollment class size, and other details. The changes are noted in yellow and to the right side of the document. Mr. Cruz states that they are going to execute the revised ILA with local agreements that they currently have partnership with, then explains for example the following City of Mission and Edinburg Police Depts, future expansion if need into Cameron County Area possibly Harlingen. He then summarized that this did go before the advisory committee, there were only minor additions, such as clarification on the roles or responsibilities for both entities, the actual PD and the LRGV Academy. Jim Darling asked Mr. Cruz if these changes will need to be approved by whoever enters into an agreement with us and for us to provide the service or date request to be approved by city commission with the LRGVDC, answer was yes. ***Commissioner Rick Guerra made motion to approve Revisions to Interlocal Agreement for Extension Services for LRGV Academy. Troy Allen seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion was carried unanimously.***

## Program Status Reports

Mr. Cruz states that the TCOLE conference is going on this week, and he had the opportunity to attend Monday and Tuesday.

With no further updates for the Regional Police Academy, they then moved on to Rio Grande Valley Communication District. Mr. Dennis Moreno

## **Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District**

### **Program Status Report**

#### **GIS Division**

Mr. Dennis Moreno started off by providing a status report for as follows: The GIS Data Hub is now our primary website and can be found at [www.rgv911.org](http://www.rgv911.org). The GIS team has uploaded several informational maps that other public entities, and the public can readily download. This data has streamlined our general information request process. We have created an Emergency Response map that will aid our local 9-1-1 call responding Fire Departments and EMS agencies to respond using 9-1-1 address data. We will do the same for local Police departments that do not host a PSAP in the RGV9-1-1 District. In August team members Jacob and Monica took a Managing Geospatial Data class to learn intermediate level ArcGIS data management.

In early September we submitted Location Based Routing (LBR) request to Verizon Wireless. This new technology will begin the process of switching from traditional Cell phone tower routing to LBR routing. LBR routing is achieved by activating a service that will force the cellphone to turn on GPS services and automatically send location data with the call. It is a vital service as it will make it, so the 9-1-1 system knows exactly what PSAP to send the call to instead of first sending the call to the PSAP that is assigned to the tower. It significantly reduces the need for transfer of 9-1-1 calls. As of today, Verizon is the only major carrier to start making the switch. AT&T will make the switch across the board next year, and T-Mobile has not yet defined a timeframe.

On October GIS team members Jacob and Joe worked with Weslaco Fire Captain Richard Stubbs to create a fire district map for their new Fire Station. A map can be found online in our HUB at [www.rgv911.org](http://www.rgv911.org). On October 19th – 20th Team members Monica and Jacob attended an ESRI training called Deploying and Maintaining a Multiuser Geodatabase training.

In August, the GIS team met with our ESRI account team to plan for next year's GIS activities starting on September 2023 ending August 2024. Below is our Geospatial Strategic plan.

#### **Community Engagement Division**

Mr. Moreno then informed the board that the report is an all-encompassing summary of the community engagement endeavors undertaken in September 2023. It provides an intricate depiction of our interactions and projects designed to foster connections with the local community during this specific timeframe.

Award Special Delivery for 911 Telecommunicators. September 22, 2023, being a 9-1-1 telecommunicator is a selfless and demanding role that often requires individuals to sacrifice precious moments with loved ones. These dedicated professionals frequently miss birthdays, holidays, and special events, where they could be celebrated for their invaluable work in emergency response. Their commitment to public safety often means putting the needs of others before their own, making their contributions more commendable and deserving of recognition. On this, we made unique visits to McAllen PD and Hidalgo PD to personally deliver awards to the dedicated 9-1-1 telecommunicators who couldn't attend the wellness seminar due to their essential work commitments. These gestures of appreciation highlight our gratitude for their unwavering service and the sacrifices they make to ensure the safety of our communities.

Staff attended the following events. Mission Police Department Block Party, September 22, 2023, we were delighted to sponsor the Mission Police Department by providing coloring books and crayons for a community block party. It was a great event, and we were thrilled to contribute to the enjoyment of local children. Supporting such community initiatives brings us immense joy and reinforces our commitment to promote constructive connections within our local community.

H.E.E.L.S (Helping Empower Entrepreneurial Ladies to Succeed) September 26, 2023, The RGV9-1-1 Community Engagement Department participated in the HEELS luncheon hosted by the Raymondville Chamber of Commerce. This event celebrated women's leadership and their significant roles in various fields. It provided an excellent networking platform and highlighted women leaders' contributions to the community.

Weslaco Police Department National Night Out September 30, 2023. It was a fantastic experience, and we genuinely appreciated the opportunity to participate. The turnout was incredible, and we were thrilled to engage in meaningful conversations and share valuable insights about 9-1-1 services with the community. The positive response and enthusiasm from the attendees were heartwarming, reaffirming the importance of such outreach efforts. We look forward to future collaborations and the chance to continue educating and connecting with our community.

With No further updates on Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District they then moved on to Valley Metro. With Mr. Tom Logan.

### **Transportation Valley Metro**

#### **Program Status Report** Ridership Report:

Tom Logan started off by providing the board with the following. Valley Metro provides regional transportation service of both **Rural** and **Urban** transit systems in the five-county region of the Rio Grande Valley. The **Urban System** is provided in Cameron, Hidalgo, and Starr Counties and includes UTRGV Ridership. Services run Monday – Saturday from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm. The **Rural System** operates in the rural areas of Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy, Starr, and Zapata Counties. Services run Monday – Sunday from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm

#### Regional Transportation Advisory Panel (RTAP) Activity:

RTAP Sub-committee held a workshop September 26, 2023. A review of the Short/Mid/Long Term goals of 5-Year Transit Plan was discussed in detail and members provided input and suggestions on how to accomplish those needs. LRGVDC Valley Metro was awarded a TXDOT grant in the amount of \$40,000 to continue assessing and meeting the needs and gaps of the 5-year Transit Plan. The sub-committee meets bi-monthly.

Mr. Logan then ended by explaining that Valley Metro's Planning Department staff continues to hold public involvement events. The events highlight the modes of travel available to the public within their perspective city and region. We are currently working on realigning routes to incorporate the new San Juan Terminal.

With no further updates to Transportation Valley Metro. They then moved on to RGVMPPO with Mr. Canon.

### **Rio Grande Valley MPO**

#### **Program Status Report**

Mr. Canon started off with this afternoons MPO meeting, we will have a change in command. He mentioned that Commissioner David Fuentes from Hidalgo County Precinct 1 will be the new Chairman for the two-year term. The board will be electing a Vice Chair from the Cameron County region, also asking the board to take action on \$9 million for one of the programs. For our hiking bike trails and non-motorized pedestrian projects. The staff has good recommendations and a lot of good applicants this year. Then he mentioned that they will talk about presenting the congestion study. Mr. Canon states that they were able to show that the return on investment throughout the region that have been done average around 40 to 1. McAllen is very aware of this with all the money that they did though bond issuance. He summarizes that it is important to share with the board as they talk about projects. He states while adding capacity projects are important you never get a return on that investment. He stated that it is dynamic to be able to show and or consult and share with the board.

Jim Darling then closes out meeting by telling Mr. Canon on behalf of the board thank you for your service and appreciate all you have done. Your leadership has been very important.

**Item #6 New and Unfinished Business**

There being no further business to come before the Board, *Jim Darling made a motion to adjourn at 12:57 pm.*

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Jim Darling

ATTEST:

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Liza Alfaro, Recording Secretary

**ITEM #4. A.**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**ITEM #4. B.**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**EXECUTIVE**

**DIRECTOR**

**REPORT**

# 2024 LRGVDC

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SCHEDULE

\* All meetings scheduled on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon

January 31, 2024	<b>Semi-Annual Membership Meeting</b>
February 28, 2024	
March 27, 2024	
April 24, 2024	
May 29, 2024	<b>Annual Elections Meeting</b>
June 26, 2024	
July	No Meeting Scheduled
August 28, 2024	
September 25, 2024	
October 30, 2024	
November	No Meeting Scheduled
December 11, 2024	

**ITEM #5. A.**

**COMMUNITY  
&  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Action Item

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) members.

As per the SWAC Bylaws, the Advisory Committee shall consist of the following members, as elected by the SWAC. Members shall begin term upon SWAC action item approval. Members may only be selected from the current committee representatives. The appointment of an officer shall only be granted to a specific individual (not membership composition category representative).

The SWAC executive board recommended the following members:

- Environmental Vacancy: Ms. Marisa Rodriguez, Texas Children in Nature Network
- Small City: Mr. Cesar Gutierrez, City of Palmview

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Action Item

2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee (RWRAC) Officer.

As per the RWRAC Bylaws, the Advisory Committee shall consist of the following officers, as elected by the RWRAC. Officers shall begin term upon RWRAC action item approval. 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.

At their upcoming December 12, 2023, RWRAC meeting, the committee will consider nominations to fill for the CHAIR position.

Because the RWRAC will meet the day before the Board is scheduled to meet, staff will provide the names of the individuals being recommended during the meeting.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Action Item

3. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Nominee Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee (RWRAC) Nominations for Special Purpose District – Drainage for Hidalgo County and Special Purpose District for Irrigation Category.

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) is solicited for nominations for a RWRAC committee member to serve. Each nominee will be selected based upon their qualifications, experience, and interest.

At their upcoming December 12, 2023, RWRAC meeting, the committee will consider nominations to fill positions for representatives in the Special Purpose District Drainage and Irrigation District categories.

Because the RWRAC will meet the day before the Board is scheduled to meet, staff will provide the names of the individuals being recommended during the meeting.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Community & Economic Development

Program Action Item

4. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve Service Terms of Committee Members Appointed in Odd Years

As per the bylaws, the 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 2021. A member may be reappointed to multiple terms without term limits; however, must be re-designated each term by LRGVDC Board of Directors.

<b>RWRAC Member</b>	<b>Appointment Date</b>	<b>Renewal Due</b>
Commissioner David Garza	5/29/2019	12/23
Vince Romero	9/29/2021	12/23
Albert Barreda	5/29/2019	12/23
Ron Mills	6/24/2020	12/23
Javier Guerrero	8/18/2019	12/23
Jim Darling	8/28/2019	12/23
Martin Knecht	9/29/2021	12/23
Juan Uribe	9/29/2021	12/23

# Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors Meeting

December 13, 2023

## Item #5: Department Reports

### A. Community & Economic Development

#### Program Status Reports

- Economic Development Administration

Staff completed and submitted the FY2024 EDA Partnership Planning Grant. The Partnership Planning Grant is awarded to Council of Governments who are also known as an Economic Development District (EDD). The planning investment is to facilitate the development, implementation, revision, or replacement of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS), which expresses and highlights the strategic economic goals of recipients' respective regions.

Updating CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies) - Staff are working on updating the CEDS and will be conducting public meetings to review & give input on the identified economic development strategies. Staff will be reaching out and utilizing the C&ED advisory committees: Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC), Regional Small Cities Coalition (RSCC), Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee (RWRAC), including stakeholders and community members. Stay tuned for meeting dates to be scheduled beginning of 2024.

EDA has published a new Fiscal Year 2023 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEAA) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(grants.gov link\)](#). The Public Works program provides resources to meet the construction and/or infrastructure design needs of communities to enable them to become more economically competitive. Supported activities under EDA's EAA program include construction and non-construction such as construction or upgrading of public infrastructure, sectoral partnerships for workforce training, design and engineering, technical assistance, economic recovery strategies, and capitalization or re-capitalization of Revolving Loan Funds (RLF). There are no application submission deadlines and applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis. Visit the following links for more information on this funding opportunity, [Public Works](#), [Economic Adjustment Assistance](#).

EDA has published a FY23 EDA Disaster Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(grants.gov link\)](#). The Economic Development Administration (EDA) is providing support to those communities impacted by natural disasters in 2021 and 2022. The awards made under this NOFO are designed to address economic challenges in those areas where a Presidential declaration of a major disaster has been issued. Funding will help communities devise and implement long-term economic recovery strategies through a variety of construction and non-construction projects. [EDA Announces](#)

[Notice of Funding Opportunity for Regions Impacted by Natural Disasters | U.S. Economic Development Administration.](#)

Staff are available to provide technical assistance, project development, and grant administration on EDA proposals and projects. For any assistance or information on EDA in general, contact the Community & Economic Development Department. Staff also serve as the regional point of contact for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and will continue to disseminate information accordingly. Staff also continues to coordinate efforts with other governmental entities on their economic development related activities to maximize benefits of all projects and objectives for the region and avoid any duplication of efforts and resources. For more information and resources on EDA's funding opportunities, visit <https://sfgrants.eda.gov/s/>.

- Regional Small Cities Coalition (RSCC)

A RSCC Hybrid Meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2024, in the LRGVDC Small board room 301 W. Railroad Weslaco, TX at 9:30 AM. A GoToMeeting link will be emailed out on a later date.

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

- Community & Economic Development Assistance Fund

The LRGVDC received the CEDAF contract with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). Staff shall carry out specified technical assistance activities in the Contractor's state planning region. Staff will also be responsible for disseminating program information to keep TxCDBG eligible communities informed of information, promote Fair Housing, provide support to the Unified Scoring Committee (USC) member, and host a grant kick off meeting of TDA funding opportunities.

On November 3, 2023, staff hosted an award ceremony and grant kick off meeting, that included TDA representatives and four awarded entities. CONGRATULATIONS to the 2024 Texas Department of Agriculture Community Development Awardee's: Port Isabel, Primera, Los Fresnos and Rio Hondo! Total combined grant award total of \$1,949,740!



**Awards Ceremony!**

On Friday, November 3, 2023, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council-Community & Economic Development Department and the Texas Department of Agriculture held a Texas Department of Agriculture Community Development 2024 grant awards ceremony.

These communities received a combined funding amount of \$1,949,740.00.

**AWARDEE'S**

- Port Isabel
- Primera
- Los Fresnos
- Rio Hondo

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



The graphic features the logos of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council and the Texas Department of Agriculture. It includes a group photo of the award recipients and staff members standing behind a table. The text is presented in a clean, professional layout with a blue and white color scheme.

The Community Development Fund is the largest fund category in the Texas Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG). 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. Visit our Community Development webpage at <http://www.lrgvdc.org/community.html> to view the Lower Rio Grande Valley regional project priorities.

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

- Solid Waste Management Program

The new Solid Waste funding cycle is just around the corner. The TCEQ Grant Application for the FY 2024/2025 Regional Solid Waste Grant Program will open Request for Applications in January 2024. Keep watch for the release of application and workshop dates. You may find this information under the [Community & Economic Development Department > Solid Waste Tab > Grants Program](#). The next SWAC meeting will be announced when scheduled.



The Assistant Director attended and presented on the LRGVDC Solid Waste Program at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual TEHA-STC Education Conference held on December 6- December 8<sup>th</sup> on South Padre Island.

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).

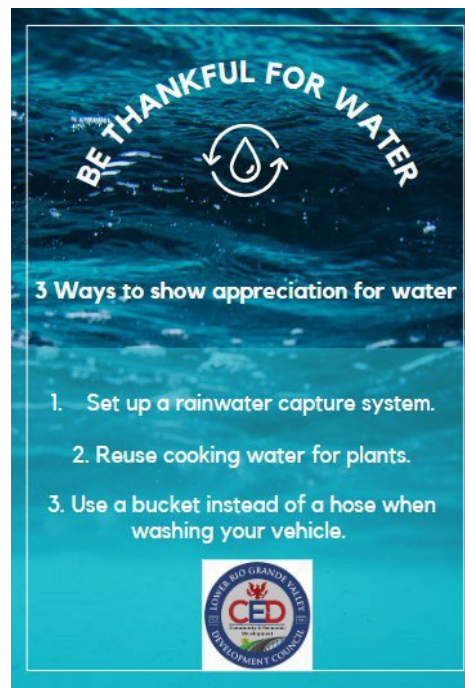
- Water Quality Program

Staff continues to educate the public on water quality issues with the “America’s



Recycling Month” and “Be Thankful for Water” for the month of November. You can find educational social media postings on the LRGVDC Facebook page. Give a thumbs up or leave a comment! Outreach efforts for this program include staff attending in-person events, and or in partnership of the AAA department. This allows for great C&ED program promotion opportunities for the community. Informational reading material and promotional items on water quality are distributed at these events.

November messages:



Thank you, City of McAllen, for including the LRGVDC Community & Economic Development Department in your Texas Recycling Day Event! Great job to all those involved as it was a Great Recycling event!! Remember, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!





Staff also continues 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)

A Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee (RWRAC) meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

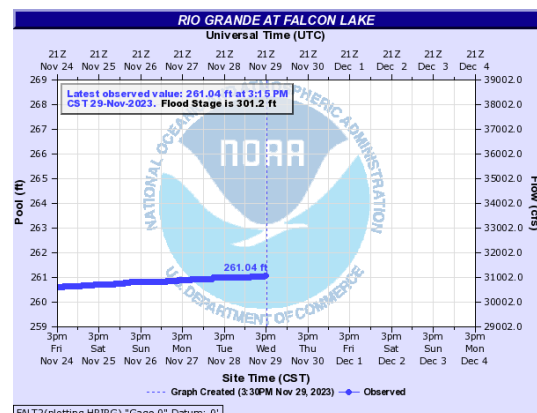
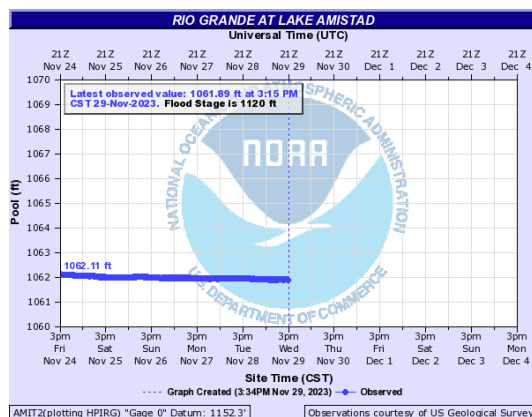
Staff continue to support, provide technical assistance, outreach, and administer water projects. Information about water resources is available at <https://www.lrgvdc.org/water.html>

- Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group (Region M)

The Region M Group meeting was held on November 1, 2023, at 9:30 am. The meeting information can be found on the Region M website.

For more information on Region M, please visit website: <http://riograndewaterplan.org>

- Reservoir Levels as of November 29, 2023



**ITEM #5. B.**

**HEALTH  
&  
HUMAN  
SERVICES**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

B. Health & Human Services

Area Agency on Aging Status Report

Annual Review 2023: Enhancing Lives, Embracing Challenges

As we reflect on the journey of the past fiscal year, the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) is delighted to present the Annual Review for 2023—a testament to resilience, dedication, and the commitment to enhancing the lives of older individuals and at-risk populations in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

The year 2023 brought a unique set of challenges, particularly in navigating the post-COVID-19 landscape. The AAA, however, met these challenges head-on, overcoming staffing hurdles and fully restoring in-person services. This report encapsulates the myriad achievements, initiatives, and collaborative efforts that defined our year, highlighting the impact on the communities we serve.

From hosting impactful clinics addressing diverse needs to organizing successful annual events like the Leadership Inclusion & Independence Family-support Engagement (LIIFE) Disability Conference and Veterans Festivals, the AAA remained at the forefront of community engagement. The report details our Senior Center Operations, Nutrition Program, and the strides made in expanding services for Health Maintenance and Transportation.

Underpinning our achievements are the 2023 Performance Goals, Productivity Outcomes, and a forward-looking perspective into the future—2024-2026— where the AAA envisions greater outreach, increased staff, and expanded services across the three-county region.

Join us in revisiting the milestones, acknowledging the challenges, and celebrating the collaborative spirit that defines the AAA's mission. This report stands as a testament to the collective efforts that continue to shape AAA's impact on the well-being of our community.

## Post-COVID-19 Recovery and In-Person Services

Challenges Faced	Achievements
Overcoming staffing hurdles	Fully restoring in-person services
Accommodating face-to-face interaction concerns	Hosting a series of clinics on diverse topics

### Clinics Covered:

1. Direct Client Services & Caregiver Support Services
2. Financial Awareness
3. Employment/Education Assistance
4. Nutrition Education
5. Physical Health and Wellbeing
6. Mental Health & Wellness

### Annual Events and Initiatives:

- Leadership Inclusion & Independence Family-support Engagement (LIIFE) Disability Conference:  
Inaugural event held on March 22, 2023  
Successfully promoted leadership, inclusion, independence, family support, and empowerment  
Exceeded attendance expectations Now an annual event
- Second annual Veterans Festival (November 2023)  
Strengthened community ties, collaborated with 50+ organizations
- Veterans Appreciation Celebration (December 2023) Anticipated to host over 75 vendors and community services

### Senior Center Operations and Nutrition Program: Senior

#### Centers:

1. La Joya
2. Los Fresnos
3. Mission Housing Authority
4. Primera (Newest Center)
5. Rio Hondo
6. WellMed Charitable Foundation

### Nutrition Program:

- Home Delivered Meals
- Congregate Meals provided by Amigos Del Valle

### Congregate Meals Program:

- Offers five nutritious meals per week
- Social activities, board games, classes on nutrition education, and chronic disease prevention
- Caregivers accompanying eligible participants receive meals

### Home Delivered Meals Program:

- Delivers five home-cooked meals per week
- Based on individual service plans assigned by case management

### Enhanced Services and Collaborations:

Goal: Expand Health Maintenance and Transportation services to Willacy County's senior community

- Success: Enlisted 14 vendors servicing Willacy County
- Conducted six training sessions for 103 vendors in Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy counties
- Aimed at refining the vendor-to-client experience

### 2023 Performance Goals:

#### A. Compliance Requirements and Obligations:

- Monitored subrecipients for compliance
- Desk and on-site monitoring of all Title III services
- Coordinated subrecipient agreements, contractor agreements, applications, program, and financial reports

#### B. Comprehensive Service Delivery System:

- Offered a comprehensive service delivery system
- Ensured eligible individuals access and benefit from community services outlined in the approved Area Plan on Aging

#### C. Advisory Committees and Outreach Programs:

- Engaged in advisory councils representing diverse segments

- Monthly reports to the Board of Directors and regional groups

#### D. Cooperative Agreements:

- Entered into forty-seven vendor contractual agreements

### 2023 Productivity Outcomes

#### A. Program Oversight and Compliance:

- Monitored subrecipients for compliance
- Desk and on-site monitoring of all Title III services
- Coordinated subrecipient agreements, contractor agreements, applications, program, and financial reports

#### B. Direct Consumer Services Report - FY 2022-2023:

- Provided essential services to approximately 6,215 seniors
- Services included Respite In-Home Care, Homemaker services, Health Maintenance services, Residential Repair services, and Transportation services

#### B.2 Benefit Counselors:

- Achieved 74 enrollments for Medicare Part D
- Certification of a Benefit Counselor (BCII) and Advanced Directives Certification
- Hosted workshops and events, including a Rock & Enroll Medicare Open Enrollment Event

#### B.3 Care Transition Intervention (CTI):

- CTI coaches successfully enrolled 1,129 new clients and made 4,661 contacts
- Additional coach hired in the fourth quarter to enhance services

#### B.4 Ombudsman:

- Addressed 978 complaints, resolved 410 cases, and dedicated 1,110.5 hours to activities
- Actively participated in conferences to enhance knowledge and skills

#### Intake Team:

- Interacted with 5,589 individuals throughout the fiscal year

### Community Engagement and Outreach:

- Actively participated in hosting a total of 39 events throughout the 2023 Fiscal Year
- Outreach efforts extended to various segments of the community, including veterans, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers

### Information Clinics and Special Initiatives:

- Hosted information clinics focused on veterans, individuals with disabilities, and their families
- Covered critical topics such as caregiver support, financial awareness, education, employment benefits, nutrition, and mental health

### Conclusion

As the 2023 Fiscal Year concludes, the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) expresses gratitude to the Citizens Advisory Council, The Lower Rio Grande Board of Directors, its staff, volunteers, partners, and the community for their support. Despite challenges, the AAA has made significant strides in service delivery, community engagement, and outreach initiatives.

Looking ahead, the AAA is committed to learning from experiences, addressing challenges proactively, and continuously improving its services to meet the evolving needs of the community. The collaborative efforts with partners, stakeholders, and the community itself have been instrumental in achieving the outlined goals and will be pivotal in shaping the AAA's future endeavors.

### Future Outlook (2024-2026)

As we embark on the journey into 2024-2026, the AAA envisions a future marked by expanded horizons and increased impact. Our commitment to assisting more individuals, enhancing services, and fostering growth remains unwavering.

Anticipating the evolving needs of the community, the AAA looks forward to hiring additional staff, forging new partnerships, and extending services across the serviced three-county region. This proactive approach reflects our dedication to staying responsive, innovative, and ensuring that our services align seamlessly with the dynamic landscape of the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

**ITEM #5. C.**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

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

Criminal Justice Program

- Staff attended the webinar for 2023 National Summit on K-12 School Safety on November 1-2, 2023.
- Staff hosted the Active Shooter/Stop the Bleed training in collaboration with the Weslaco Police Department for LRGVDC Staff, the training took place on November 3, 2023, at the LRGVDC Valley Metro Training Room, Weslaco TX.
- Staff participated in webinar for Crime Stoppers School Safety on November 6-7, 2023.
- Staff hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ready RGV Planning meeting hybrid on November 16, 2023.

Homeland Security Program

- Staff attended the LEPC Emergency Planning Committee meeting on November 2, 2023, at the South Texas College-Pharr Campus.
- Staff attended the HAZMAT Regional Response Group meeting on November 2, 2023, at the Edinburg Fire Department.
- Staff attended the LRGVDC/RGVMPO Emergency Operation Planning meeting on November 7, 2023, at the LRGVDC, Ken Jones Executive Boardroom.
- Staff attended the South Texas Association for Pupil Transportation (STAPT) meeting on November 8, 2023, at the Donna ISD, in Donna, TX.

- Staff attended the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) Disaster District 21 meeting on November 8, 2023, at the Weslaco DPS Headquarter.
- Staff attended virtual the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) meeting "Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop Guide" on November 8, 2023
- Staff attended virtual the Homeland Security Grant Division (HSGD) Regional Conference call on November 9, 2023.
- Staff participated with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) site visit on November 9, 2023, at LRGVDC Valley Metro Training Room, in Weslaco, TX.
- Staff attended virtual the 4th Quarter Texas Critical Infrastructure Protection (TCIP) Task Force Meeting on November 15, 2023.
- Staff attended the LRGVDC 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Veterans Festival on November 16, 2023, at the Brownsville Event Center.
- Staff hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ready RGV Planning meeting hybrid on November 16, 2023.
- Staff attended the virtual Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) FY2024 Winter Webinar on November 28, 2023.

2023 Truck or Treat  
Bass Pro Shop in  
Harlingen, Texas

2023 National Night Out  
SAN PERLITA, TEXAS

2023 NATIONAL  
NIGHT OUT  
San Perlita, Texas

2023 National Night Out  
SEBASTIAN TEXAS

2023  
NATIONAL  
NIGHT OUT  
PALMHURST, TEXAS

2023 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT  
LASARA, TEXAS

2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL VET FEST

2023 LRGVDC STAFF  
ACTIVE SHOOTER & STOP THE BLEED TRAINING

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting, General Membership & Corporation Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

C. Public Safety

LRGV Academy Status Reports

- On Sunday, November 5, 2023, 17 cadets from the 222<sup>nd</sup> Weslaco Night Academy showcased exceptional performance, successfully passing their practical exam for Chapter 34 Professional Driving Course.
- As of Wednesday, November 29, 2023, the 21 cadets of the 223<sup>rd</sup> Mission Day Academy had completed the mandated 72 hours for Chapter 22 Traffic Code, Crash Investigation, and TIMS.
- As of Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 21 cadets from the 223<sup>rd</sup> Mission Day Academy completed the 24 hours required for Chapter 23 Standardized Field Sobriety training.
- As of Wednesday, December 7, 2023, 17 cadets from the 222<sup>nd</sup> Weslaco Night Academy attained comprehensive training for Chapter 40 Emergency Medical Assistance.
- Currently, the LRGV Academy is in the process of conducting entrance exams for the upcoming spring 2024 academy sessions.



Pictured below are the cadets of the  
222<sup>nd</sup> Weslaco Night Academy after successfully  
completing the Chapter 34 Professional Driving Course



Pictured below are the cadets of the 223<sup>rd</sup> Mission Day Academy  
engaging in opening procedures and reciting the Texas Code of Ethics



# Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

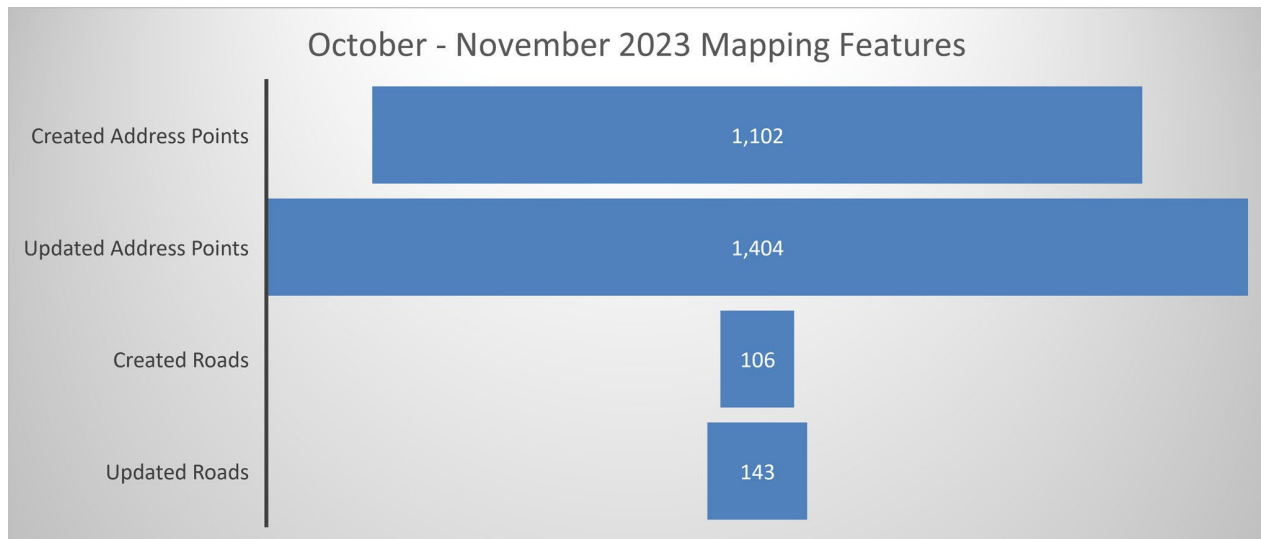
## Item #5: Department Reports

### C. Public Safety

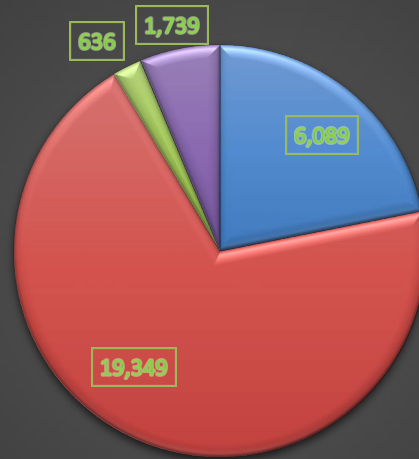
#### Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communication District Status Report

- GIS Division

Our GIS Data Hub is now our primary website and can be found at [www.rgv911.org](http://www.rgv911.org). The GIS team has uploaded several informational maps that other public entities and the public can readily download. This data has streamlined our general information request process. We have created an Emergency Response map that will aid our local 9-1-1 call responding EMS agencies to respond using 9-1-1 address data. We will do the same for local Police departments that do not host a PSAP in the RGV9-1-1 region. Following our GeoSpatial Strategic plan. We have completed creating our new Address Ticketing system called Rubicon. We have begun Beta testing Rubicon to work out any potential kinks in the system. The ticketing system is expected to go Live in mid to late December. On November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> GIS team members both attended and assisted the annual Rio Grande Valley Arc Users Group GIS day Event. Where team members attended workshops and met with other GIS users within the community.

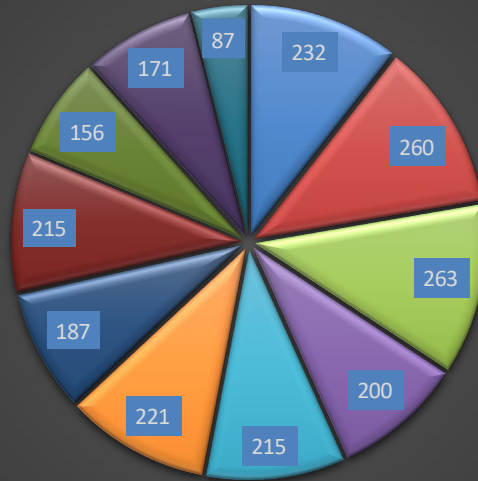


## 2023 Total Production : GIS



Created Address Points Updated Address Points Created Roads Updated Roads

## Address Tickets from January to November 2023



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

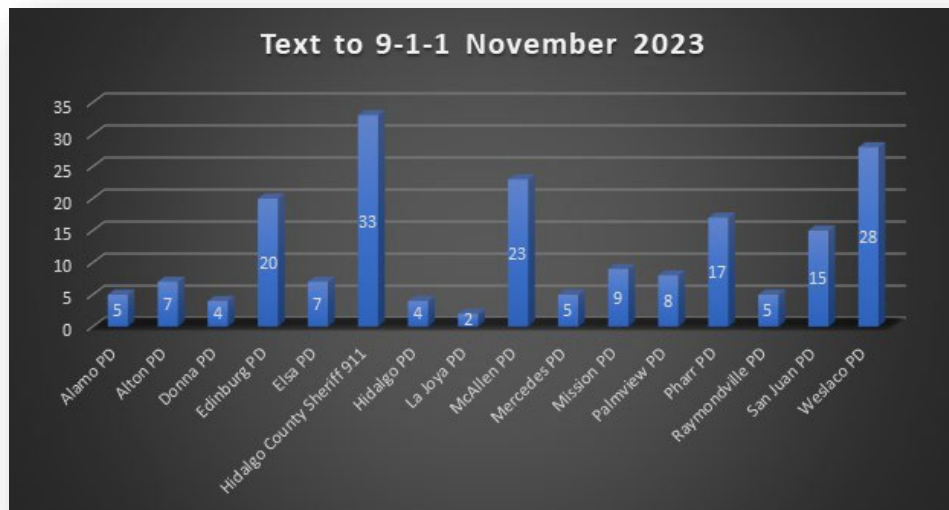
- 9-1-1 | Information Technology

The 9-1-1 | Information Technology team is in the final steps of our UPS upgrade project; previous electrical assessments required our Mission PSAP backroom to upgrade the electrical infrastructure, and we are collaborating with our vendors to have this final piece completed by mid-late December.

We have completed our fourth quarter maintenance program at each of the 17 PSAPs, going through the various 9-1-1 equipment, checking for any issues, basic upkeep, inventory assessments, and keeping up with the PSAP staff and any problems they may need taken care of to keep operations in optimal running order.

We are still planning to address our quarterly group meeting agenda with all the PSAP supervisors. We discussed various scenarios during our Disaster Planning for the PSAP course we took in October. As outlined, our plan is to start the meetings in January 2024 and continue throughout the year to help address any concerns and update them on projects that directly affect them.

Our continuing goal is to ensure our 9-1-1 call delivery systems are in optimal working order to maintain 99.9% operational efficiency to serve our public safety partners and the community.





- Community Engagement Division

During the months of October and November, the 9-1-1 community engagement initiatives were exceptionally bustling and dynamic. Our team was deeply involved in various community activities, fostering a strong connection with the residents. The level of citizen participation during this period was truly remarkable, with individuals enthusiastically engaging in events and programs. The collaborative efforts between the 9-1-1 community and the citizens strengthened relationships and enhanced the overall sense of community well-being. The vibrant participation demonstrated the effectiveness of our outreach efforts and highlighted the importance of proactive engagement in promoting public safety and awareness.

- ***Donna Police Department National Out / October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023***, we take great pride in supporting our local school districts. Whether providing resources, offering expertise, or assisting in any way we can, we are always delighted to lend a helping hand to ensure the success and growth of our educational institutions. Our dedication to improving our school districts remains unwavering, and we look forward to continuing this partnership for the benefit of our community's future leaders. Donna National Night Out with Donna Independent School District
- ***Teach Me 9-1-1 Program / October 13, 2023***, in McAllen at Zavala Elementary School. RGV9-1-1, in collaboration with the McAllen Fire Department, debuted the "Teach Me 9-1-1" program at Zavala Elementary School in McAllen. This educational program aims to teach students about "When To Call," "How To Call," and "What to Say" in emergency situations. The event was a resounding success, with children showing great enthusiasm and engagement. Our primary focus is to impart crucial 9-1-1 knowledge to young learners, and it was heartwarming to witness their enjoyment as they interacted with characters like Cell Phone Sally and Kid Friendly Keith during the event.
- ***Willacy County Sheriff's Office National Night Out / October 17, 2023***, RGV9-1-1 had the privilege of participating in the Willacy Co. National Night Out, thanks to an invitation from the Willacy County Sheriff's Office. This exciting event occurred in the city of Sebastian, and the turnout and community engagement were outstanding. We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a fantastic gathering, fostering stronger bonds between our organization and the local community.
- ***Elsa Police Department National Night Out / October 20, 2023***, we had a wonderful time engaging with the community at the National Night Out event. Yesterday, we attended the Elsa Police Department's NNO, and it was truly an enjoyable experience. We want to express our sincere gratitude to Elsa PD for organizing such a fantastic event that brings the community together. Events like these demonstrate how 9-1-1 public education empowers citizens and strengthens the bond between the police department and the community they serve.

- ***The City of Palmhurst National Night Out / October 24, 2023***, RGV91-1 was thrilled to be a part of this incredible event, and we had the pleasure of engaging with approximately 800 people who stopped by our booth. It felt wonderful to connect with the local community and discuss the importance of getting their addresses registered with the 9-1-1 department, ensuring their safety in times of emergency. Moreover, we had the opportunity to educate children about the vital service of texting 911 in emergencies. We extend a big thank you to the City of Palmhurst for extending the invitation and for fostering a strong sense of community and safety. It was a night to remember.
- ***Teach Me 9-1-1 Program / October 26, 2023***, in the city of McAllen at Hendricks Elementary School. We are proud to announce our successful collaboration with the McAllen Fire Department in our ongoing commitment to educating children about fire safety and the use of 9-1-1. This partnership allowed us to bring vital information and skills to the younger generation. Through this initiative, RGV 9-1-1 introduced the Tech Me 911 program to students, aiming to impart essential knowledge on when, how to call, and what to say in an emergency. By working with local authorities and educators, we ensure that our community's children are well-prepared and informed in potentially life-saving situations. This collaborative effort reflects our dedication to creating a safer environment for all residents of our region.
- ***NENA 911 Course October 27, 2023***, Rio Grande Valley Emergency Communications District organized a crucial NENA 911 Association course centered on disaster planning for Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs). This course served as an essential primer, equipping 9-1-1 professionals with the necessary knowledge and tools to effectively prepare for and navigate through catastrophic events that have the potential to disrupt a PSAP system and impede its overall operation. The training was of paramount importance in ensuring the resilience of the emergency response infrastructure, offering vital insights and strategies for managing the challenges posed by calamities. The training was provided to the PSAPs in Hidalgo and Willacy counties, demonstrating a commitment to the safety and efficiency of these specific regions' PSAP operations and emphasizing the importance of preparedness in the face of potential disruptions. This initiative further underscored the critical role that PSAPs play in safeguarding the well-being of communities during times of crisis.
- ***Spooktacular Festival / October 30, 2023***, hosted by the City of Mission, was a mega event that brought the community together for a night of spooky fun and valuable information. RGV9-1-1 was honored to be invited and participate in this fantastic celebration. The atmosphere was electrifying, with the crowd decked out in creative Halloween costumes, adding to the festive spirit. We were there, handing out candy and taking the opportunity to inform and educate the community about the critical importance of the 9-1-1 emergency service. It was a night of Halloween magic and community outreach that we won't soon forget.
- ***Teach me 9-1-1 Program / October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023***, in McAllen at Victor Fields Elementary School. October concluded on an exhilarating note as the RGV9-1-1

Public Education Team visited Fields Elementary, leaving a lasting impact. Teaming up with the McAllen Fire Department, we executed our dynamic Teach Me 9-1-1 program, passionately educating students on the vital aspects of when, how, and what to communicate when dialing 9-1-1 during emergencies. The enthusiasm and engagement displayed by the children at Fields Elementary were remarkable, reflecting their genuine eagerness to grasp these essential life-saving skills. The event was a triumphant endeavor, ensuring that our young participants departed with newfound knowledge and a profound sense of empowerment and responsibility in handling 9-1-1 calls effectively. This event marked a memorable and impactful conclusion to the month.

- ***Raymondville Chamber of Commerce Dia De Los Muertos Festival / November 2, 2023***, In the vibrant city of Raymondville, we joyously celebrated Dia De Los Muertos, also known as the Day of the Dead. The event, thoughtfully organized by the Raymondville Chamber of Commerce, brought the community together in a colorful and lively display of traditions. Amidst the vibrant hues and cheerful atmosphere, RGV9-1-1 was invited to share the invaluable services it offers to the community. It was a heartwarming occasion where families and friends joined hands, uniting in remembrance of their departed loved ones, fostering a sense of togetherness and shared heritage. The event honored the past and strengthened the bonds that tie this close-knit community together.
- ***Hidalgo County Success in Transition Fair 2023 / November 4, 2023***, RGV 9-1-1 was a part of the Hidalgo County Success in Transition Fair 2023. This event was specifically designed to cater to the needs of students with disabilities and their families. It served as a platform for them to connect with state and local agencies that play a pivotal role in shaping successful lives after high school. RGV 9-1-1's presence at the fair underlines their commitment to supporting and assisting this vital demographic in their transition to adulthood. The fair provided a valuable opportunity for all participants to explore resources and opportunities that can pave the way for a brighter future.
- ***Safe School Institute Trainings online webinars on November 6 & 7, 2023***. I have successfully completed three comprehensive training programs aimed at enhancing community engagement, community branding, and promoting mental health awareness. Additionally, I have acquired expertise in fostering cyber safety for teenagers. These diverse skills enable me to actively contribute to improving communities by promoting positive engagement, bolstering community identity, and addressing critical issues such as mental health and online safety among adolescents.
- ***DIA-BEAT-IT Community Health Fair / November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023***, we joined the DIA-BEAT-IT community health fair, a highly educational event that offered valuable resources to our community. Notably, RGV9-1-1 and Cell Phone Sally actively engaged with the community through activities like Zumba, imparting crucial knowledge about the significance of texting 9-1-1 during emergencies and improving safety and communication for everyone present. This event

significantly enriched the community by increasing awareness and preparedness among its members.

- ***College and Career Day / November 16, 2023***, Mercedes ISD. We had an exceptional career day event at Travis Elementary, and we sincerely thank Mercedes ISD for the invitation. It was a fulfilling experience witnessing the children engage in various career paths, cultivating a sense of excitement and curiosity about their future endeavors. We take pride in contributing to the student's learning journey and are grateful for the opportunity to inspire and shape their career aspirations.
- ***2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Vet Fest / November 16, 2023***, in Brownsville. We participated in a special event to honor our veterans, recognizing their selfless service and sacrifice. The occasion featured engaging activities such as raffles and entertainment, creating an atmosphere of appreciation and gratitude. Amidst the festivities, we remained committed to education, emphasizing the importance of 9-1-1 awareness to ensure the safety and well-being of our community. This event was hosted by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC), marking this as the 2nd Annual Vet Fest.
- ***Texas Law Enforcement Peer Network (TLEPN) Peer-to-Peer Training / November 29 & 30, 2023***, in Pharr. This initiative aims to establish a comprehensive program across Texas, ensuring that our Public Safety personnel can avail themselves of support from specially trained peers addressing stressors, trauma, fatigue, and other challenges. The program involves the training and mentoring police officer volunteers to effectively assist their colleagues in managing stressors, both within and outside the scope of their duties.



## Donna Police Department NNO



RGV9-1-1 takes pride in our commitment to support our local school. We sponsored Donna ISD with items for the Donna PD National Night Out.

## Teach me 9-1-1 Program at Zavala Elementary in McAllen



This educational program aims to teach students about "When To Call," "How To Call," and "What to Say" in emergency situations.



## Willacy Co. Sheriff's Office NNO



This exciting event took place in the city of Sebastian, and the turnout and community engagement were truly outstanding. We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a fantastic gathering, fostering stronger bonds between our organization and the local community.

## Elsa Police Department NNO



Our goal is to demonstrate how 9-1-1 public education empowers citizens and strengthens the bond between the police department and the community they serve.



## City of Palmhurst NNO



We had the opportunity to educate the community about the vital service of texting 911 in case of emergencies

## Teach me 9-1-1 Program at Hendricks Elementary in McAllen



RGV 9-1-1 introduced the Tech Me 911 program to students, aiming to impart essential knowledge on when to call, how to call, and what to say in the event of an emergency.



# NENA 911 Association Course Disaster Planning for Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs)



The training was of paramount importance in ensuring the resilience of the emergency response infrastructure, offering vital insights and strategies for managing the challenges posed by calamities.

## City of Mission Spooktacular Festival



We were there, not only handing out candy, but also taking the opportunity to inform and educate the community about the critical importance of the 9-1-1 emergency service.



# Teach me 9-1-1 Program at Victor Fields Elementary in McAllen



The event was a triumphant endeavor, ensuring that our young participants departed with not only newfound knowledge but also a profound sense of empowerment and responsibility in handling 9-1-1 calls effectively.

# Raymondville Chamber of Commerce Dia De Los Muertos Festival



RGV9-1-1 had the privilege of being invited to share the invaluable services it offers to the community.



## Hidalgo County Success in Transition Fair 2023



RGV 9-1-1's presence at the fair underlines their commitment to supporting and assisting this important demographic in their transition to adulthood. The fair provided a valuable opportunity for all participants to explore resources and opportunities that can pave the way for a brighter future.

## DIA-BEAT-IT Community Health Fair



RGV9-1-1 and Cell Phone Sally actively engaged with the community through activities like Zumba, all while imparting crucial knowledge about the significance of texting 9-1-1 during emergencies, improving safety and communication for everyone present.





## Mercedes ISD Career Day



We take pride in contributing to the students' learning journey and are grateful for the opportunity to inspire and shape their career aspirations.



## LRGVDC 2nd Annual Vet Fest



The occasion featured a combination of engaging activities such as raffles and entertainment, creating an atmosphere of appreciation and gratitude. Amidst the festivities, we remained committed to education, emphasizing the importance of 9-1-1 awareness to ensure the safety and well-being of our community





# Texas Law Enforcement Peer Network (TLEPN) Peer to Peer Training



This initiative aims to establish a comprehensive program across the state of Texas, ensuring that our Public Safety personnel can avail themselves of support from specially trained peers addressing stressors, trauma, fatigue, and other challenges. The program involves the training and mentoring of police officer volunteers to effectively assist their colleagues in managing stressors, both within and outside the scope of their duties.

**ITEM #5. D.**

**TRANSPORTATION**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation

Valley Metro Status Report .....Tom Logan, Director of Regional Transportation

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve the update of the 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  
Safety Risk Mitigation – 673.25  
Risk Register Mitigation Component

Section 7: Appendix A-E  
Infectious Disease Exposure Response Plan

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation

Valley Metro Status Report .....Tom Logan, Director of Regional Transportation

- 2. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve purchase of Bus Shelters and associated equipment through LRGVDC Procurement policies.

Staff requests Board approval to purchase Bus Shelters and associated equipment under TXDOT Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grant # 5310-2023-LRGVDC-00086 and FTA Grant # TX-2022-057. Bus Shelters will update current bus shelters and Valley Metro will also partner with interested cities throughout the Rio Grande Valley

Grant Number	Total	Description
5310-2023-LRGVDC-00086	\$70,000	Acquisition - Miscellaneous Equipment - 11.42.20
TX-2022-057	\$295,298	Acquisition - Bus Shelters

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation

Valley Metro Status Report .....Tom Logan, Director of Regional Transportation

3. Consideration and **ACTION** to Approve purchase of Hardware and Bus associated equipment through LRGVDC Procurement policies.

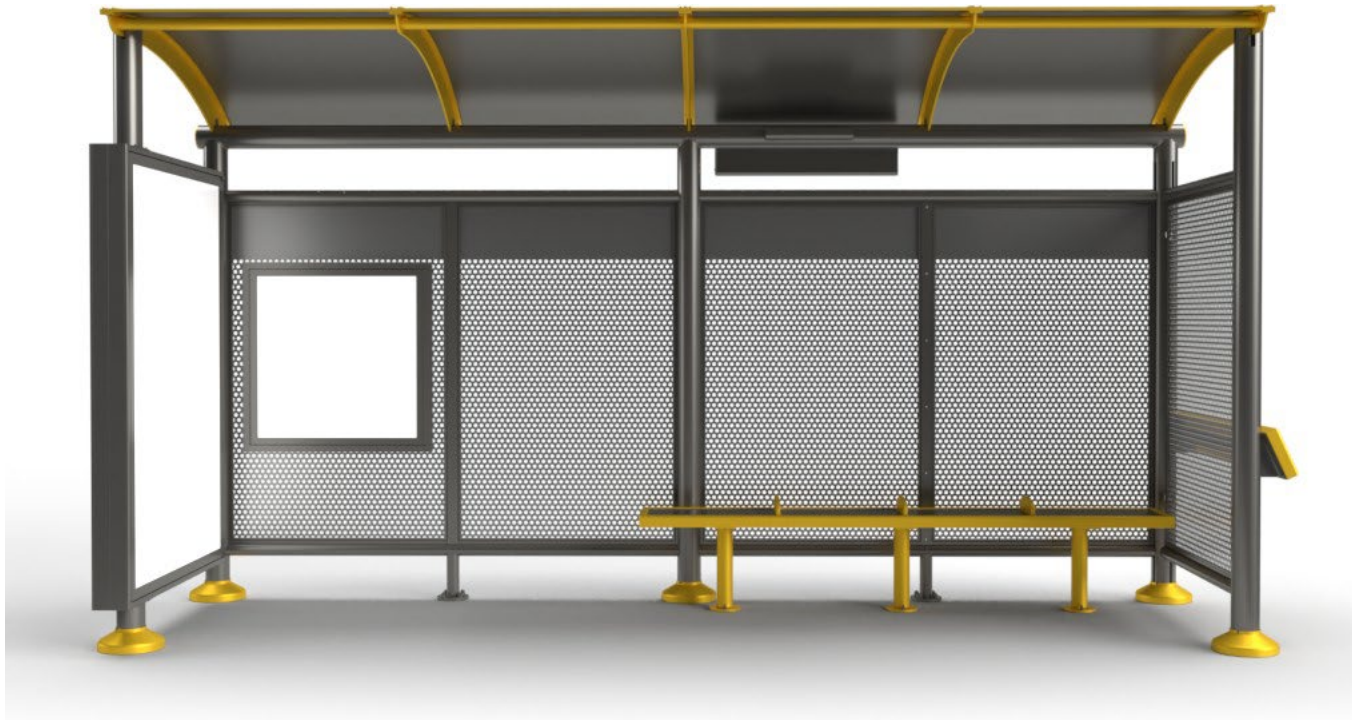
Staff requests Board approval to purchase Bus associated hardware and equipment such as bus monitors, brackets, wiring, etc. under FTA Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grant # TX-2019-114 and FTA CARES Act Grant #'s TX-2020-125 and TX-2020-126. Hardware and Equipment will provide the necessary upgrades and program public notice of events for LRGVDC Valley Metro.

Grant Number	Total	Description
TX-2019-114	\$97,495	ADP Hardware
TX-2020-125	\$36,681	ADP Hardware
TX-2020-126	\$18,227	ADP Hardware



**16' Eclipse Arch Shelter Concept for LRGVDC:**

- Structure Powder Coat Painted Finish Grey Aluminum RAL 9007
- Perforated Aluminum Wall Glazing Powder Coat Painted Finish White Aluminum RAL 9006
- Accents in Powder Coat Painted Finish Sulfer Yellow RAL 1016 (Pantone 115U Match)
- Vinyl Decal For Upper Aluminum Margins:



SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

BRASCO INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
 32400 INDUSTRIAL DR.  
 MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48071  
 1-800-893-3665 WWW.BRASCO.COM

CUSTOMER: LRGVDC

DESIGNER: LS  
 CHECKER:

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PROJECT: Transit Shelter Rendering

DATE: 8-15-22  
 DATE:

MODEL: EC-0516-F-0-AR-AL-PA-1-0-S

SHEET: 1  
 REVISION:



**16' Eclipse Arch Shelter Concept for LRGVDC:**

- Structure Powder Coat Painted Finish Grey Aluminum RAL 9007
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CUSTOMER: LRGVDC

PROJECT: Transit Shelter Rendering

MODEL: EC-0516-F-0-AR-AL-PA-1-0-S

DESIGNER: LS CHECKER:

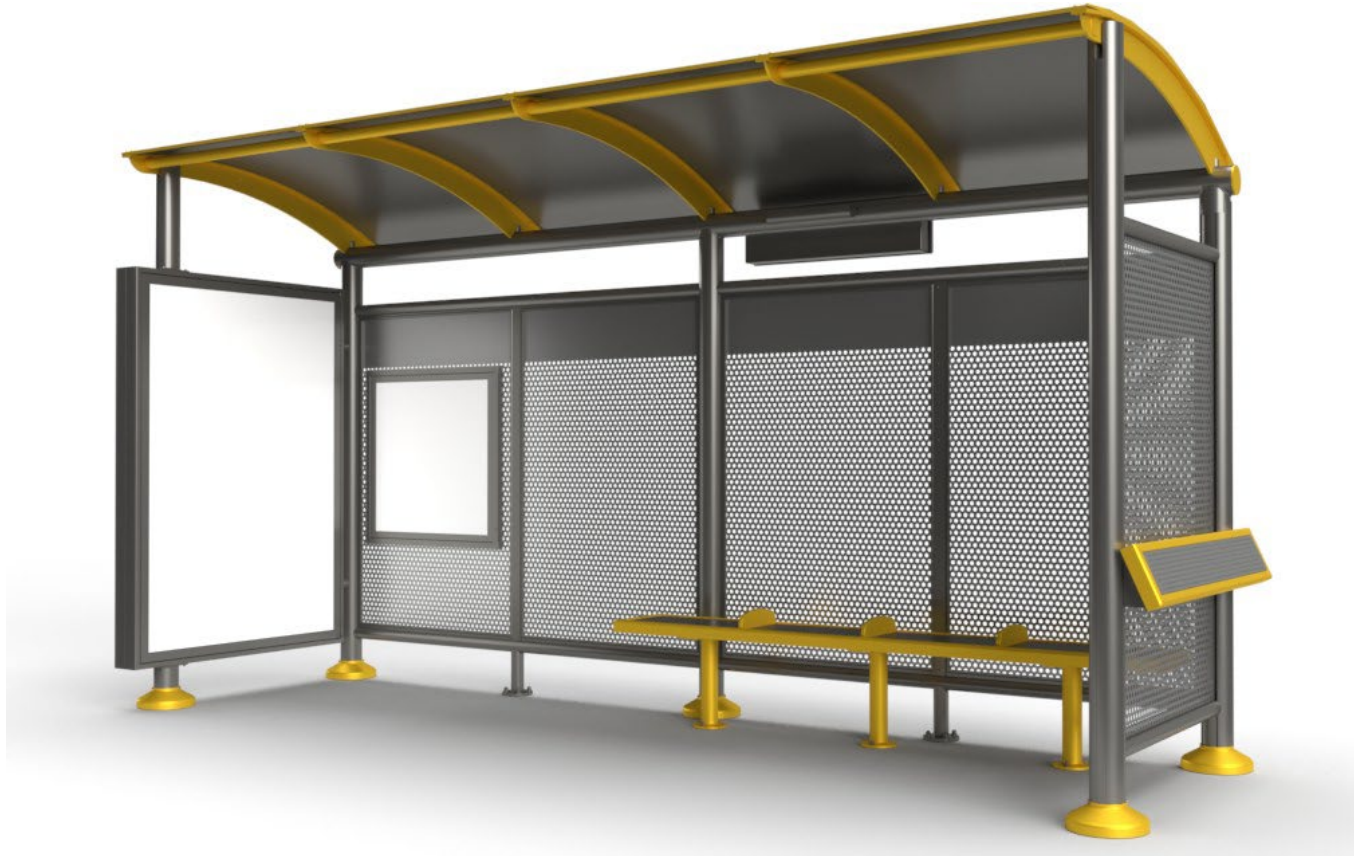
DATE: 8-15-22 DATE:

SHEET: 2 REVISION:




**16' Eclipse Arch Shelter Concept for LRGVDC:**

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SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

	BRASCO INTERNATIONAL, INC. 32400 INDUSTRIAL DR. MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48071 1-800-893-3665 WWW.BRASCO.COM	CUSTOMER: LRGVDC	DESIGNER: LS	CHECKER:
	THIS DRAWING IS CONFIDENTIAL AND IS FOR THE SOLE USE OF OUR CUSTOMERS AND MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR COPIED WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM BRASCO INTERNATIONAL	PROJECT: Transit Shelter Rendering	DATE: 8-15-22	DATE:
		MODEL: EC-0516-F-0-AR-AL-PA-1-0-S	SHEET: 3	REVISION:

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Transportation

Valley Metro Status Report.....Tom Logan, Director of Regional Transit

- Ridership Report

Valley Metro provides regional transportation service of both **Rural** and **Urban** transit systems in the five-county region of the Rio Grande Valley. The **Urban System** is provided in Cameron, Hidalgo, and Starr Counties and includes UTRGV Ridership. Services run Monday – Saturday from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm. The **Rural System** operates in the rural areas of Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy, Starr, and Zapata Counties. Services run Monday – Sunday from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm.

**Breakdown of Ridership** per system:

RIDERSHIP BY SYSTEM				
Agency	Sept	Oct	TOTAL	
VALLEY METRO	28,553	29,294	57,847	3%
UTRGV	65,221	70,258	135,479	8%
STC	472	549	1,021	16%
TSTC	136	118	254	-13%
Total	94,382	100,219	194,601	6%

Regional Transportation Advisory Panel (RTAP) Activity:

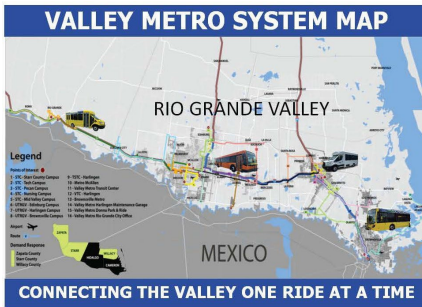
- RTAP Sub-committee held a workshop on November 28, 2023. Assessment of the needs and gaps of the 5-Year Transit Plan was discussed in detail. Committee members provided input and suggestions on how to accomplish those needs. LRGVDC Valley Metro was awarded a TXDOT grant in the amount of \$40,000 to continue assessing and meeting the needs and gaps of the 5-year Transit Plan. The sub-committee meets bi-monthly.
- Valley Metro’s Planning Department staff continues to hold public involvement events. The events highlight the modes of travel available to the public within their perspective city and region. We are currently working on realigning routes to incorporate the new San Juan Terminal.





# 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.



### 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

## 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.



### VALLEY METRO TRANSIT TERMINAL LOCATIONS

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

### 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

### VM Transit Website



Route Maps with locations



ValleyMetro Weslaco

### Ride Systems



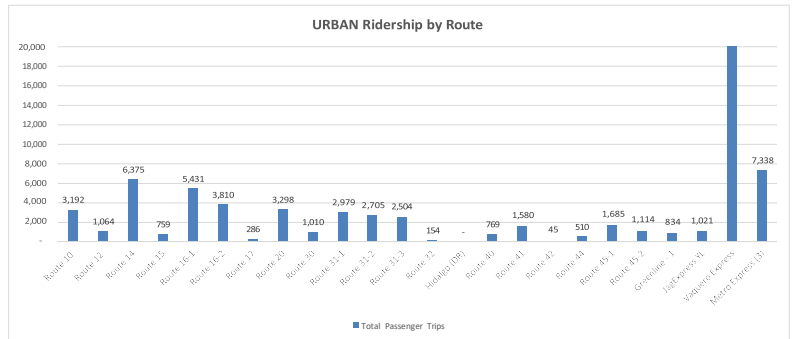
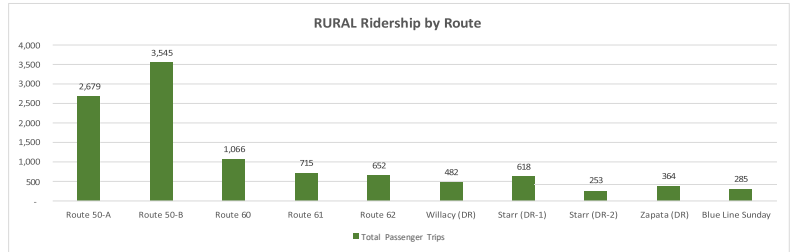
Track our buses in real time



## VMRegional Call Center 1-800-574-8322

**RIDERSHIP COUNT  
YEAR TO DATE FY 2024 (October)**

Route	Total Passenger Trips	Route Activity	Area(s) Served
Route 50-A	2,679	1% Brownsville, Port Isabel	
Route 50-B	3,545	2% Brownsville, Port Isabel	
Route 60	1,066	1% Roma, Rio Grande City	
Route 61	715	0% Rio Grande City	
Route 62	652	0% Rio Grande City	
Willacy (DR)	482	0% Willacy County	
Starr (DR-1)	618	0% Starr County	
Starr (DR-2)	253	0% Starr County	
Zapata (DR)	364	0% Zapata County	
Blue Line Sunday	285	0% Brownsville, Port Isabel	
Route 10	3,192	2% Edinburg	
Route 12	1,064	1% Edcouch, Elsa, Edinburg	
Route 14	6,375	3% Edinburg	
Route 15	759	0% Edinburg	
Route 16-1	5,431	3% Courthouse Circulator	
Route 16-2	3,810	2% Courthouse Circulator	
Route 17	286	0% Edinburg T-line	
Route 20	3,298	2% Mission	
Route 30	1,010	1% Pharr, San Juan	
Route 31-1	2,979	2% Cameron-Hidalgo County	
Route 31-2	2,705	1% Hidalgo-Cameron County	
Route 31-3	2,504	1% Cameron-Hidalgo County	
Route 32	154	0% Donna	
Hidalgo (DR)	-	0% City of Hidalgo	
Route 40	769	0% Harlingen	
Route 41	1,580	1% Harlingen	
Route 42	45	0% San Benito	
Route 44	510	0% Primera, La Feria, Santa Rosa	
Route 45-1	1,685	1% Cameron County	
Route 45-2	1,114	1% Cameron County	
Greenline - 1	834	0% Rio Grande City	
JagExpress YL	1,021	1% Weslaco, Pharr, McAllen	
Vaquero Express	135,479	70% Edinburg	
Metro Express (3)	7,338	4% Rio Grande Valley	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>194,601</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>**Total Ridership Count subject to change when finalized</b>



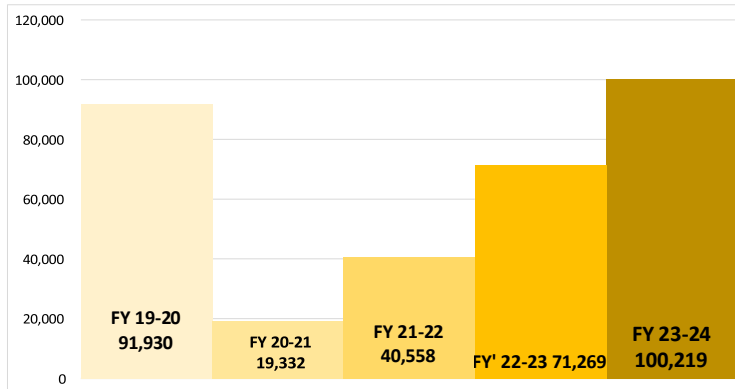
Active Routes	Rural	Urban	Total
<b>Flex Routes</b>	6	17	23
<b>Demand Response</b>	5	0	5
<b>Fixed-Metro Express</b>	0	3	3
	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>31</b>

**YEAR TO DATE RIDERSHIP REPORT**

Year to Date - October 2023	Prior Year October 2022	DIFFERENCE	% DIFFERENCE
<b>194,601</b>	140,968	<b>53,633</b>	<b>38%</b>

\* Rural service - service in rural low-population areas outside of urbanized areas

\* Urban service- service between or within urbanized areas



Fiscal Year	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Total	Difference	%Change
FY' 2019-2020	78,440	91,930	74,137	44,709	72,199	84,562	75,604	85,670	50,318	56,330	56,234	64,773	834,906	145,243	21%
FY' 2020-2021	17,149	19,332	16,190	16,072	16,620	14,611	19,300	18,169	18,080	19,842	19,774	31,381	226,520	-608,386	-73%
FY' 2021-2022	42,242	40,558	37,262	26,918	22,233	53,128	45,400	44,843	28,314	30,112	35,091	24,384	430,484	203,964	90%
FY' 2022-2023	69,699	71,269	58,154	33,800	47,975	66,785	62,828	63,687	36,978	34,870	33,997	50,988	631,030	200,546	47%
FY 2023-2024	94,382	100,219	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	194,601	-235,883	-55%
Monthly Change from Previous FY	24,683	28,950	58,154	33,800	47,975	66,785	62,828	63,687	36,978	34,870	33,997	50,988	436,429	-435,429	-1
Percent Change	35%	41%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	69%	-118%	-117%

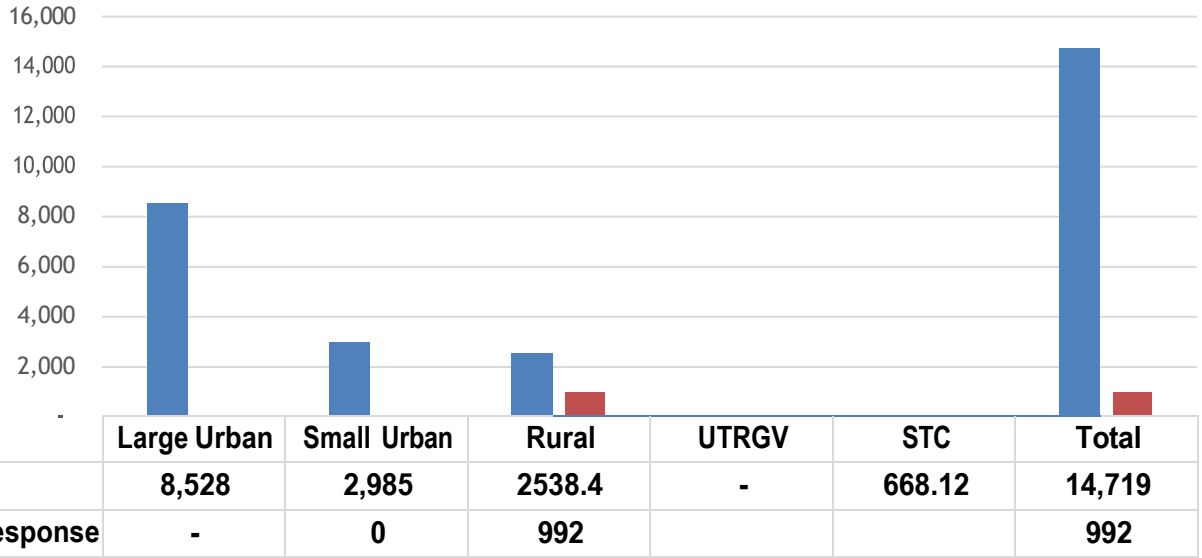


**Year to Date 2023-2024**

**Distribution of Revenue Hours**

	Large Urban	Small Urban	Rural	UTRGV	STC	Total
Motor Bus	8,528	2,985	2538.4	-	668.12	14,719
Demand Response	-	0	992			992

**FY 23-24 YTD Revenue Hours**

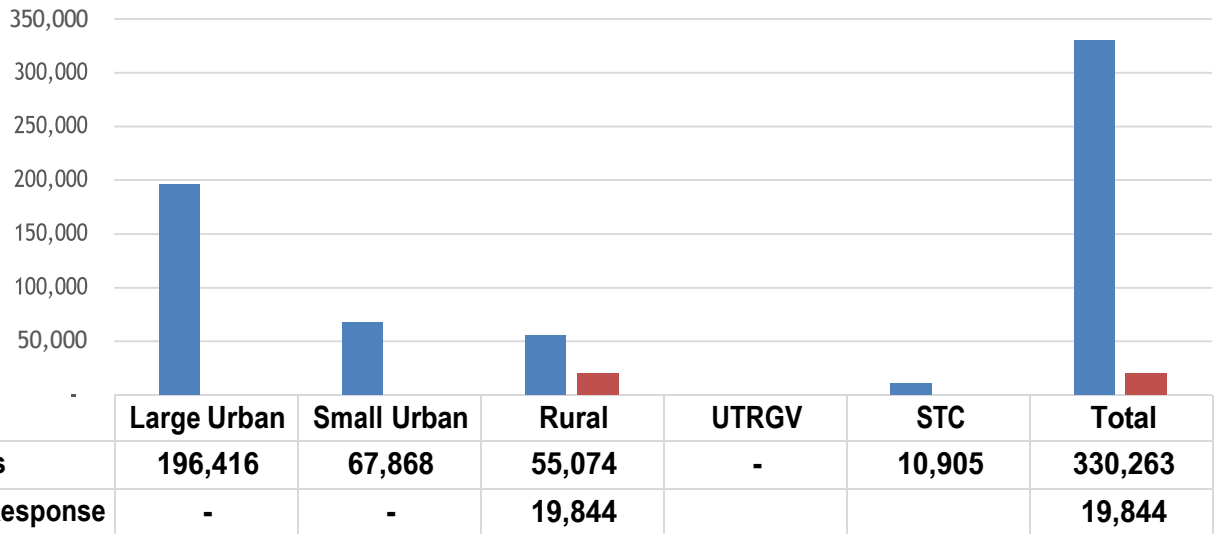


**Year to Date 2023-2024**

**Distribution of Revenue Miles**

	Large Urban	Small Urban	Rural	UTRGV	STC	Total
Motor Bus	196,416	67,868	55,074	-	10,905	330,263
Demand Response	-	-	19,844			19,844

**FY 23-24 YTD Revenue Miles**







# FY 2023-2024 Valley Metro

## TSTC MONTHLY PASSENGER COUNT

Routes	31-1	31-2	31-3	40	41	42	43	44	50-A	50-B	Fast Ride 3	Willacy	Direct RT 45-1	Direct RT 45-2	Total
September	0	0	7	2	6	0	0	1	7	2	0	0	83	28	137
October	1	0	2	3	5	8	0	0	5	3	0	0	62	29	119
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>256</b>
<b>FY 2023-2024</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>162</b>
Change Over Previous FY	4	9	9	5	10	8	0	-28	11	5	0	0	127	-34	94

	Sept.	Oct.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Total
<b>Direct Routes</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>350</b>
<b>Indirect Routes</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>429</b>

### 2023 - 2024 Valley Metro Routes TSTC Student Passenger Count

