

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

Wednesday, August 3, 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 Eva Garcia, Planner III: BikePed Program Coordinator, at 11:01 A.M.

II. ROLL CALL

RGVBPAC Representatives **PRESENT:**

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

Other Attendees:

- Rodney Gomez, UTRGV
- Horacio Garza, RGV BCycle
- Rick Carrera, LRGVDC
- Sarah Dierlam, LRGVDC

RGVMPO Staff:

- Andre Canon, Executive Director
- Luis Diaz, Assistant Director
- Melany Rodriguez, Planner I
- Javier Dominguez, Planner I
- Christopher Nelson, Planner I
- Rodolfo Zamora, Planner II
- Juan Pena, GIS Specialist I
- Miguel Arispe, GIS Specialist II
- Gloria Banda, Executive Assistant
- Eva Garcia, Planner III Bike/Ped Program Coordinator

BPAC Minutes Approved
September 7, 2022

III. CITIZENS INPUT

- Rene Ballesteros gave a shout out to VORBA and David Hernandez shared that he was interested in giving a presentation regarding VORBA to the BPAC. Additionally, Rene added that there was going to be a Town Hall meeting at the South Texas Museum. Members also recognized RGVMPPO Staff for going to the community events to distribute bike lights and helmets.

IV. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of June 1, 2022

Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO BikePed Program Coordinator, presented the Minutes of June 1, 2022. BPAC Member Craig Wuensche made a motion to approve the Minutes of June 1, 2022. The motion was seconded by Larry Ayala and upon a vote; the **motion passed unanimously**.

B. Consideration and Possible Action to Appoint RGVMPPO BPAC Members

Eva Garcia reviewed the RGVMPPO BPAC Application and activities to promote the Call for Members. It was reiterated that applications and appointments are accepted on a rolling basis. Eva then reviewed the list of candidates available for possible appointment:

- o Sullivan City
- o TxDOT
- o Edinburg
- o Pharr
- o Brownsville
- o Caracara Trails
- o UTRGV
- o Ana Adame, Citizen At-Large
- o Michael McNew, Citizen At-Large
- o Robert Ordez, Citizen At-Large
- o Nina Torkelson, Citizen At-Large

Craig Wuensche made a motion to appoint all candidates, with Robert Ordez and Nina Torkelson merging as one Citizen At-Large. The motion was seconded by Rene Ballesteros and upon a vote; **the motion passed unanimously**.

C. Consideration and Possible Action regarding a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) project proposal for Comprehensive Action Plan

Javier Dominguez, RGVMPPO Planner I, presented an introduction to the SS4A funding opportunity and highlighted the grant requirements. He shared that the RGVMPPO would be applying for a regional Safety for All Comprehensive Action Plan. RGVMPPO BPAC Members added that longitudinal rumble strips help keep motorists aware of the road; that shoulder widths equate to cyclist safety. Pavement friction management is one of the countermeasures discussed and a question was posed as to whether chip seal is being replaced with something smoother. Additionally, it was recommended that the Safety for All plan work in conjunction with McAllen's Vision Zero Plan and Pharr's Pedestrian Wellness Plan. **No action was taken.**

D. Presentation and Discussion regarding potential revisions to the RGVMPPO Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Call for Projects Application, Program Guide and Scoring Criteria

Melany Rodriguez, RGVMPPO Planner I, gave a brief overview of the new BIL guidelines and requirements regarding TASA. She shared that RGVMPPO Staff has been reviewing BPAC feedback from a survey earlier this year. **No action was taken.**

E. Presentation and Discussion on the Quarterly RGV BCycle Program

Horacio Garza, BCycle Program Coordinator, gave a presentation on the bikeshare program's new data. He shared that the Kiosk 2.0 is being updated and an updated program will launch on August 20th. Some screens are being broken and need replacement. McAllen BCycle 1.0 bikes will be unusable after any issues occur. Constant maintenance on stations have been needed with popular ridership. It was requested that RGVMPPO BPAC Members send events to hgarza@lrqvd.org so BCycle can be promoted to the community. **No action was taken.**

F. Presentation and Discussion on the Quarterly RGV Bicycle and Pedestrian Counter Data Program

Chris Nelson, RGVMPPO Planner I, gave a presentation on the latest bicycle and pedestrian counter data. He shared how to access the statewide count exchange and how to access cumulative statistics. It was shared with RGVMPPO

BPAC Members that LRGVDC and RGVMPPO Staff were considering the submittal of an application to the Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation for an expansion of the RGV Bicycle and Pedestrian Counter Data Program. **No action was taken.**

G. Presentation and Discussion on the RGV Traffic Safety Initiative

Eva Garcia reviewed the grant objectives and shared visuals of the bike lights and helmets being distributed. She shared how RGVMPPO Staff was already attending community events and planning for the four (4) traffic safety trainings. The Law Enforcement Trainings would be taking place Tuesday, September 6th and Wednesday, September 7th at 2:30pm in Weslaco and Harlingen respectively. The Project Manager Trainings would be taking place on Friday, September 9th and Wednesday, September 14th at 9:30am in Harlingen and Weslaco, respectively. All BPAC members were invited to register and/or share the invitation. **No action was taken.**

V. PROJECT UPDATES

- Donna Sidewalk project has been terminated, unable to re-program funds.
- Lapsing notification letters have been sent to each project sponsor for FY2019-2020.
- Should have executed AFAs or in the process of finalizing an AFA

VI. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Javier De Leon made a motion to adjourn meeting at 12:10 P.M. The motion was seconded by Frank Gudino, and upon a vote; the motion passed unanimously.