

FULL TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, August 28, 2024 – 1:30 PM

RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO)

Pursuant to Chapter 551, Title 5 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Open Meeting Act, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the RGVMPO POLICY BOARD will be held In Person at the LRGVDC Main Campus, 301 W. Railroad Street, Building B, Ken Jones Executive Board Room in Weslaco, TX.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comments – May be submitted online or may be submitted on a paper form specifying the matter you wish to address.

IV. Action & Discussion Items

A. Approval of minutes for: July 31, 2024.

Action

Possible Action

Information

Presenter: Commissioner David L. Fuentes, ~~Chairman~~

Summary: Approval of the July 31, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes

B. Discussion and Action Federal Functional Classification of Nolana Loop

Action

Possible Action

Information

Presenter: Luis Diaz, RGVMPO Interim Executive Director

Summary: Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 1 is requesting Federal Functional Classification for Nolana Loop Section 4 as a Major Collector. From: Victoria Road To: FM 88 Texas Blvd.

Background: Federal legislation continues to use functional classification in determining eligibility for funding under the Federal-aid program. Transportation agencies describe roadway system performance, benchmarks, and targets by functional classification. As agencies continue to move towards a more performance-based management approach, functional classification will be an increasingly important consideration in setting expectations and measuring outcomes for preservation, mobility, and safety (Resolution 2024-11 and Resolution 2024-12 to be presented to the Policy Board for Approval on April 24, 2024).

C. Discussion and Action for Clean Cities Coalition

Action

Possible Action

Information

Presenter: Javier Dominguez, LRGVDC Executive Analyst

Summary: The LRGVDC is working to form the South Texas Clean Cities & Communities Coalition, which will cover the areas within the South Texas Development Council, the Coastal Bend Council of Governments, and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council. The Department of Energy seeks a single entity to host this coalition for all regions south of San Antonio. To support this initiative, the LRGVDC aims to recruit 9 to 15 stakeholders to join the application for this apprenticeship application.

Background: Clean Cities and Communities aims to advance the nation's environmental, energy security, and economic prosperity goals by fostering collaboration with communities and building partnerships with public and private stakeholders. These partnerships focus on the equitable deployment of clean transportation solutions for all. The LRGVDC has been actively reaching out to regional partners to form the South Texas Clean Cities & Communities Coalition. Given the crucial role that the RGVMPPO will play in the second phase of the TxDOT NEVI plan, the LRGVDC believes that the RGVMPPO can significantly contribute to coordinating the Coalition's efforts. Today, the LRGVDC is here to provide a background on this initiative, offer a status update, and respectfully request that the RGVMPPO Transportation Policy Board sign a letter of commitment to join the Coalition as a stakeholder. This commitment will help guide the initiatives and goals of the organization.

V. Presentations & Reports

A. National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program Phase II Update

Action

Possible Action

Information

Presenter: Klarissa Gonzalez, RGVMPPO Transportation Planner

Summary: The Texas Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan developed by TxDOT and approved by FHWA in 2022 is undergoing the deployment of Phase II as scheduled. Phase II allows for MPOs to propose a selection of study areas and power ratings for EV charging stations to be located equitably within the Metropolitan Area Boundary. The RGVMPPO is tasked with proposing six to eight study areas considering specific criteria by December 2024. TxDOT will subsequently designate a specific site within each study area for the placement of charging stations. Thereafter, private entities may participate in a TxDOT-managed competitive grant application process.

Background: The BIL appropriates \$5 billion over the period of 2022 through 2026 in the NEVI Formula Program allowing for states to develop EV charging infrastructure along Electric Alternative Fuel Corridors. The construction of publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) chargers funded under the NEVI Program should be consistent with the relevant minimum standards and requirements identified in [23 CFR 680](#)

B. Presentation of RGVMPPO CAT 7 Utilization Report

Action

Possible Action

Information

Presenter: Luis Diaz, RGVMPPO Interim Executive Director

Summary: The RGVMPPO will be presenting a Utilization Report of CAT 7 Programming in relation to DRAFT 2025 UTP Allocations.

Background: TxDOT's Unified Transportation Program (UTP) plays a prominent role in this effort. Updated annually and approved by the Texas Transportation Commission, the UTP serves as an intermediate programming and development "roadmap" that is used to define, prioritize and assign available funding to thousands of Texas transportation projects over a continuous 10-year period.

C. Update on RGVMPPO Executive Director Selection Process

Action

Possible Action

Information

Presenter: Manuel Cruz, LRGVDC Executive Director

D. RGVMPPO Executive Director's Report and Updates

Action

Possible Action

Information

Presenter: Luis Diaz, RGVMPPO Interim Executive Director

Summary:

1. Budget Update
2. House Bill 3697 Presentation
3. Public Involvement (Air pollution from particulate matter PM2.5)

E. TxDOT Project Status Report

Action

Possible Action

Information

Presenter: TxDot Pharr District TP&D Staff

VI. Other Business (Old or New): This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

- A.** The next RGVMPPO Transportation Policy Board meeting is IN-PERSON at 1:30pm on September 25, 2024.