Meeting Minutes of the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 11:00 AM

Via Microsoft Teams

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting was held VIA Microsoft Teams and called to order by BPAC Chair, Rose Gowen, at 11:04am

II. ROLL CALL

RGVBPAC Representatives PRESENT:

BPAC MEMBERS:		
Entity	Individual	
Bicycle / Ped Health Advocate	Rose Gowen (Chair) PRESENT	
Bicycle / Pedestrian Citizen At-Large	Michael McNew (Vice Chair)	
City of Brownsville	Joel Garza PRESENT	
	Mark Lund PRESENT	
	Frank Gudino PRESENT	
City of Edinburg	Larry Ayala	
City of Harlingen	Andy Vigstol	
	Javier Mendez	
City of McAllen	Marlen Garza PRESENT	
	Martina Mejia	
	Rosvel Hinojosa PRESENT	
City of Pharr	Cynthia Garza	
	Omar Anzaldua PRESENT	
	Moises Beas	
USFWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge	Christine Donald PRESENT	
	Imer de la Garza PRESENT	
TPWD Estero Llano Grande State Park	Javier De Leon PRESENT	
TxDOT Pharr District	Craig Wuensche PRESENT	
	Joseph E. Leal PRESENT	
Valley Metro	Frank Jaramillo PRESENT	
Museum South Texas History	Rene A. Ballesteros PRESENT	
Bicycle / Pedestrian Citizen At-Large	Richard Cavin	
OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT:	Adrienne Wheatly, Caracara Trails Project Manager	
	Omar Rodriguez, City of Weslaco	
	Kate de Gennaro, Texas Sea Grant	
	Rick Carrera, LRGVDC	
	Rodney Gomez, UTRGV	
	Horacio Garcia, LRGVDC	
STAFF		
RGVMPO STAFF PRESENT:	Andrew A. Canon	Eva Garcia
	Melany Rodriguez	Javier Dominguez
	Rudy Zamora	Juan Pena
	Luis Diaz	

III. CITIZENS INPUT - NONE

IV. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of May 5, 2021

Eva Garcia, RGVMPO BikePed Program Coordinator, notified staff that revisions were being made on the RGVMPO BPAC Agendas and Packets website. Commissioner Gowen asked members if they had a chance to review the Minutes of May 5, 2021. No corrections were noted to the minutes of May 5, 2021 and Rene Ballesteros (Museum of South Texas History) made a motion to approve minutes as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by Omar Anzaldua (City of Pharr) and upon a vote; the motion passed unanimously.

B. Consideration and Action regarding RGVMPO BPAC Membership

RGVMPO Staff presented BPAC Members with information regarding the Committee's Bylaws and procedures regarding membership. It was noted that there were several vacant positions with the voting membership structure and members discussed reaching out to representatives from organizations that work with underserved communities to fill vacancies. Eva Garcia announced that an application to join the Committee has been submitted by the City of Weslaco – which would fill the vacancy for Public Agency Representatives. Omar Anzaldua (City of Pharr) made a motion to accept the BPAC Membership Application from the City of Weslaco, naming Omar Rodriguez as the newest BPAC Voting Member. The motion was seconded by Frank Gudino (City of Brownsville) and, upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

c. Presentation and Discussion on RGV B-Cycle BikeShare Program

RGVMPO and LRGVDC Staff presented an update on the RGV B-Cycle System. It was announced that there is:

- 17 total stations
- 140 total bikes
- \$2 one-hour pass
- \$6 24-hours pass
- \$30 30-day pass
- \$65 annual pass

Challenges to the bikeshare program were discussed and included:

- Credit card charges were double charging at some stations
- Promotion and marketing management support needed
- Need for full-time staff as program expands

No action was taken.

D. Presentation and Discussion on RGV BikePed Count Data Program

Eva Garcia provided an overview on the status of the RGV Bike/Ped Count Data Program. She shared that a total of eighteen counters will be installed regionally in nine cities and eleven trails. There were some questions and discussion among members. No action was taken.

E. Presentation and Discussion on TxDOT Bicycle Accommodation Design Guide No action was taken.

V. PROJECT UPDATES

- TASA Call for Projects Workshop was successful and well-attended.
- TX FLAP Bahia Grande Trail Feasibility Study site visit

VI. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Question regarding BPAC Memberships and following the bylaws.
- Announcement by Rene Ballesteros: June 13th Facebook Live Event on RGV Infrastructure and its history.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the BPAC Committee, Frank Gudino (City of Brownsville) made a motion to adjourn meeting at 12:01 PM. The motion was seconded by Rene Ballesteros (Museum of South Texas History), and upon a vote; the motion passed unanimously.