

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

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 11:00 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting was held in-person* at the UTRGV Center for Innovation & Commercialization, and virtually via Microsoft Teams. The meeting was called to order by RGVMPPO BPAC Chair, Rose Gowen at 11:05 A.M.

II. ROLL CALL

RGVBPAC Representatives **PRESENT:**

Organization/Agency	Voting Membership	Alternate Voting Member
Caracara Trails	Chair Commissioner Dr. Rose Gowen	<i>Adrienne Wheatly</i>
At-Large	Vice-Chair Michael McNew*	
City of Brownsville	Frank Gudino	<i>Joel Garza</i>
City of Edinburg	Larry Ayala*	<i>Valentin Sanchez</i>
City of Harlingen	<i>Andy Vigstol</i>	Javier Mendez
City of McAllen	<i>Marlen Garza</i>	<i>Rosvel Hinojosa</i>
City of Pharr	<i>Omar Anzaldua</i>	Maria Rangel
City of Weslaco	Omar Rodriguez	<i>Rebecca de la Fuente</i>
TxDOT Pharr District	<i>Joseph Leal</i>	Craig Wuensche
VORBA	David Hernandez	
Museum of South Texas History	Rene A. Ballesteros	
Bicycle World RGV	Ana Adame	
TPWD Estero Llano Grande SP	<i>Javier de Leon</i>	Kelly Malkowski
USFWS Santa Ana NWR	Christine Donald	<i>Imer de la Garza</i>
At-Large	<i>Eudenia "Eudy" Carrillo</i>	
At-Large	Richard Cavin	
At-Large	Michael Padgett*	

Other Attendees:

- Rodney Gomez, UTRGV
- Horacio Garza, RGV BCycle
- Alberto Espinoza, VBLF
- Jim Carillo, Texas Trails & AT Conf.
- Octavio Salazar, City of Brownsville
- Sarai, City of McAllen
- Rick Carrera, LRGVDC
- Martina Mejia, City of McAllen

RGVMPPO Staff:

BPAC Minutes Approved
April 6, 2022

- Luis Diaz, Assistant Director
- Rudy Zamora, Planner II
- Melany Rodriguez, Planner I
- Javier Dominguez, Planner I
- Chris Nelson, Planner I
- Nick Cousineau, GIS Specialist I
- Juan Pena, GIS Specialist I
- Miguel Arispe, GIS Specialist II
- Gloria Banda, Administrative Assistant
- Eva Garcia, Planner III Bike/Ped Program Coordinator

III. CITIZENS INPUT – NONE.

IV. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of January 5, 2022

Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO BikePed Program Coordinator, presented the Minutes of January 5, 2022. BPAC Member Frank Gudino (City of Brownsville) made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 5, 2022. The motion was seconded by Craig Wuensche (TxDOT) and upon a vote; the **motion passed unanimously**.

B. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of February 2, 2022

Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO BikePed Program Coordinator, presented the Minutes of February 2, 2022. RGVMPPO BPAC Vice-Chair, Michael McNew (Citizen At-Large) made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 2, 2022. The motion was seconded by Frank Gudino (City of Brownsville) and upon a vote; the **motion passed unanimously**.

C. Consideration and Action regarding the RGVMPPO BPAC Membership

RGVMPPO Staff explained that most RGVMPPO BPAC Members applied for membership in March 2020 and have been serving a two-year term. RGVMPPO Executive Director, Andrew Canon, suggested that the Committee start with a clean slate this year, meaning all members will need reapply for membership. RGVMPPO BPAC Vice-Chair, Michael McNew made a motion requesting RGVMPPO Staff to provide guidance for application reviews on RGVMPPO BPAC Membership. The motion was seconded by RGVMPPO BPAC Chair, Rose Gowen and upon a vote; the **motion passed unanimously**.

D. Presentation and Discussion on RGVMPPO ATP Initiatives

Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO BikePed Program Coordinator, provided BPAC Members with the following updates:

- **Safety Initiatives** – will be providing more information at the April 6th BPAC Meeting.
- **RGV Facility Inventory** – *Send all existing active transportation data by Friday, April 1, 2022.* RGVMPPO Staff will begin to annually collect active transportation data every fourth quarter of the calendar year, October through December.
- **USBRS Designation** – new data is needed to revise USBRS proposed route maps.

RGVMPPO BPAC Vice-Chair, Michael McNew (Citizen At-Large) made a motion to proceed with USBRS Designation for proposed Cameron County routes. The motion was seconded by Frank Gudino (City of Brownsville) and upon a vote; the **motion passed unanimously**.

V. PROJECT UPDATES

- Horacio Garza, RGV BCycle, advised BPAC Members that the bikeshare's operating systems are being updated. He advised that updates cause a rolling blackout of the stations, however the entire system will remain in service. Cities are notified via email, and the public is advised via social media.
- Frank Gudino, City of Brownsville, advised BPAC Members that the Southmost Nature Trail, Phase II project would be having a groundbreaking ceremony on Friday, March 11th at the Southmost Public Library.
- David Hernandez, VORBA, announced that there will be a large mountain biking race October 1st and 2nd. He also added that there will be an International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) Conference in the fall.
- Jim Carillo announced that the Texas Trail and Active Transportation Conference would be taking place virtually from April 27th-29th. Early bird registration is \$250.
- Michael Padgett, Citizen At-Large, announced that the City of McAllen would be having an Arbor Day 10k social ride/celebration (registration for in-person only), on March 5th.

VI. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the RGVMPPO BPAC Vice-Chair, Michael McNew (Citizen At-Large) made a motion to adjourn meeting at 12:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by David Hernandez (VORBA), and upon a vote; the **motion passed unanimously**.