



RGVMPO BPAC Meeting Agenda



I. CALL TO ORDER

Time: By:

- CALL TO ORDER ~10:30AM
- ROLL CALL ~10:30AM-10:35AM

П.

- III. CITIZENS INPUT/PUBLIC COMMENT ~10:35AM-10:40AM
- IV. PRESENTATION, ACTION, AND DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of March 6, 2024 ~10:40AM - 10:45AM
 - B. Consideration and Action to Approve the use of Meeting Recordings in lieu of Minutes for future RGVMPO BPAC Meetings ~10:45AM 10:50AM
 - C. Consideration and Action to Open a 2024 Call for Committee Members ~10:50AM – 11:00AM
 - D. Presentation and Discussion on Texas Department of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Updates ~11:00AM – 11:20AM
 - E. Presentation and Discussion on Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Update ~11:20AM – 11:30AM
 - F. Presentation and Discussion on Active Transportation Facility Inventory & Regional Data Portal ~11:30AM - 11:40AM
 - G. Presentation and Discussion regarding RGV Activities during National Walk & Bike Month ~11:40AM 11:50AM
- V. PROJECT UPDATES ~11:50AM 11:55AM
- VI. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS ~11:55AM-12PM
- VII. ADJOURNMENT ~12PM



· RGVMPO BPAC Voting Membership ·

#	Membership	Term	Organization/Agency	Primary Designee	Alternate Representative	Term
1	Public Agency	2 yrs	Hidalgo County	Velinda Reyes	Nick Perez	Aug. 2023 - July 2025
2	Public Agency	2 yrs	Sullivan City	Alma Salinas	Ana Mercado	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024
3	Public Agency	2 yrs	TxDOT	Agustin Ramirez	×	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024
4	Public Agency	2 yrs	Edinburg – Tom Reyna	Larry Ayala	Valentin Sanchez Jr.	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024
5	Public Agency	2 yrs	Pharr	Ruben Alfaro	Maria Rangel	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024
6	Public Agency	2 yrs	Brownsville	Christopher Nelson	Juan (Johnny) Pena	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024
7	Public Agency	2 yrs	Valley Metro	Claudia Olmedo	Stacie Garcia	Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024
8	Public Agency	2 yrs	LRGVDC	Javier Dominguez	Nancy Sanchez	Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024
9	Economic Dev. Agency	1 or 2	Vacant			July? 2024 – 2025/2026
10	Bike/Ped-Oriented Org.	2	Valley Off-Road Bicycling Association (VORBA)	David Hernandez	Marcel Fortuin	Oct. 2021 – Oct. 2024
11	Bike/Ped-Oriented Org.	1 or 2	Caracara Trails	Rose Gowen	Marisa Amaya	Sept. 2022 – Oct. 2024
12	Stakeholder Org.	2 yrs	UTRGV	Rodney Gomez	Pablo Aguilar	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024
13	Stakeholder Org.	2 yrs	TPWD	Javier De Leon	Orlando Carranco	Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024
14	Bike/Ped Citizen	1 or 2	Vacant			July? 2024 – 2025/2026
15	Bike/Ped Citizen	1 or 2	At-Large	Robert Ordaz	×	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024
16	Bike/Ped Citizen	1 or 2	At-Large	Michael McNew	Jon Ray Bocanegra	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024
17	Bike/Ped Citizen	1 or 2	At-Large	Richard Cavin	×	Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024



I. ROLL CALL · Membership Attendance will be tracked per the adopted bylaws ·

P = Present

A = Absent

Tran PLANNING ORG	*	Jan. 10th	Mar. 6 th	May 1 st	July 3 rd	Sept. 4 th	Nov. 6 th
1	Hidalgo County	Р	Р	А			
2	Sullivan City	Р	Α	Р			
3	TxDOT	Р	Р	Р			
4	Edinburg	Р	Р	Α			
5	Pharr	Р	Р	Р			
6	Brownsville	Р	Р	Р			
7	ValleyMetro	Р	Р	Р			
8	LRGVDC	Р	Р	Α			
9	VORBA	Р	Α	Р			
10	Caracara Trails	Р	Α	Р			
11	UTRGV	Р	Р	Р			
12	TPWD	Α	Α	Α			
13	Robert Ordaz	Р	Р	Α			
14	Richard Cavin	Р	Р	Р			
15	Michael McNew/Jon Ray	Р	Р	Α			
Vot	Voting members will be in an official status and lose their voting privilages after missing three (2)				bers in ex-officio status mus onsecutive quarterly meetin		tive monthly/bi-monthly



III. CITIZENS INPUT / PUBLIC COMMENT

• All are encouraged to provide input or make comments on bike/ped projects/programs.

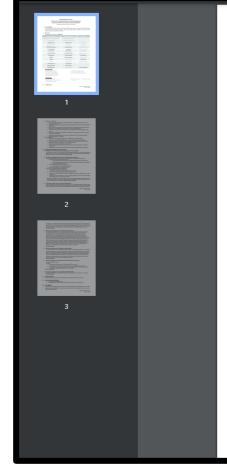


IV.A Discussion & Action to Approve the Minutes of March 6, 2024

<u>RGVMPO BPAC Meeting Minutes</u>

Possible Action: Approve Motion By: Rose Seconded By: David

40 GRANDE L IV.B Consideration & Action to Approve the use of Meeting Recordings in lieu of Minutes



METRO

Meeting Minutes of the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 10:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

CITIZENS INPUT

The RGVMPO Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting was held in-person at the CIEDO Boardroom, located at LRGVDC's Main Campus, Building C, 301 W, Railroad Street, Weslaco, TX 78596, The meeting was called to order by Eva Garcia, RGVMPO, at 10:30 A.M.

ROLL CALL RGVMPO BPAC Representatives PRES	ENT:			
Organization/Agency	Voting Membership	Alternate		
alley Off-Road Bicycling Association	David Hernandez, Chair			
Caracara Trails	Rose Gowen, Vice-Chair			
Hidalgo County	Velinda Reyes	Nick Perez		
City of Sullivan City	Alma Salinas	Ana Mercado		
TxDOT Pharr District	Craig Wuensche	Augustin Ramirez		
City of Edinburg	Larry Ayala	Valentin Sanchez Jr.		
City of Pharr	Ruben Alfaro	Maria Rangel		
City of Brownsville	Christopher Nelson	Juan (Johnny) Pena		
Valley Metro	Claudia Olmedo	Stacie Garcia		
LRGVDC	Javier Dominguez	Nancy Sanchez		
UTRGV	Rodney Gomez	Pablo Aguilar		
TPWD	Javier De Leon	Orlando Carranco		
Bike/Ped Citizen	Robert Ordaz			
Bike/Ped Citizen	Richard Cavin			
Bike/Ped Citizen	Michael McNew	Jon Ray Bocanegra		
Other Attendees: James Campbell, Valley Metro Tom Reyna, City of Edinburg Tom Logan, Valley Metro Director Elias Casas; General Land Office Ashley Bennis, Halff Associates RGWMPO Staff: Luis Diaz, Interim Director Melany Rodinguez, GIS Specialist/Plant Klarissa Gonzalez, Planner I	 Julian Brown, Celina Gonzali Eva Garcia, 	so , Halff Associates Halff Associates s, City Primera Manager Planner III Bike/Ped Program		

1. Tom Reyna, City of Edinburg:

- · Commented on the need to review the complete streets policy, specifically the right-of-way sections, to ensure incorporation of the CS.
- Highlighted the importance of understanding the initiative, noting that Edinburg has a CS policy beneficial for grant requests
- Proposed converting Freddy Gonzalez into a pedestrian area, with traffic allowed during school hours but restricted to active transportation only during games, covering a guarter-mile stretch
- · Discussed plans to work on a Park-n-Ride project in collaboration with UTRGV and ValleyMetro's transit services
- Commented on ongoing projects including the TASA project, Closner crossing, and expansion, with three projects currently underway
- Inquired about anticipated attendance for events, with an expectation of 9-10k per game at a stadium capable of holding up to 12k attendees.
- 2. Other Updates/Input:
 - Weslaco hike & bike trail project: Richard Cavin, Bike/Ped Citizen, requested information.
 - · Commissioner Fuentes: Utilizing AARPA money, as mentioned by Velinda Reyes, Hidalgo County. Paving project: Robert Ordaz, Bike/Ped Citizen, discussed plans to pave the south side of the levee from
 - Westgate to the border, emphasizing its role as a significant connector.
 - Plans for a trail connection to Sal del Rey were mentioned.
 - · Pharr's advertisement for their hike & bike trail project was noted, which would enhance connectivity in Hidalgo County
 - · Valley Metro's plan to extend the trail from Harlon block to recently purchased property was mentioned.

IV. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Minutes of January 10, 2024. The Minutes of the January 10, 2024, RGVMPO BPAC Meeting was presented. Jon Ray Bocanegra, Bike/Ped Citizen, made the motion to approve the Minutes of January 10, 2024. The motion was seconded by Velinda Reyes, Hidalgo County, and upon a vote; the motion passed unanimously.

B. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the BPAC Bylaws Amendment

- Eva reviewed the BPAC Bylaw Amendments. Eva initiated a discussion regarding the following points:
- 1. Amending the bylaws to reflect geographic equity:
 - Should geographic equity only apply to 'Public Agency' Members or the entire membership? How should geographic equity be ensured/enforced? Options include weighted votes by population
- or equal representation per County 2. Identifying certain agencies as ex-officio members:
- Which agencies should be considered ex-officio?
- Examples of language referencing geographic equity.
- During the discussion, the following points were raised
- Comparing BPAC Meetings vs. TASA Scoring.
- The possibility of amending the TASA Program Guide for more support.
- · Scoring Criteria reflecting social equity more than geographic equity.
- Concerns about extra calculations related to population and potential disadvantages for smaller communities
- · Considering project area criteria such as high need, transit dependence, low-income status, historically disadvantaged areas, and average elderly population.

Richard Cavin, Pike/Ped Citizen, made a motion to incorporate equitable geographic representation within the TASA competitive process - program guide, application, and scoring criteria. The motion was seconded by Larry Ayala, City of Edinburg, and upon a vote; the motion passed unanimously

C. Presentation and Discussion on the Pedestrian Egress Study

During the meeting, Elias Casas from the General Land Office (GLO) provided insights into the pedestrian egress study, particularly focusing on issues related to flooding disasters and the allocation of HUD funding. Following this discussion, Ashley Bennis, Halff Associates, presented findings from the LRGV pedestrian egress study, emphasizing

BPAC Minutes Approved May 1, 2024



BPAC Minutes Approved

May 1, 2024

V. Governmental Bodies

A. Definition

Section 551.002 of the Government Code provides that "[e]very regular, special, or called meeting of a governmental body shall be open to the public, except as provided by this chapter."⁸⁴ "Governmental body" is defined by subsection 551.001(3) as follows:

"Governmental body" means:

- (A) a board, commission, department, committee, or agency within the executive or legislative branch of state government that is directed by one or more elected or appointed members;
- (B) a county commissioners court in the state;
- (C) a municipal governing body in the state;
- (D) a deliberative body that has rulemaking or quasi-judicial power and that is classified as a department, agency, or political subdivision of a county or municipality;
- (E) a school district board of trustees;
- (F) a county board of school trustees;
- (G) a county board of education;
- (H) the governing board of a special district created by law;
- (I) a local workforce development board created under Section 2308.253;
- (J) a nonprofit corporation that is eligible to receive funds under the federal community services block grant program and that is authorized by this state to serve a geographic area of the state;⁸⁵ and
- (K) a nonprofit corporation organized under Chapter 67, Water Code, that provides a water supply or wastewater service, or both, and is exempt from ad valorem taxation under Section 11.30, Tax Code;
- (L) a joint board created under Section 22.074, Transportation Code; and

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· A A C A M P Contract A State

TRANSPORTATION CODE

TITLE 3. AVIATION

CHAPTER 22. COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 22.074. JOINT BOARD. (a) Public agencies acting jointly under this subchapter shall create a joint board consisting of members appointed by the governing authority of each participating public agency. Subject to Section 22.0745, the joint agreement shall provide for the number to be appointed and the members' terms and compensation, if any. The joint board shall organize, select officers for terms to be provided by the agreement, and adopt rules for its own procedures.

(b) A joint board may exercise on behalf of its constituent agencies all the powers of each with respect to an airport, air navigation facility, or airport hazard area, subject to the limitations of Sections 22.079-22.082.

(c) A joint board may plan, acquire, establish, construct, improve, equip, maintain, operate, regulate, protect, and police an airport, air navigation facility, or airport hazard area jointly acquired, controlled, and operated. The joint board may also realign, alter, acquire, abandon, or close a portion of a roadway or alleyway without a showing of paramount importance if the portions to be realigned, altered, acquired, abandoned, or closed are in the geographic boundaries of the airport at the time of or after the realignment, alteration, acquisition, abandonment, or closing. A taking of a right-of-way that occurs in the exercise of this power shall be compensated at fair market value.

(d) If the constituent agencies of a joint board are populous home-rule municipalities, a power described by Subsection (c) is exclusively the power of the board regardless of whether all or part of the airport, air navigation facility, or airport hazard area is located in or outside the territory of any of the constituent agencies. Another local government or other political subdivision may not enact or enforce a zoning ordinance, subdivision regulation, construction code, or other ordinance purporting to regulate the use or development of property applicable in the geographic boundaries of the airport as it may be expanded.

(e) The powers exclusively given to a joint board under Subsection (d) do not affect the jurisdiction of a municipal court under Section 29.003, Government Code. The jurisdiction of a municipal court under that section does not authorize the officers or employees of a municipality that is not a constituent agency of the joint board to enter airport property to regulate, protect, or police the airport except as permitted by a valid interlocal agreement.

Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 611, Sec. 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1999; Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 352, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

⁸⁴ TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.002. An agency financed entirely by federal money is not required by the Act to conduct an open meeting. Id. § 551.077.

See 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 9901–26 (Community Services Block Grant Program).

E. Advisory Bodies

An advisory committee that does not control or supervise public business or policy is not subject to the Act, ¹²⁰ even though its membership includes some members, but less than a quorum, of a governmental body.¹²¹ For example, the multidisciplinary team established to review offenders' records under the Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators Act was not subject to the Act.¹²² The team made an initial assessment of certain offenders to determine whether they should be subject to further evaluation for civil commitment. Subsequent assessments by other persons determined whether commitment proceedings should be filed. Thus, the team lacked ultimate supervision or control over public business or policy.123

However, if a governmental body that has established an advisory committee routinely adopts or "rubber stamps" the advisory committee's recommendations, the committee probably will be considered to be a governmental body subject to the Act.¹²⁴ Thus, the fact that a committee is called an advisory committee does not necessarily mean it is excepted from the Act.

The Legislature has adopted statutes providing that particular advisory committees are subject to the Act, including a board or commission established by a municipality to assist it in developing a zoning plan or zoning regulations,¹²⁵ the nursing advisory committee established by the statewide health coordinating council,¹²⁶ advisory committees for existing Boll Weevil Eradication zones appointed by the commissioner of the Official Cotton Growers' Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation,¹²⁷ and an education research center advisory board.¹²⁸

122 See Beasley, 95 S.W.3d at 606.

- 124 Tex. Att'y Gen. Op. Nos. H-467 (1974) at 3-4, H-438 (1974) at 3.
- TEX. LOC. GOV'T CODE § 211.0075.
- 126 TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 104.0155(e).
- 127 TEX. AGRIC. CODE § 74.1041(e).
- 128 TEX. EDUC. CODE § 1.006(b).

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Records of Meetings

X. Records of Meetings

A. Minutes or Recordings of Open Meeting

Section 551.021 of the Government Code provides as follows:

- A governmental body shall prepare and keep minutes or make a recording of (a) each open meeting of the body.
- The minutes must: **(b)**
 - state the subject of each deliberation; and
 - indicate each vote, order, decision, or other action taken.424

Section 551.022 of the Government Code provides:

The minutes and recordings of an open meeting are public records and shall be available for public inspection and copying on request to the governmental body's chief administrative officer or the officer's designee.425

If minutes are kept instead of a recording, the minutes should record every action taken by the governmental body.⁴²⁶ If open sessions of a commissioners court meeting are recorded, the recordings are available to the public under the Public Information Act.⁴²⁷ (For a discussion of record retention laws, refer to Part XII.F of this Handbook).

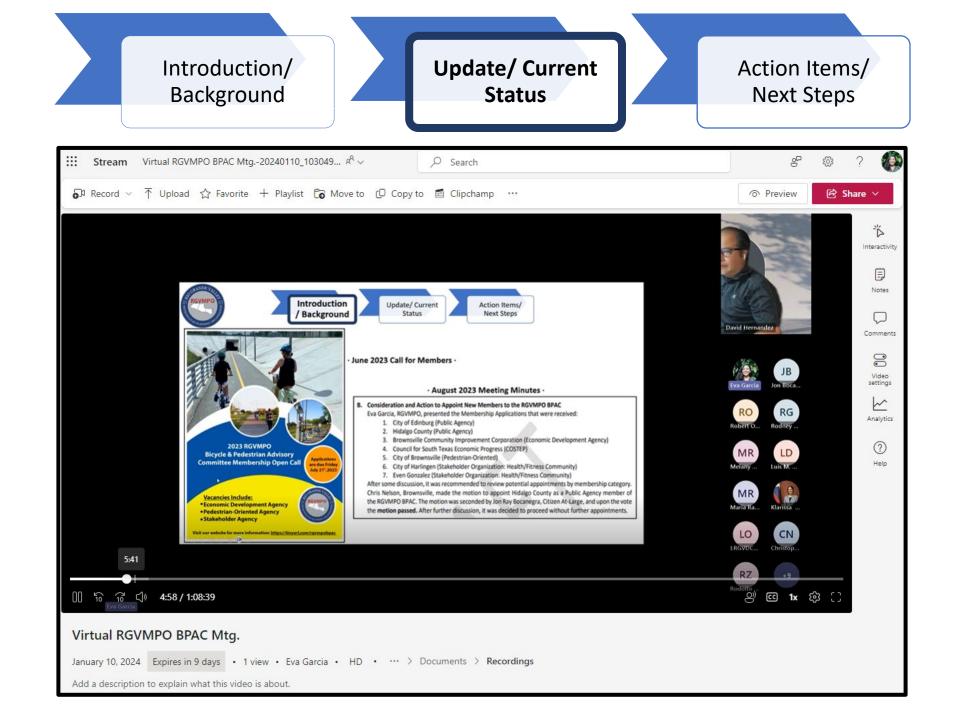
See Tex. Att'y Gen. Op. No. GA-0957 (2012) at 2-3.

¹¹⁹ TEX. WATER CODE § 49.064 (applicable to general law water districts); see also Tarrant Reg'l Water Dist. v. Bennett, 453 S.W.3d 51, 58 (Tex. App.-Fort Worth 2014, pet. denied) (discussing Water Code section 49.064 in relation to the Act and questioning previous attorney general opinions' conclusions that an advisory committee could be subject to the Act as a governmental body).

¹²⁰ See Tex. Att'y Gen. Op. No. GA-0232 (2004) at 3-5 (concluding that student fee advisory committee established under Education Code section 54.5031 is not subject to the Act).

Tex. Att'y Gen. Op. Nos. JM-331 (1985) at 3 (concluding that citizens advisory panel of Office of Public Utility Counsel, with no power to supervise or control public business, is not governmental body), H-994 (1977) at 3 (discussing fact question as to whether committee appointed to study process of choosing university president and make recommendations to Board of Regents is subject to the Act).

¹²³ Id.



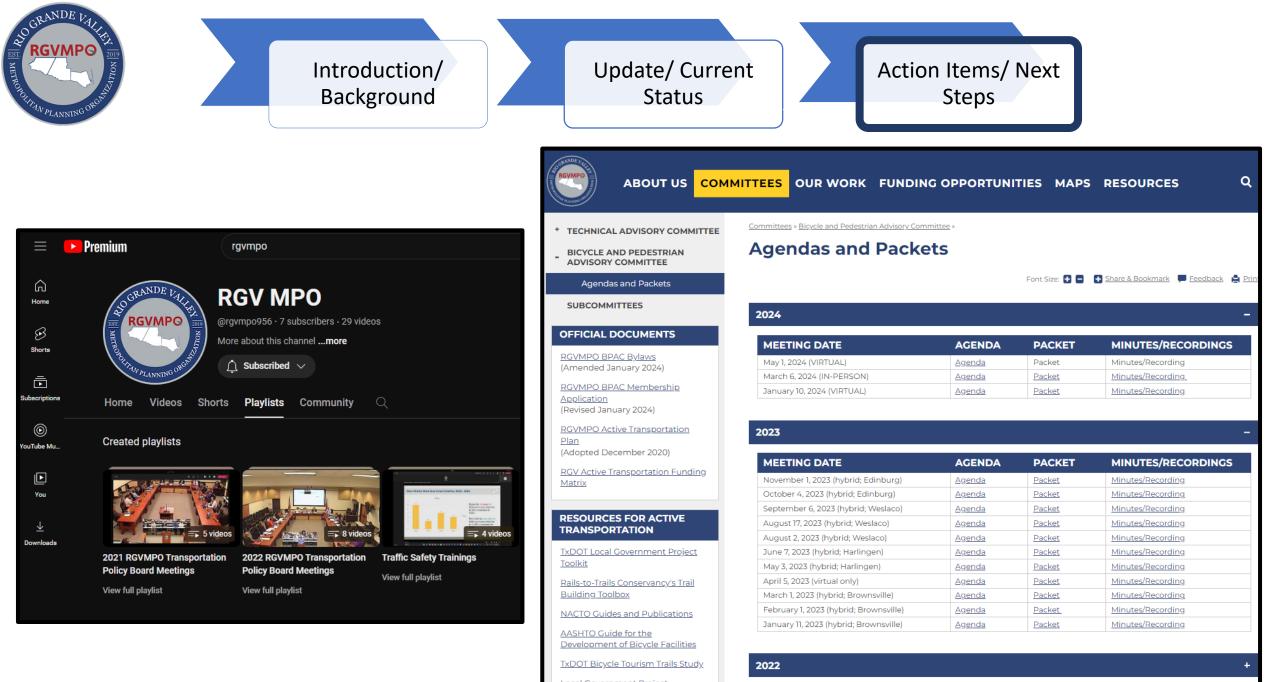
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Local Government Project Procedures (LGPP) Qualification

2021



IV.B Consideration & Action to Approve the use of Meeting Recordings in lieu of Minutes

· Discussion ·

> Recordings are useful and minutes may not fully capture the discussion.

Possible Action: to Approve Motion By: David Seconded By: Rose



IV.C Consideration & Action to Open a 2024 Call for Committee Members

· RGVMPO BPAC Bylaws ·

II. Membership

RGVMPO BPAC Membership Applications will be available to download from the RGVMPO website. Individuals interested in serving shall email their application to the RGVMPO and may be appointed, on a rolling-basis, by the existing voting membership. Members shall be selected to serve a one-year or two-year terms. The 'voting membership' of the RGVMPO-BPAC shall consist of a maximum of seventeen (17) members made up of the positions listed.

Appointed members may nominate an alternate with full voting privileges in their absence. Members shall reside or work within the RGVMPO's Metropolitan Area Boundary (MAB) and is entitled to one (1) vote on each item submitted for action/vote of the members. When one or more of the membership positions becomes vacant, the RGVMPO shall open a Call for Membership Applications.







· RGVMPO BPAC Bylaws ·

III. Executive Committee

Elections for the Executive Committee shall occur on a bi-annual (every other year) basis during the first meeting of the fiscal year (October to September).

Chair shall preside meetings and be nominated from the existing membership and appointed by the RGVMPO BPAC for a two-year term from the date elected. In the event of a vacancy, the Vice-Chair shall succeed the Chair for the remainder of their term.

The Vice-Chair shall act on behalf of the Chair during absences and be nominated from the existing membership and appointed by the RGVMPO BPAC for a two-year term from the date elected. In the event of a vacancy, the RGVMPO will coordinate an election for Vice-Chair.

The Chair and Vice-Chair may serve consecutive terms by recommendation of the Committee.



· RGVMPO BPAC Voting Membership ·

#	Membership	Term	Organization/Agency	Term	Last Meeting for Term
1	Public Agency	2 yrs	Hidalgo County	Aug. 2023 - July 2025	
2	Public Agency	2 yrs	Sullivan City	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024	
3	Public Agency	2 yrs	TxDOT	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024	
4	Public Agency	2 yrs	Edinburg – Tom Reyna	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024	July 3 rd Appointments in July? Or Sept?
5	Public Agency	2 yrs	Pharr	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024	
6	Public Agency	2 yrs	Brownsville	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024	
7	Public Agency	2 yrs	Valley Metro	Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024	Sept. 4 th
8	Public Agency	2 yrs	LRGVDC	Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024	Appointments in Sept? Or Nov.?
9	Economic Dev. Agency	1 or 2	Vacant	July? 2024 – 2025/2026	
10	Bike/Ped-Oriented Org.	2	Valley Off-Road Bicycling Association (VORBA)	Oct. 2021 – Oct. 2024	Sept. 4 th
11	Bike/Ped-Oriented Org.	1 or 2	Caracara Trails	Sept. 2022 – Oct. 2024	Sept. 4
12	Stakeholder Org.	2 yrs	UTRGV	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024	July 3 rd
13	Stakeholder Org.	2 yrs	TPWD	Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024	Sept. 4 th
14	Bike/Ped Citizen	1 or 2	Vacant	July? 2024 – 2025/2026	
15	Bike/Ped Citizen	1 or 2	At-Large	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024	- July 3 rd
16	Bike/Ped Citizen	1 or 2	At-Large	Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2024	- July 3.~
17	Bike/Ped Citizen	1 or 2	At-Large	Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024	Sept. 4 th



Terms ending Aug. 2024:

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- 1. Public Agency #1
- 2. Public Agency #2
- 3. Public Agency #3
- 4. Public Agency #4
- 5. Public Agency #5
- 6. Stakeholder Org. #1
- 7. Bike/Ped Citizen #2
- 8. Bike/Ped Citizen #3

Terms ending Sept./Oct. 2024:

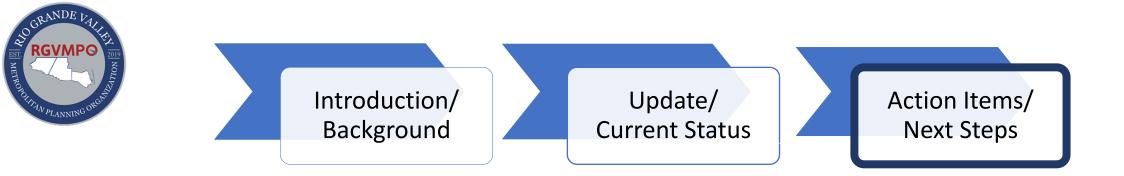
- 1. Public Agency #1
- 2. Public Agency #2
- 3. Bike/Ped-Oriented Org. #1
- 4. Bike/Ped-Oriented Org. #2
 - 5. Stakeholder Org. #1
 - 6. Bike/Ped Citizen #1

Vacant Positions:

- 1. Economic Dev. Agency #1
 - 2. Bike/Ped Citizen #1

Term ending July 2025:

1. Public Agency #1



• Open for Discussion & Revisions •

MEETING	2024	ACTIVITIES	ALTERNATIVE OPTION
Virtual	May 1 st	Open Call for Committee Members	
	June 24 th	2024 Round 1 Application Deadline	
In-Person	July 3 rd	2024 Round 1 Appointments	~Bylaw Amendments Open Call for Committee Members
	August 26 th	2024 Round 2 Application Deadline	
Virtual	September 4 th	2024 Round 2 Appointments	
	October 28 th	Chair & Vice Chair Nominations Deadline	
In-Person	November 6 th	2024 Election of Executive Committee	



IV.C Consideration & Action to Open a 2024 Call for Committee Members

· Discussion ·

Possible Action: Open a Call Motion By: David Seconded By: Rose





IV.D Presentation & Discussion on Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Updates

-	le and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting April 12, 2024 - 9:30 A.M. Note: 6230 E. Stassney Lane, Auditorium				
	Austin, TX 78744	6.	Presentation on TxDOT's District Bicycle Plan Pilot.		
1.	1. Call to Order. 2. Safety briefing. 3. Approval of minutes from January 26, 2024 BPAC meeting. (Action) 4. Report from TxDOT's Public Transportation Division (PTN) Director regarding statewide bicycle and pedestrian matters.		Presentation from North Central Texas Council of Governments on Safe Routes to School.		
2.					
3.			Updates from committee members on local and statewide issues.		
			Public comment – Comments will be accepted by email to BikePed@txdot.gov by April 22, 2024, to be included as part of the meeting record.		
5.	5. Update and discussion on TxDOT's Statewide Active Transportation Plan.		Discussion of agenda items for future BPAC meetings.		
		10.	Adjourn. (Action)		



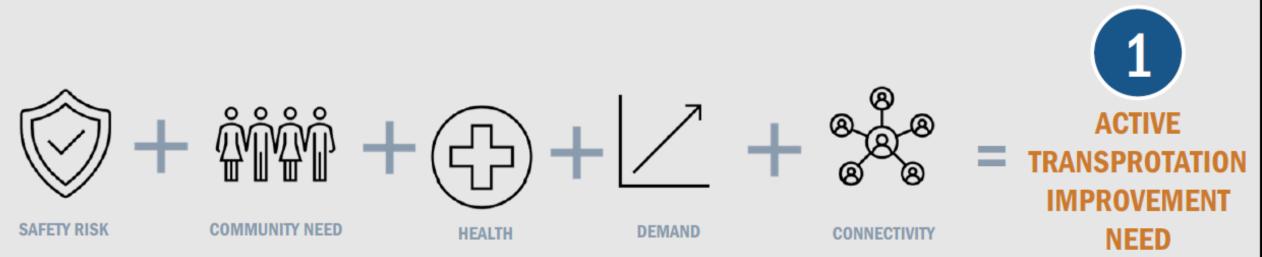
Schedule

= Steering Committee Existing **Emphasis** Area Commission Draft Work Groups Report Plan Presentation



Developing Tools to Determine Active Transportation Improvement Need

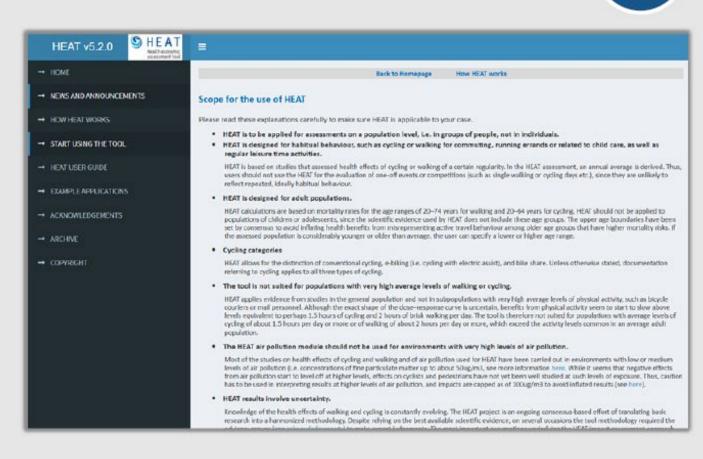
- Identified geographies with the greatest need for new/improved active transportation infrastructure.
- Factors considered :



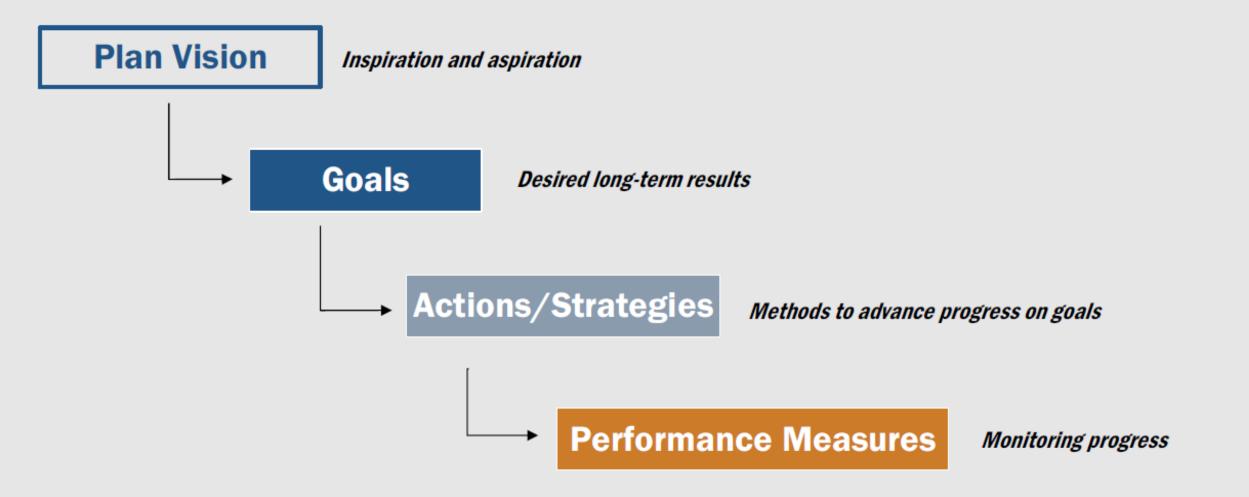
- Analyses are still under development. For example, we are currently reviewing some of the more rural areas with large Census tracts.
- Following slides will show more detail about the factors considered.

Economic Impact Analysis

- Forecast the economic impact of active transportation improvements based on:
 - Health outcomes (mortality)
 - Traffic fatalities
 - Environmental impact
- Leverages safety risk analysis and travel flows modeled using <u>Replica</u>
- Utilizes World Health Organization <u>Health</u> <u>Economic Assessment Tool</u>
 - Validated by Texas A&M Transportation Institute/TxDOT Economic Impact of Bicycling in Texas report



Sample Framework



Plan Goals and Working Group Strategies

GOALS



Improve Safety, Comfort, and Accessibility

Design for safety and comfort by providing low stress level facilities.



Enhance Connectivity

Connect community destinations through plans and project identification activities; and build more connective infrastructure.

Address Community Needs

Providing mobility options for people who don't have vehicle access or rely on active transportation modes.

Support Economic Vitality

Increase accessibility and connect our workforce.

Promote Healthy Communities

Make it easier for Texans to live healthy and safe lifestyles.

ACTION/STRATEGIES - POSSIBLE EAWG TOPICS

- <u>Context-based design</u>
- Supportive policies (ex. speed limits)
- ADA compliance measures
- All Ages and Abilities (AAA) facilities
- Identifying gaps and key destinations
- New/increased <u>funding</u>, eliminate barriers
- Connect people with opportunities and essential needs
- Modernize prioritization
- Support creation of vibrant places
- Support tourism
- Connect workforce with jobs and education
- Increase accessibility to safe and comfortable bike and pedestrian facilities.
- Connect people with community features

Emphasis Area Working Groups (EAWG) Update

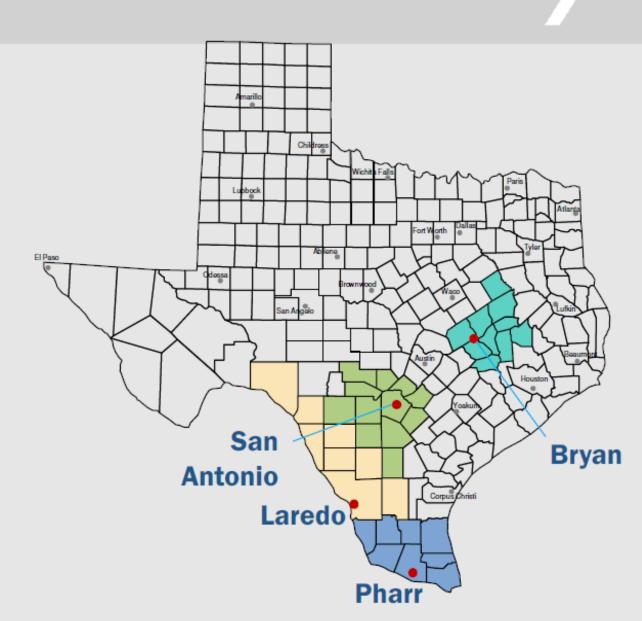
The initial stakeholder process identified 6 key emphasis areas for more in-depth study and engagement.

EAWG's are taking a deeper dive to develop action items.



Four Pilot District Bicycle Plans

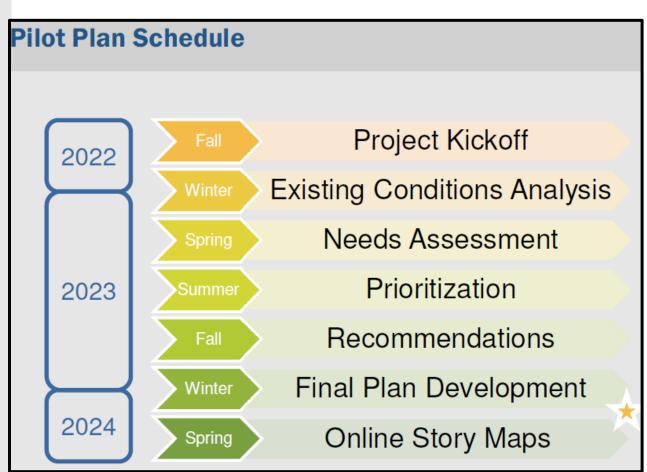
- Participating Districts:
 - Bryan
 - Laredo
 - Pharr
 - San Antonio
- Basis for future district planning and project development
- Establish methods that other districts can replicate



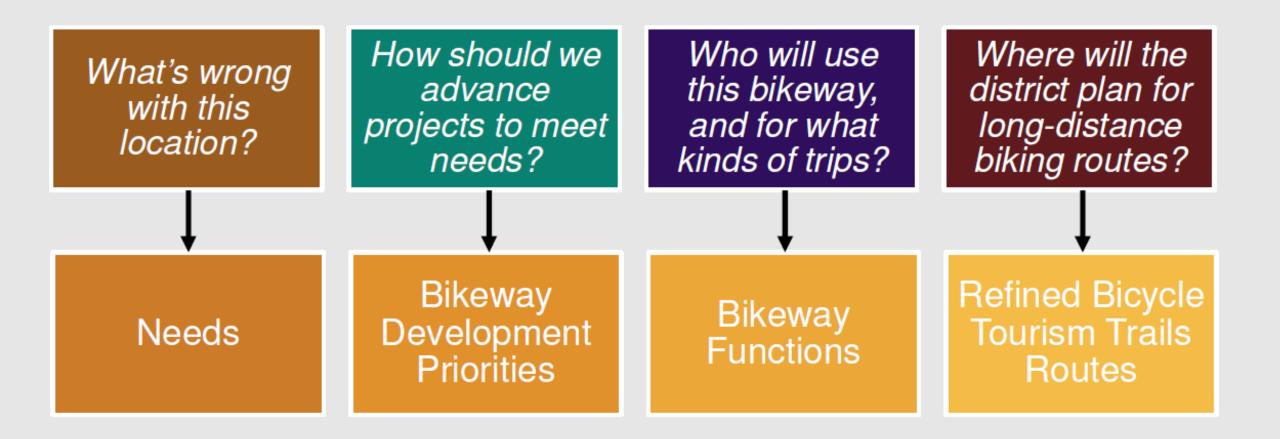
District Bike Plans Overview

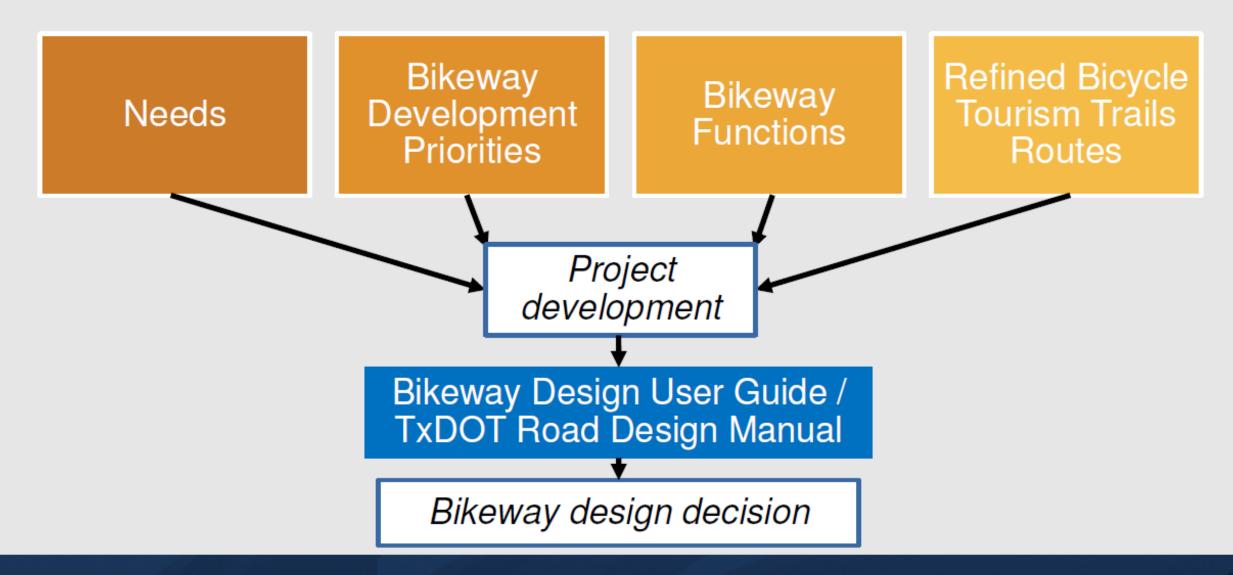
- Gather existing conditions related to bicycling on TxDOT highways
- Identify bicycling needs
- Prioritize routes/crossing locations across the district
- Refine BTT routes
- Provide guidance for future projects

District bike plans will <u>not</u> adopt a list of biking projects (i.e. specific design solutions at specific locations)



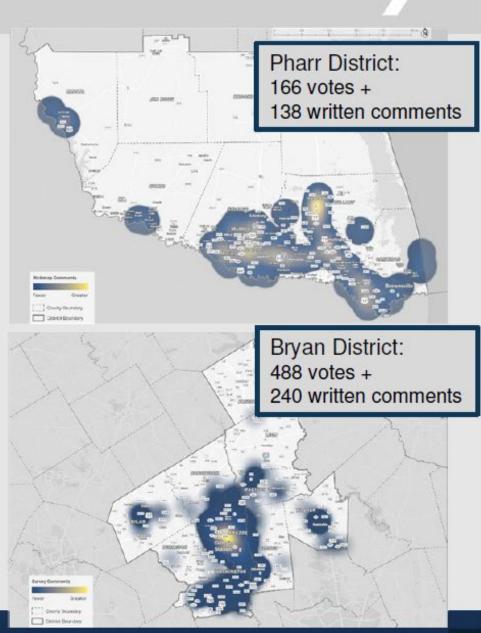
Plan Outputs



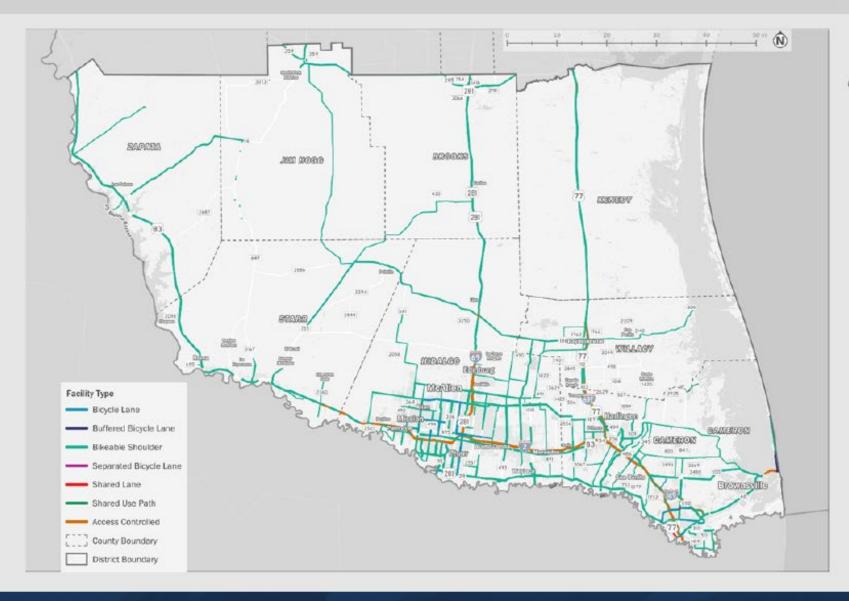


Plan Recommendations Survey

- District surveys open during public meeting period
- Collected location-specific comments on:
 - Bike network functions
 - BTT routes (example network and refinements)
 - Prioritization results
- Participants could "agree" or "disagree" on plan recommendations
- District staff reviewed comments and provided direction on whether to update plan contents



Pharr District Plan





Key Takeaways From District Plans: Pharr District

Latent Demand and Potential Community Benefits

- Strong interest in biking, if conditions were improved
 - 88% of respondents bike for recreation
 - only 31% bike for utilitarian purposes
 - Bicycling rates among participants increased since pandemic
 - Key priorities
 - Improving safety
 - Building a connected network
- Transportation costs: High share of residents below 200% of federal poverty line (56.1% versus 33.6% statewide)
- Public health: Local initiatives promote active transportation to counter disproportionately high rates of obesity and heart disease
 - Lower Rio Grande Valley Active Transportation and Active Tourism Plan
 - Pharr Pedestrian Safety and Wellness Plan



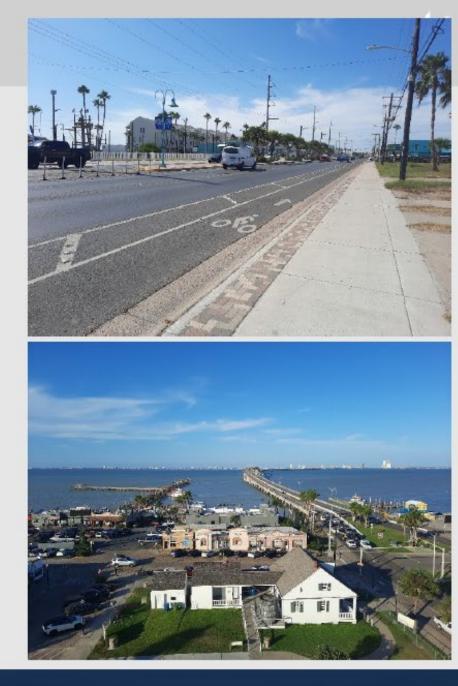
Key Takeaways From District Plans: Pharr District

Emphasis on Bicycle Tourism Trails

- Opportunity to build upon regional planning and emphasis on outdoor recreation
- Improve access to tourism destinations (National Wildlife Refuges, battlefield sites, South Padre Island)
- Complement statewide BTT with regional trails network

Border Dynamics

- High levels of freight travel → stressful conditions for bicyclists
- Transnational communities
- High number of daily pedestrian and bicycle crossings

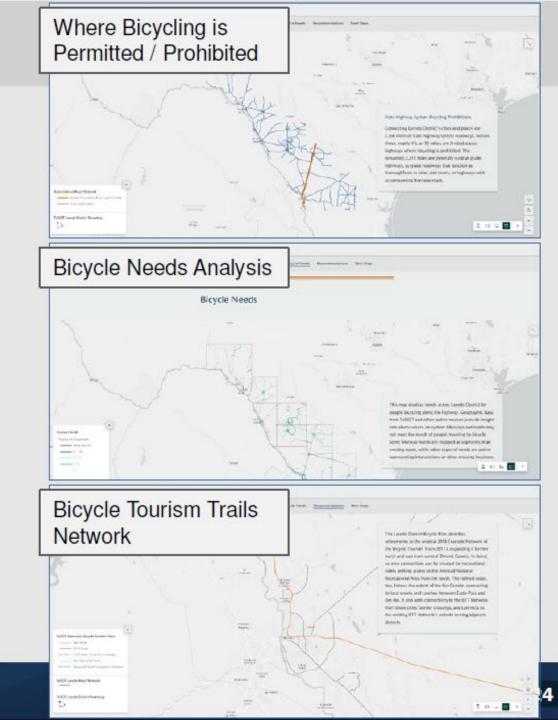


General Takeaways Across District Plans

- Most bicycling trips are for recreational purposes → opportunity to support a wider range of trip types
- Heavy trucks/freight travel are barriers to bicycling
- Strong preferences among survey respondents for separated facilities
- Bicycle Tourism Trails network consistently generated public and stakeholder interest and enthusiasm

Online Story Maps

- Story Map in development for each district; contents focus on state highway system
- Will contain publicly-accessible interactive maps for each of the key plan products and components
 - Bicycle needs analysis
 - Bikeway network functions
 - Priority segments
 - Bicycle Tourism Trails Network





IV.D Presentation & Discussion on Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Updates

· Discussion ·

<u>https://ttatconference.org/</u> September 4th – 6th



IV.E Presentation & Discussion on Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Updates



Introduction/

Background

Executed Contract with TIKM \checkmark consultant firm.

- Quarterly reporting to FHWA \checkmark
- Kick-off Steering Committee \checkmark meeting on 4/29.

Update/ Current Status

The Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Steering Subcommittee members will be involved in the development of the 1st Region-wide Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. This committee will play a pivotal role in selecting proven safety countermeasures for implementation, aiding in the identification of potential pilot locations for future grants, and integrating a safe streets network accessible to all.

	MEETING	LOCATION	AGENDA	MINUTES/RECORDING			
	April 29, 2024 at 1 1AM - 12PM	<u>Virtual Meeting</u>	<u>Meeting #1</u> <u>Agenda</u>	Minutes/Recording			
	SUBCOMM	IITTEE MEMBERS		ORGANIZATION			
	Benjamin L.	Worsham, PE, PTOE		Cameron County			
	Christ	opher Nelson		City of Brownsville			
	Johnny Peña Jr. (A	Alternate for Chris Nelsor	ı)	City of Brownsville			
	Arm	ando Garza	Hic	Hidalgo County Precinct 2			
	E	ric Davila	Cameron Co	Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority			
	Clau	idia Olmedo	L	LRGVDC-Valley Metro			
	Rok	pert Ordaz		Citizen At Large			
	To	om Reyna		City of Edinburg			
	Albe	rto J. Aldana		City of Weslaco			
	Javie	r Dominguez		LRGVDC			
	Rok	pert Carrillo		City of Pharr			
	R	obert Vale		Starr County			
	Jon R	ay Bocanegra		McAllen Metro			
	Ana	Hernandez		City of Harlingen			
	Jain	ne Gutierrez		City of Elsa			
	Edg	gar O. Perez		TxDOT Pharr District			
/ Next				LRGVDC-911			



Introduction/ Background

Deliverables:

- ✓ Project kick off meeting
- Project Management Plan
- ✓ Project Organizational Chart
- ✓ Monthly Project Status and Schedule updates
- ✓ Bi-Weekly Project management meeting, agendas, and summary notes
- Technical Memorandum with a Summary of literature review highlighting current best-practices, summarizing suggested methodology, and past relevant projects and initiatives, vision and goal for the Safety Action Plan

Update/

Current Status

Action Items/

Next Steps

- Existing Conditions Chapter, HIN Methodology, All Maps (pdf format), HIN ArcGIS Map Package and Shapefiles (DashBoard)
- Existing Policies, Programs, Regulations, Projects, Staffing, and Funding Summary Report
- One-Page profiles for each program area
- Outreach Plan
- Minimum of two rounds of in-person open houses/meetings will be held (1st in-person open house meeting held on June 5th for the Safe Streets for Texans Training)
- Minimum of two virtual meetings
- Minimum of three Board meetings
 - Delivery of a comprehensive presentation summarizing the Action Plan to stakeholders, highlighting key findings, strategies, and implementation steps.
 - Facilitation of a workshop to gather feedback and refine the Action Plan based on stakeholders'

input.

- Matrix of Top 10 Safety Projects and evaluation criteria
- List of Top 30 Intersections and roadway segments with highest crash rates
- Dashboard
- Roadway Safety Assessment Report for 10 locations identified based on highest crash rates.
- Matrix of 20 Strategies
- Appendix with additional CSAP actions
- Recommended policies. New guidelines, or standards to support implementation strategy.
- Technical Memorandum summarizing
- Disproportionate Environmental Burden analysis summary and Land Use Analysis
- Draft and Final SS4A Action Plan
 - o An executive summary summarizing the main objectives, strategies, and expected impact of the Action Plan.
 - o Compilation of all findings, analyses, plans, and strategies into a final, cohesive Comprehensive Safety Action Plan document.
 - A comprehensive final report detailing the entire project lifecycle, including methodologies, analyses, engagement activities, and project outcomes.
 - All relevant documentation, data sources, and materials used during the project.



REGISTER HERE

The training will include:

- What the federal Safe Streets & Roads for All grant is and how you can apply
- How to align action plans with USDOT priorities to receive these grants
- Vision Zero goals and action plans and why are they important
- The many ways to manage speed using engineering and human behavior
- Your most dangerous roads and how to make them safe for all road users
- Data tools, maps, and resources for improving safety in your community
- Group and Walk Audit activities

Farm&City and its <u>Vision Zero Texas</u> program has secured safety grant funding to provide - free of charge - every city, county, tribal agency, and MPO the opportunity to learn more about the Vision Zero / Safe Systems approach.

Wednesday, June 5, 2024 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM CT

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, Ken Jones Board Room, 301 W Railroad St, Weslaco, TX 78596

Lunch and morning coffee service will be provided!

VISION ZERO TEXAS WE CAN END TRAFFIC DEATHS IN TEXAS

JUNE 5, 2024 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM KEN JONES EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM LRGVDC MAIN CAMPUS, BULG. B 301 W RAILROAD STREET WELASCO, TX, 78596 YOU'RE INVITED

Farm&City is offering training sessions on how local governments can improve traffic safety and secure federal funding for doing so.

WHAT WE'LL DO

- Walk audit activity
 Demos on tools, maps, and techniques for improving
- safetyGroup activities
- Group activities
 Have lunch and coffee on us

Have lunch and coffee

WHO WE ARE



Save a Life[™]

david@farmandcity.org

For more information, email:

Farm&City is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to high-quality urban and rural human habitat in Texas in perpetuity. Our biggest project is Vision Zero Texas, leading the advocacy movement to end traffic deaths in Texas, and working with all levels of government across the state to support solutions to reduce severe crashes and give Texans the freedom of safe, multimodal options.

WHAT WE'LL DISCUSS

• What the federal Safe Streets & Roads

How to align action plans with USDOT

• What are Vision Zero goals and action

The many ways to manage speed using

• Your most dangerous roads and how to

plans and why are they important?

engineering and human behavior.

make them safe for all road users

• Data tools, maps, and resources for

improving safety in your community.

priorities to receive these grants.

for All grant is and how you can apply.

www.visionzerotexas.org/adopt/ss4t/



IV.E Presentation & Discussion on Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Updates

· Discussion ·



IV.F Presentation & Discussion on Active Transportation Facility Inventory & Regional Data Portal

• 1.2 Active Transportation Facility Inventory •

Melany · GIS Specialist/Planner I · mrodriguez@rgvmpo.org ·
 Miguel Arispe · Planner III · marispe@rgvmpo.org ·

СҮ	Program Milestones	Program Stakeholders			
2021	Active Transportation Facility Inventory	RGVMPO GIS Team			
2022	Quality Check Data + Active Transportation Map	RGVMPO BPAC + Public			
2023	Annual Data Update	Project Sponsors			
2024	Annual Data Collection + Add Transit Data	Gov. Agencies + RTAP			
2025	Establish data benchmarks according to community goals.				

✓ Develop regional standards for a facility inventory; complete facility inventory.

- Develop a strategy for cyclical review and updates; annual data collection + reporting effort.
- > Establish data benchmarks according to community goals.

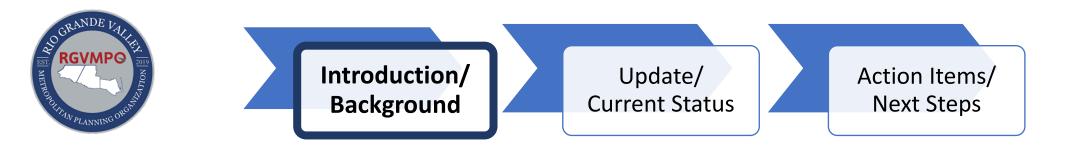
· 1.4 Regional Data Portal ·

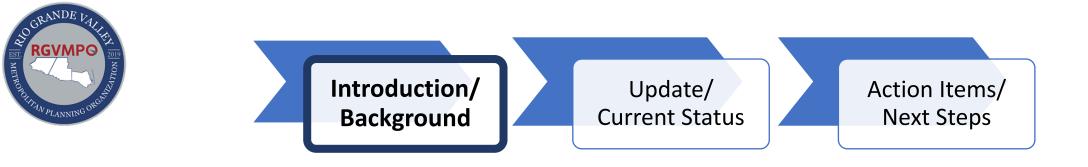
Miguel Arispe · Planner III · mrodriguez@rgvmpo.org ·
 Melany Rodriguez · GIS Specialist/Planner I · mrodriguez@rgvmpo.org ·
 Alma Provencio · GIS Specialist · aprovencio@rgvmpo.org ·

СҮ	Program Milestones	Program Stakeholders		
2023	FY21-22 & FY23-24 TASA Projects Mapped 2022 CRIS Dashboard	Project Sponsors TxDOT		
2024	Add Proposed Routes & Transit Projects	Hidalgo Co. Active Plan + 5310 Program		
2025	Create ability to easily upload, maintain, access, and download key data from the region.			

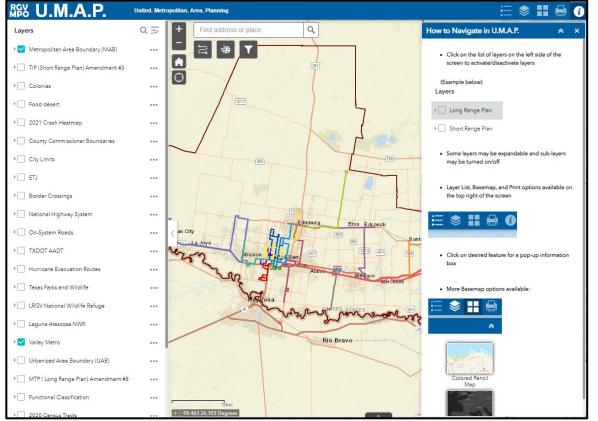
 \checkmark Establishment of regional data portal.

- > Portal used for <u>future plans</u> or project development.
- include the connectivity of the Hidalgo proposed routes to the Cameron County proposed routes



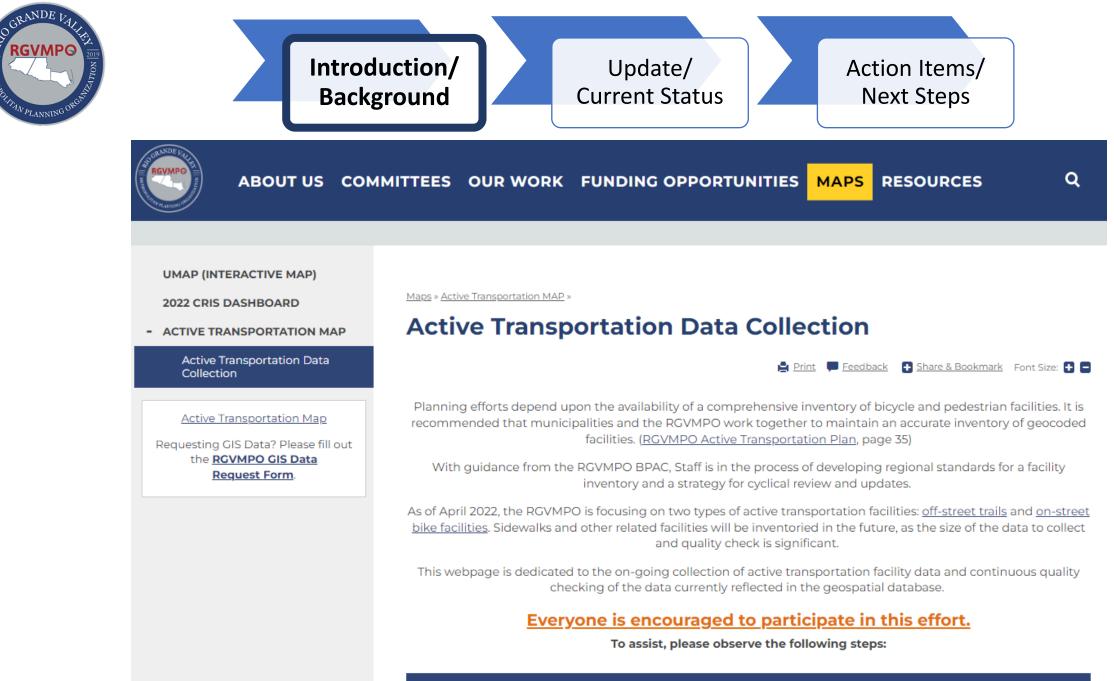


Unified Metropolitan Area Planning

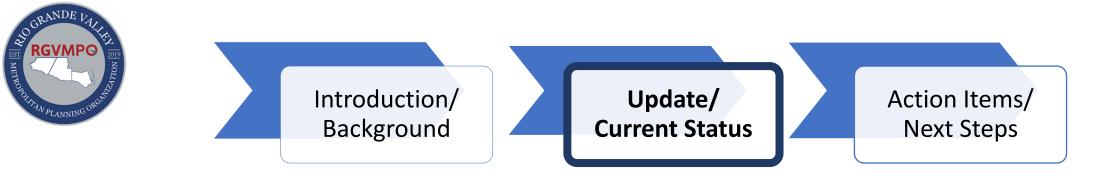


Active Transportation Map





METER



5-Year Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan (RPTCP)

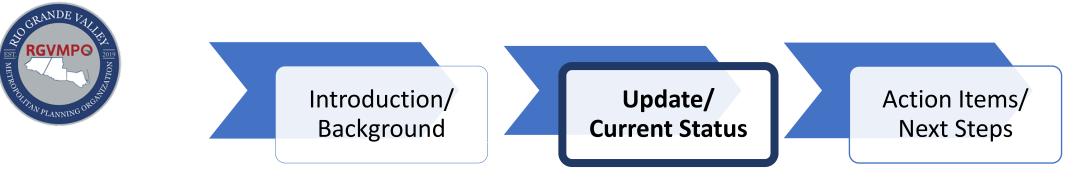
- > CH1: Introduction
- > CH2: Transportation Resources Inventory
- > CH3: Comprehensive Needs Assessment
- > CH4: Gap Analysis
- > CH5: Planning for Comprehensive Services
- > CH 6: Integrated Planning Processes
- > CH7: Vision, Mission, Goals, & Objectives
- > CH8: Capacity to Sustain Planning & Implement Plan
- > CH9: Performance Measures to Evaluate Effectiveness



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan

FINAL REPORT DECEMBER 2021



CH7: Vision, Mission, Goals & Objectives

➢ Goal 1: Improve the quality of the customer's transit experience.

- **Goal 2:** Provide increased transit alternatives to people in the region.
 - > Objective 1: Greatly expand transit in the region.
 - Objective 2: Public transit agencies will continuously integrate with multiple modes of nontraditional transportation.
 - > Objective 3: The MPO will develop a regional map identifying sidewalks, hike and bike trails, bike lanes, bus routes, bus stops, and bus shelters.
 - > Objective 4: Expand the vanpool program.
 - > Objective 5: Add projects from the strategies and partnerships of the 2021 RPTCP.
- Soal 3: Coordinate transit agency functions.
- Soal 4: Improves the image of transit across the region.
- Soal 5: Develop a sustainable fiscal system for transit in the region.



Transit Data Mapping Training

- ✓ Review basic map features.
- ✓ Review data editing tools.

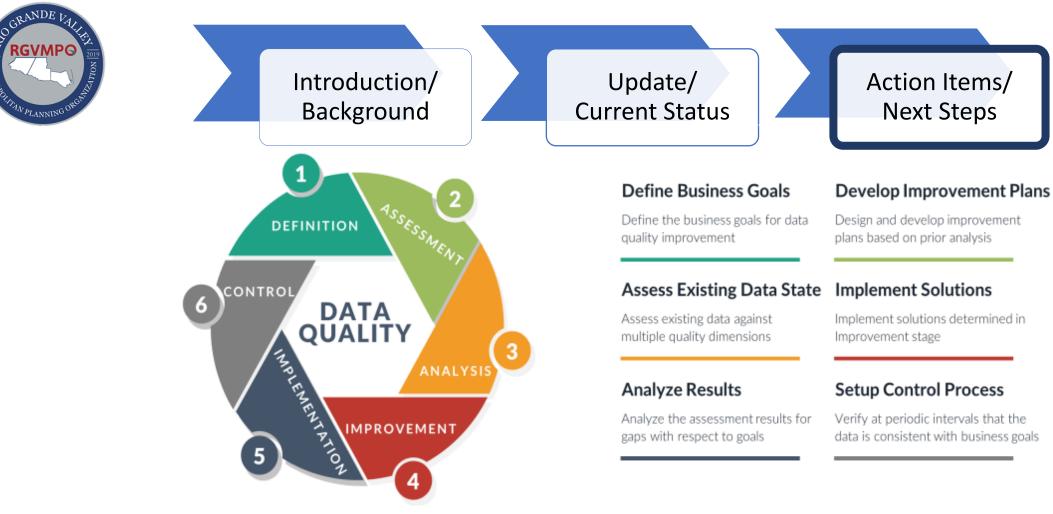
GRANDE

METRON

- ✓ How to edit points/lines.
- ✓ How to add a new feature.
- \checkmark How to edit the attributes table.

	Valley Metro Bus Stops		□>
	OID_	0	
974	Name	Business 83 & Sugar Rd	
	Latitude	26.196899308	
	Longitude	-98.195743275	
	Agency		
	Routes_serviced		
	Bus_Stop_Signage		

Brownsville Metro Bus Stops Brownsville Metro Routes		siand metro	Island Wetro Routes WicAllen Wetro B		us stops MicAllen Metro Routes		valley wetro Route	s valley Metro Bus	valley wietro Bus stops	
Options 🔻 🖡	Filter by map extent 🛛 🛇 Zoom	n to 🔀 Clear selection	C Refresh							
ld	Metro_Syst	Route	Route_Name	Agency	Route_Type	e Op	perating_Times	Web_link	Nur	
0	Brownsville Metro	30	South East	B-Metro		Sa	mple			
0	Brownsville Metro	11	Old Port Isabel							
0	Brownsville Metro	20	Old Route							
0	Brownsville Metro	4	Los Ebanos							
0	Brownsville Metro	3	Boca Chica							
0	Brownsville Metro	14	Scorpion Connector							
0	Brownsville Metro	6	Southmost							



METRON

- 1. DEFINITION: Provide increased transit alternatives to people in the region.
- 2. ASSESSMENT: Survey transit stakeholders for feedback on desired improvements.
- 3. ANALYSIS: Review existing data against for regional consistency and gaps.
- 4. IMPROVEMENT: Implement solutions (add/correct data) determined from feedback.
- 5. IMPLEMENTATION: Analyze the assessment results for gaps with respect to goals.

IV.F Presentation & Discussion on Active Transportation Facility Inventory & Regional Data Portal

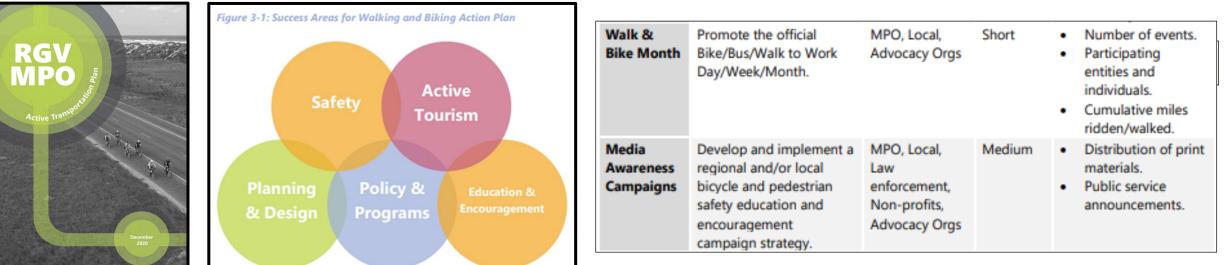
· Discussion ·

- User/tourism friendly maps for future.
- > Coordination with RGV Partnership? CVBs?
- > Transit agencies are considering adding updated maps
- > VORBA has helped produce MTB trail maps.
 - > TrailForts? App? Used by out-of-region MTBikers
 - > Helps people access existing trails.





IV.G Presentation & Discussion regarding RGV Activities during National Walk/Bike Month



Connectivity

Increasing mobility across active transportation modes, while creating an integrated regional transportation network.

Accessibility

Establishing a comprehensive system of transportation options and allowing users of all ages and abilities to access resources across the region.

Community Health

Promoting active transportation modes that improve public health and support local economies.







NAT'L RIDE A BIKE DAY • SUN MAY 5 BIKE TO WORK WEEK • MAY 13-19 BIKE TO WORK DAY • FRI MAY 17

🗞 BIKELEAGUE.ORG/BIKEMONTH 🗞







Get Out and Ride!

BIKE MONTH RIDE(S)

Bike to Work Day is certainly a highlight but it's just one day in the month of May. Keep the momentum going by hosting rides with different themes, destinations or target constituencies. The options are endless!

OPEN STREETS EVENTS

Open Streets events create a community celebration around healthy mobility options by temporarily closing the street to cars and opening it to people. Learn more and find examples at openstreetsproject.org.



CYCLOFEMME - RIDE WITH MOM

Celebrate another May event—Mother's Day—by organizing, promoting or taking part in Cyclofemme, an international day of women's rides (cyclofemme.com)

RIDE WITH THE MAYOR

Getting local officials to ride shows important support for bicycling. Use this opportunity to highlight good bike facilities, tour the local trail system, and show the elected official how important it is to maintain them!

BIKE TO THE MOVIES

Team up with your local theater or community organization to set up a bike-themed movie event. Work with your local bike advocacy organization or bike club to determine a short route to the theater and invite the community on the group ride.



Why Bikes?



BIKING IS FUN: Biking brings people together, encourages discovery, and fosters community engagement



BIKING IS HEALTHY: Bicycling can integrate physical activity into our daily routines

5

BIKING IS GREEN: Biking curbs your carbon footprint, reduces air pollution and reliance on fossil fuels

BIKING SAVES MONEY: Biking cuts parking, gas and other driving costs while reducing traffic congestion

Engage Local Partners

NATIONAL BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY

In partnership with the League, the National Center for Safe Routes to School now organizes an annual Bike to School Day during the first week of Bike Month. Organize a bike-pool or bike train for parents at your school and engage the next generation of bicyclists. Learn more and get tips at walkbiketoschool.org.



GRADUATION PARADE

Many colleges and universities host graduation in the month of May. Consider working with the local Bicycle Friendly Universities on organizing a graduation bike parade.

RESTAURANT WEEK

Work with local restaurants to set up a Bike Month Restaurant Week. Those who can show they rode their bike to get a bite to eat receive a discount from participating restaurants.

BICYCLE-THEMED PARTY

Whether it's a fashion show, a happy hour or a festival, there are so many ways to share the joy, diversity and camaraderie of cycling. What's unique about bike culture in your community? Put it on display!

Sample Bike Month Proclamation



The City/County of _____

Proclamation

Whereas, throughout the month of May, [insert city/county] will celebrate biking and the freedom, the joy, and the well-being it imbues within us, as well as the power that more people riding bikes has in making life better for everyone; and

Whereas, May 15-21, 2023 is "Bike to Work Week" and May 19, 2023 is "Bike to Work Day"; and

Whereas, throughout the month of May, the residents of [insert city/county] and its visitors will experience the joys of bicycling through group rides, races, commuting events, educational programs, charity events, and/or by simply getting out and going somewhere by bike; and

Whereas, bicycling has been shown to improve citizens' health, well-being, and quality of life, growing the economy of [insert city/county], attracting tourism dollars and local business spending and reducing pollution, congestion and parking costs on our streets and roads; and

Whereas, [insert local bicycle club/ organization/chamber/tourism bureau/regional planning organization], schools, parks and recreation departments, police departments, public health districts, hospitals, businesses and civic groups will be joining the League of American Bicyclists in promoting bicycling during the month of May 2023; and

Whereas, these groups are also promoting the use of the bicycle as both a means of transportation and recreation year-round to attract more visitors to enjoy our local parks and trail systems, as well as restaurants, hotels, retail establishments, and cultural and scenic attractions; and

Whereas, these groups are also promoting greater public awareness of bicycle operation and safety education during Bike Month and year-round in an effort to reduce collisions, injuries and fatalities and improve health and safety for everyone on the road; and

Now therefore, I, _____, Mayor/Executive of [insert city/county], do hereby proclaim May 2023 as

Bike Month

in [insert city/county], and I urge all residents to join me in this special observance

Signed this ____ day of May, 2023

Mayor/Executive _____

LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS BIKEMONTH BIKEBIGO

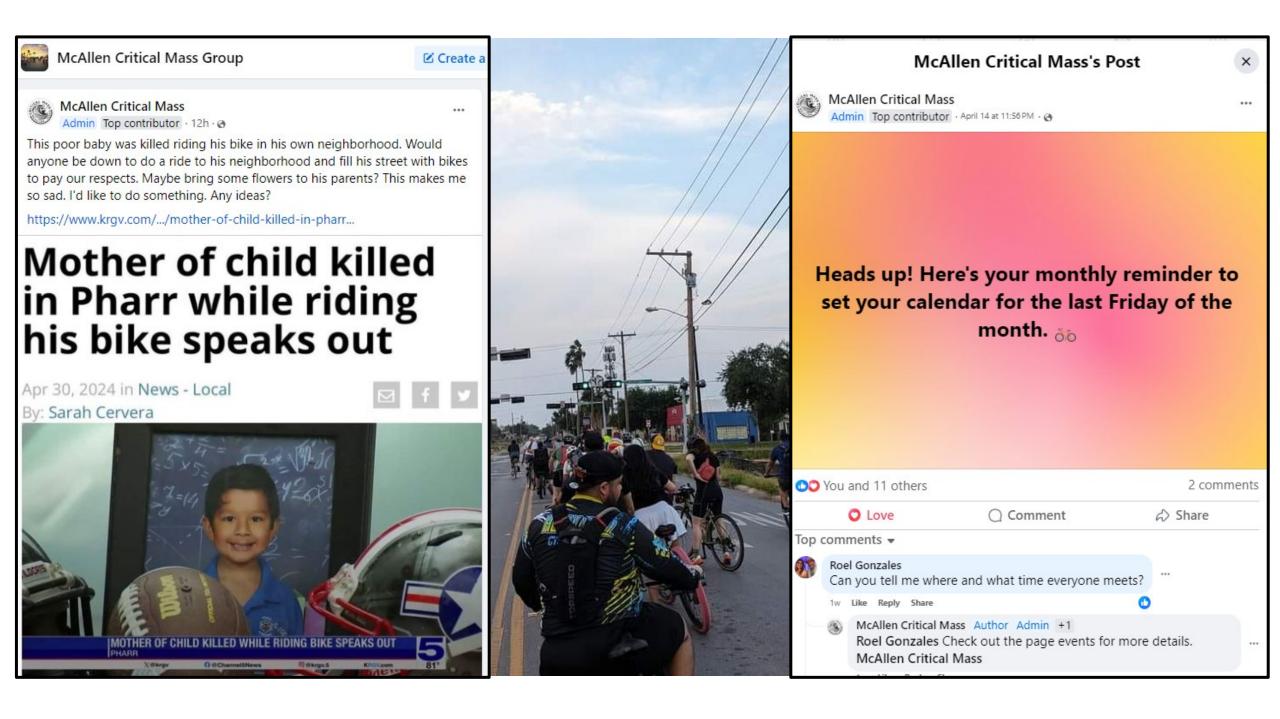






FRIDAY, May 24, 2024 6:30 PM TO 9:00 PM 0 STARTING E 7TH ST. BETWEEN E RINGGOLD ST.& E TAYLOR ST. **BIKE RENTALS** RESTROOMS BIKE REPAIR WATER PARKING RESTROOMS NDING POINT MARKET SQUARE E 12TH ST. BETWEEN ADAMS ST & E WASHINGTON ST. (F) CycloBia Brownsville # www.cyclobiabrownsville.com







This coming Saturday, 5/4/24, is Women's MTB Day! Join the ladies for a group ride at Mission Trails.









MEN - WOMEN - JUNIORS BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE - OPEN MASTERS - SINGLESPEED

<--- REGISTER

Doolittle Nature Park and Trails 1300 N. Doolittle Road Edinburg, Texas 78542





www.vorbargv.org



IV.G Presentation & Discussion regarding RGV Activities during National Walk/Bike Month

· Discussion ·

- Friday, 5/24/24 Cyclobia in downtown Brownsville, 6:30 to 9pm
- Sunday, 5/26/24 The Dooliminator MTB Race @ Doolittle Nature Trail and Parklike 1
- Friday, 5/3/24 Harlingen Social Bike Ride @ Cinco de May event 6:00pm
- Saturday, 5/4/24 Women's MTB Day at Mission Trails
- VivaStreets
- > Sullivan City commuters' safety gear -
 - BikeTexas safety products
 - > TxDOT Safety division potential distribution materials
 - Texas Bicycle Safety webpage
 - Texas Pediatrics Association free helmets for kids

> VORBA has been asked for assistance to train the public how to ride the bike.

> The League of American Bicyclists have an LCI Training



V. PROJECT UPDATES

- Members are encouraged to share updates on bike/ped projects/programs.
 - TASA & Carbon Reduction Program Updates to TAC/Policy in May.
 - Phase II of the Tri-City Sidewalks projects will re-advertise.
 - Harlingen in Phase II of the asphalt pump track at Arroyo Park!
 - WRT Amenities received 30% comments, working on 60%
 - SNT Ph IV AFA executed with kickoff mtg this morning, working on 30%.
 - Brownsville to LF Groundbreaking next week.
 - Pre-construction documents for TxDOT review!
- Completed construction of 1.1 mi. trail at Lon C Hill (in-house labor) with solar lighting (in progress), with potential ribbon-cutting in a couple weeks!



VI. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

• Members are encouraged to bring ideas for future meetings or inquire about past items.



VII. ADJOURNMENT

· Next Meeting July 3rd (In-Person) ·

Motion to Adjourn. Motion By: David Seconded By: Claudia 11:45am.

