MPO Policy Committee Meeting

www.laredompo.org

Meeting Date & Time: December 15th, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.
Meeting Location: City of Laredo Council Chambers, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, Texas 78040
Meeting Link: http://laredotx.swagit.com/live
Laredo TV: Spectrum TV channel 1300

AGENDA:

REC'D CITY SEC OFF
DEC 10 '21 PM3:04

I. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL MEETING TO ORDER

II. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL ROLL

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Speakers are required to fill out witness cards, which must be submitted to MPO Staff no later than 1:45 p.m. the day of the meeting. Speakers shall identify themselves at the microphone. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a specific issue, they should select not more than three (3) representatives to speak on their behalf. The presiding officer may further limit public on the interest of order or time. Speakers may not transfer their minutes to any other speaker. Comments should be relevant to MPO business and delivered in a professional manner. No derogatory remarks shall be permitted.

IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION:

A. Approval of the minutes for the meeting held on November 17th, 2021.

B. Discussion with possible action regarding the extension of Cuatro Vientos Blvd./Loop 20 to Rio Bravo, and any other matters incident thereto. (Dr. Marte A. Martinez)

C. Discussion with possible action on the River Road project.

D. Discussion with possible action on the Hachar-Reuthinger Road project.

V. REPORT(S) AND PRESENTATIONS (No action required).

A. Presentation by Stantec and Able City on the Comprehensive Operational Analysis of El Metro.

B. Presentation by TxDOT on the FY2023 Unified Transportation Program project selection.

C. Update by MPO staff on the request to compile a list of previous plans and studies conducted by or in collaboration with the MPO.

D. Status report by the Regional Mobility Authority (RMA).

VI. DIRECTOR's COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE INFORMATION:

Notice of this meeting was posted at the municipal government offices, 1110 Houston Street, Laredo, Texas, at a place convenient and readily accessible to the public at all times. Said notice was posted 72 hours before the meeting date and time. The agenda and meeting information was also posted online at http://www.laredompo.org/agendas-minutes/.

All meetings of the MPO Committee are open to the public. Persons who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services such as: interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers of large print or Braille, or a translator for the Spanish language are requested to contact MPO Staff at 956-794-1613, or via email at aquijano@ci.laredo.tx.us prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Materials in Spanish may also be provided upon request.

Disability Access Statement: This meeting is wheelchair accessible. The accessible ramps are located at 1110 Victoria and 910 Flores. Accessible parking spaces are located at City Hall, 1110 Victoria.

Ayuda o Servicios Auxiliares: Todas las reuniones del Comité del MPO están abiertas al público. Personas que planean asistir a esta reunión y que pueden necesitar ayuda o servicios auxiliares como: interpretes para personas con discapacidad auditiva, lectores de letra grande o en Braille, o un traductor para el idioma español deben comunicarse con el personal del MPO al 956-794-1613 o por correo electrónico aquijano@ci.laredo.tx.us antes de la reunión para que se puedan hacer los arreglos apropiados. Material en español está disponible mediante una petición.

Declaración de Acceso a la Discapacidad: Esta reunión permite el acceso a personas en silla de ruedas. Las rampas de acceso están ubicadas en 1110 Victoria y 900 Flores. Los espacios de estacionamiento para discapacitados se encuentran por la calle Victoria.

Información en español: Si usted desea esta información en español o si desea explicación sobre el contenido, por favor llámenos al teléfono (956) 794-1613 o comunicarse con nosotros mediante correo electrónico a aquijano@ci.laredo.tx.us.

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

City of Laredo Representatives:

Honorable Pete Saenz, Mayor and LWCAMPO Chairperson
Honorable Ruben Gutierrez, Jr., City Councilmember, District V
Honorable Dr. Marte Martinez, City Councilmember, District VI

County of Webb Representatives:

Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge and LWCAMPO Vice-Chairperson
Honorable Jesse Gonzalez, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 1
Honorable John Galo, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 3

Laredo Mass Transit Board Representative:

Honorable Vanessa Perez, City Councilmember, District VII

State Representative:

Mr. David M. Salazar, Jr. P.E., TxDOT District Engineer

Private Sector Representative (Member at Large):

Mr. Humberto "Tito" Gonzalez, Jr., P.E.

Ex-Officio Representatives:

Honorable Judith Zaffirini, State Senator, District 21
Honorable Richard Raymond, State Representative, District 42
Honorable Tracy O. King, State Representative, District 80

AGENDA REVIEWED:

Juan S. Mendive,
LWCAMPO Interim Director

Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
Laredo City Secretary

LAREDO & WEBB COUNTY
AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17TH, 2021

LIVE WEB LINK: http://laredotx.swagit.com/live
PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL: Spectrum TV channel 1300

I. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Pete Saenz, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL ROLL

Graciela Briones, LWCAMPO Staff, called roll and verified a quorum existed.

Regular members present:
Honorable Pete Saenz, Mayor and LWCAMPO Chairperson
Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge
Honorable Ruben Gutierrez, Jr., City Councilmember, District V
Honorable Vanessa Perez, City Councilmember, District VII (joined the meeting at 1:37 p.m.)
Humberto "Tito" Gonzalez, Jr., P.E., Private Sector
Honorable Dr. Marte A. Martinez, City Councilmember, District VI
David M. Salazar, Jr., P.E., TxDOT District Engineer (joined the meeting at 1:37 p.m.)

Regular members not present:
Honorable Jesse Gonzalez, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 1
Honorable John Galo, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 3

Judge Tijerina made a motion to **excuse** members not present.

Second:	Dr. Martinez
For:	5
Against:	0
Abstained:	0

Motion carried unanimously

Ex-Officio members <u>not</u> present:
Honorable Judith Zaffirini, State Senator, District 21
Honorable Richard Raymond, State Representative, District 42
Honorable Tracy O. King, State Representative, District 80

LWCAMPO Staff present:
Juan Mendive, LWCAMPO Interim Director
Graciela Briones, LWCAMPO Planner
Jason Hinojosa, LWCAMPO Planner
Julio Niño, LWCAMPO Planner
Angie Quijano, LWCAMPO Administrative Assistant

Others:
Danny Magee, City Traffic Safety Department
Ramon Chavez, City Engineering Department
Luis Perez Garcia, Webb County Engineering
Sara Garza, TxDOT
Jed Brown, RMA
Melisa Montemayor, HNTB, Inc.
Eddie Bernal, Transit, El Metro
Jose Almazan, UISD

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

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There were no citizen comments.

IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION:

A. Approval of the minutes for the meeting held on October 20th, 2021.

Dr. Martinez made a motion to **<u>approve</u>** the minutes of October 20th, 2021.

Second: Judge Tijerina

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Martinez made a motion to **move up** item #V-A.

Second: Judge Tijerina
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

V. REPORT(S) AND PRESENTATIONS (No action required).

A. Status report by the Regional Mobility Authority (RMA).

Jedd Brown, RMA, gave a brief status report on the RMA which was as follows:

1. FM 1472 and Killam Industrial Blvd. Turn Lanes – NTP for the contractor was provided by TxDOT at the end June. Currently, Anderson Columbia is working from Big Bend to South of Killam Industrial Blvd. The Killam Turn Lanes portion of the project and the northern portion of the project is scheduled to commence on the week of the 7th of December.
2. Los Presidentes (Cuatro Vientos to Brownwood) – Construction is ongoing. Our 5th construction progress meeting is scheduled for 11/23/21. Currently, the project is scheduled for completion in June 2022. The schedule by the contractor is being updated to reflect the high amount of inclement weather encountered during the summer months of 2021. Regarding the Cuatro Vientos Acceleration/ Deceleration Lane project, the project was awarded to Anderson Columbia in October 2021. We anticipate construction to commence in early 2022.
3. Vallecillo Road – We are continuing to communicate with officials from the Texas Transportation Commission and higher regarding the importance of the project to the Laredo Greater Area and the State.
4. Other Items:

    - The WCCL RMA conducted their November Board Meeting on 11/16/21.
    - The WCCL RMA is anticipating a Board meeting for the month of December.

He stated that the RMA had already selected the firm that would be working on the traffic study for the Webb County Fairgrounds project. He also stated that the RMA board had approved a resolution for the RMA to participate with the MPO on the River Road project. Details of the proposed study were provided by Mr. Brown and Ms. Montemayor.

David Salazar, TxDOT, joined the meeting at 1:37 p.m.
Cm. Vanessa Perez joined the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

Juan Mendive, Interim MPO Director, stated the he would need to check the eligibility of using transportation planning funds for the proposed River Road alternative analysis study.

David Salazar, TxDOT, asked for clarification regarding $250,000 cost of the study which was identified as a cost-plus project.

Melisa Montemayor, HNTB, Inc., stated the consultant would only charge their time to the project. If the project would be $200,000 based on the rates and the time within the study, then that would be the charge. The maximum would be $250,000.

Cm. Perez, asked if there was any past work that had been looked at particularly for said road.

Ms. Montemayor stated that the material that had been recently presented, had been a concept of what the typical section would be and would also need to look at other constraints and alternatives.

Cm. Perez asked if the expansion of the world trade bridge and outlets would be alleviating some of the traffic that is going on now. She stated she believed this project would most likely be the only way to alleviate traffic on FM 1472.

Mr. Mendive stated that the MPO supported the River Road project and the Technical Committee recommended that the MPO explore options with the RMA, but he expressed that staff needs to verify which funds could be used for the proposed study.

Cm. Ruben Gutierrez left the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

Judge Tijerina made a motion to request a list of all the studies that have been done by the MPO in the past eight years.

Second:	Cm. Perez
For:	6
Against:	0
Abstained:	0

Motion carried unanimously

Ramon Chavez, City Engineer, showed a map of a conceptual river road route study layout from 2016. He stated he would be doing a little bit or more research and try and find out if there was any additional information that they can provide to the RMA.

Mayor Saenz requested to have the River Road project item on every month's agenda.

Dr. Martinez left the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION:

B. Discussion with possible action to provide a letter of support for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) FY 2021 Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant application being submitted by the City of Laredo and El Metro for the construction and completion of Phase I of the Transit Administration, Operations, and Fleet Maintenance Facility.

Mayor Saenz and Judge Tijerina expressed their support for the grant application and mentioned they had both signed and submitted letters of support to El Metro.

This item was brought back later in the meeting as a formality in order to take action.

C. Discussion with possible action on the Hachar-Reuthinger Road project.

Humberto Gonzalez, TxDOT, gave a brief update and stated TxDOT was still working on the environmental clearance and was projected in about 6-8 months to have environmental clearance. He also stated that a public meeting would need to be held approximately in March of 2022 as part of the process to obtain environmental clearance.

Mayor Saenz asked for confirmation that the land owners are prepared to donate the right-of-way.

Ramon Chavez, City Engineer, stated as far was right-of-way was concerned, City Engineering had received the scan recorded deed documents from Verde Corp. and confirmed that now they are only dealing with two property owners. Mr. Chavez stated that introductory letters have been sent to the property owners as part of the TxDOT requirements.

D. Discussion with possible action on the proposal to use the sub-allocation of approximately $2.3 million of Highway Infrastructure Programs – Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (HIP-CRRSAA) funds for the Hachar-Reuthinger road project.

Juan Mendive, Interim MPO Director, gave a brief presentation on the item.

Cm. Perez made motion to **approve** the item.

Second: Mayor Saenz
For: 6
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Judge Tijerina made a motion to **move up** item #IV-B.

Second: Cm. Perez
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion with possible action to provide a letter of support for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) FY 2021 Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant application being submitted by the City of Laredo and El Metro for the construction and completion of Phase I of the Transit Administration, Operations, and Fleet Maintenance Facility.

Judge Tijerina made a motion to **approve** the letter of support for the FTA FY 2021 Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant.

Second: Cm. Perez
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

VI. REPORT(S) AND PRESENTATIONS (No action required).

A. Update by MPO staff of an administrative modification to the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to reflect letting date changes from FY 2021 to FY 2022 on four projects:

- **a. CSJ 0922-33-181 - ADA Bus Stops and Bicycle Plazas**
- **b. CSJ 0922-33-076 – FM1472/Flecha Lane**
- **c. CSJ 0922-33-093 – Calton and Santa Maria Interchange**

d. CSJ 0922-33-177 – River Vega Trail

Mr. Mendive gave a brief presentation on the item and stated there was no action required. He stated the item was put on the agenda for informational purposes considering that changing the letting date within the TIP years does not require a formal revision.

VII. DIRECTOR's COMMENTS

Mr. Mendive gave a brief presentation on the item which read as follows:

1. On August 24, 2021, we were informed that the audit of the Laredo Webb County Area MPO by TxDOT is programmed for FY22 and should begin in November 2021. Additional updates will be provided as they become available.

2. On October 28th, MPO staff met with the consultant team helping the City of Laredo with the World Trade Bridge expansion project. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the necessary requirements to add the project to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The MPO continues to monitor new developments related to the World Trade Bridge expansion and the proposed International Bridge 4/5.

3. Upcoming regularly scheduled meetings:

- Active Transportation Committee – December 1, 2021 (proposed)
- Technical Committee – December 7, 2021
- Policy Committee – December 15, 2021

4. MPO and El Metro staff continue meeting with the consultants conducting the Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA). This project is in the final stages, with presentations to the MPO committees tentatively scheduled for January. The COA is intended to evaluate both the current fixed route and paratransit bus services, and provide recommendations to improve the system's overall service, efficiency, effectiveness, and connectivity.

5. TxDOT Transportation Planning and Programming Division – Traffic Analysis staff provided the MPO with the 2013-2045 Laredo travel demand model (TDM) to support long-range planning activities for the Laredo Webb County metropolitan planning area. MPO staff met with TxDOT's Transportation Planning and Programming staff from the Austin office to discuss the model and next steps to incorporate scenario planning for proposed projects. They also discussed a timeline in preparation for the transportation demand modeling activities as part of the 2025-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Judge Tijerina made a motion to **adjourn** the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

Second:	Cm. Perez
For:	5
Against:	0
Abstained:	0

Motion carried unanimously

_____	_____
Juan S. Mendive	Pete Saenz, Mayor and LWCAMPO
Interim LWCAMPO Director	Chairperson

IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION:

B. Discussion with possible action regarding the extension of Cuatro Vientos Blvd./Loop 20 to Rio Bravo, and any others matters incident thereto. (Dr. Marte Martinez)

C. Discussion with possible action on the River Road project.

D. Discussion with possible action on the Hachar-Reuthinger Road project.

RIDE EL METRO,
LOVE EL METRO!

EL METRO COMPREHENSIVE OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS

ELMETRO

LAREDO & WEBB COUNTY
AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MEETING AGENDA

Project Scope

Outreach and Engagement Summary

Background and Existing Performance Review

Short-Term Network Recommendations

Long-Term Recommendations

Supporting Recommendations and KPIs

Next Steps

PROJECT SCOPE

A plan to optimize and improve El Metro's services regarding:

- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Routes
- Schedules
- Frequency
- Accessibility

Task 1: Stakeholder Engagement
  - First round of public engagement
  - Second round of public engagement
  - Third round of public engagement

Task 2: Background Data Analysis

Task 3: System Efficiency and Effectiveness Review

Task 4: Gap Analysis

Task 5: El Metro Network Plan

Task 6: Supporting Recommendations

Task 7: Implementation Plan

Task 8: Scheduling and Run Cutting

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

ROUND 1 | Listening

370+ online surveys
- 231 El Metro riders
- 119 non-riders
- 21 El Lift riders

Virtual public meeting

3 stakeholder and focus group meetings with:
- advocacy groups
- active transportation and community development organizations
- college representatives
- public officials and other leaders

ROUND 2 | Creating

Downtown Transit Center Pop-up
- 35+ riders

Stakeholder meeting:
- Council members
- El Metro executive leadership
- Representatives of City of Laredo Public Works
- Laredo MPO
- City of Laredo Engineering Department
- South Texas Development Council

ROUND 3 | Informing

Texas A&M International University Pop-Up
- 30+ students

Stakeholder meeting

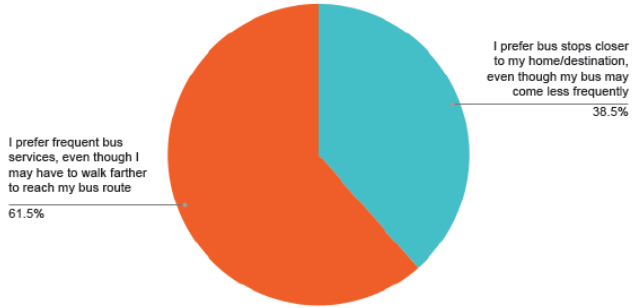
Downtown Transit Center Pop-up
- 30+ riders

Riders

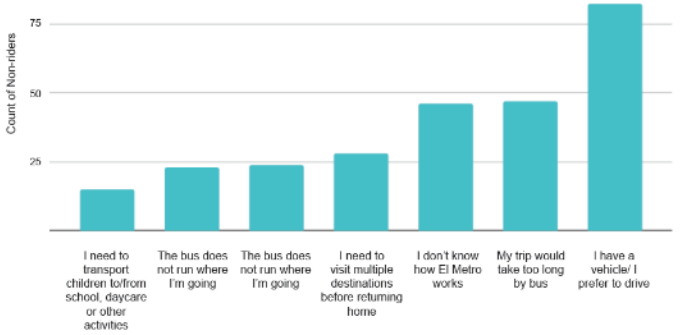
Non-Riders

RIDER PRIORITIES

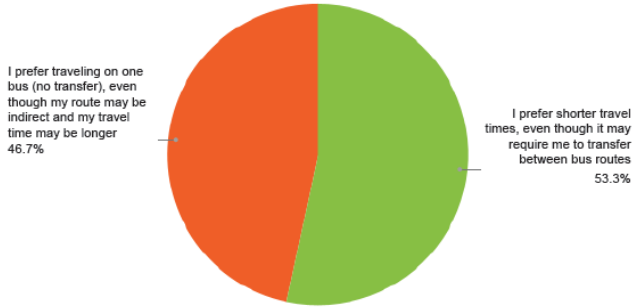
Frequency and Walking Distance



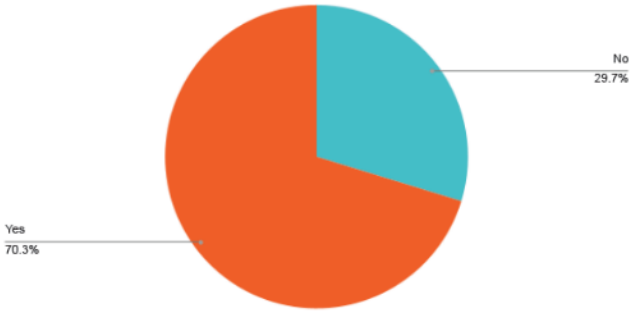
Reasons for not using El Metro



Travel Time and Transfers



Knowledge of nearest bus stop



PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Key Topics:

- Low frequency of existing routes
- Lack of pedestrian infrastructure and crossings (unsafe access to transit)
- Land use should support transit
- Desire for app to purchase fares
- Accessibility improvements for people with a disability
- Greater community education is needed to increase awareness of El Metro services and how to ride
- Coordination with local and regional stakeholders/plans

BACKGROUND & EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS

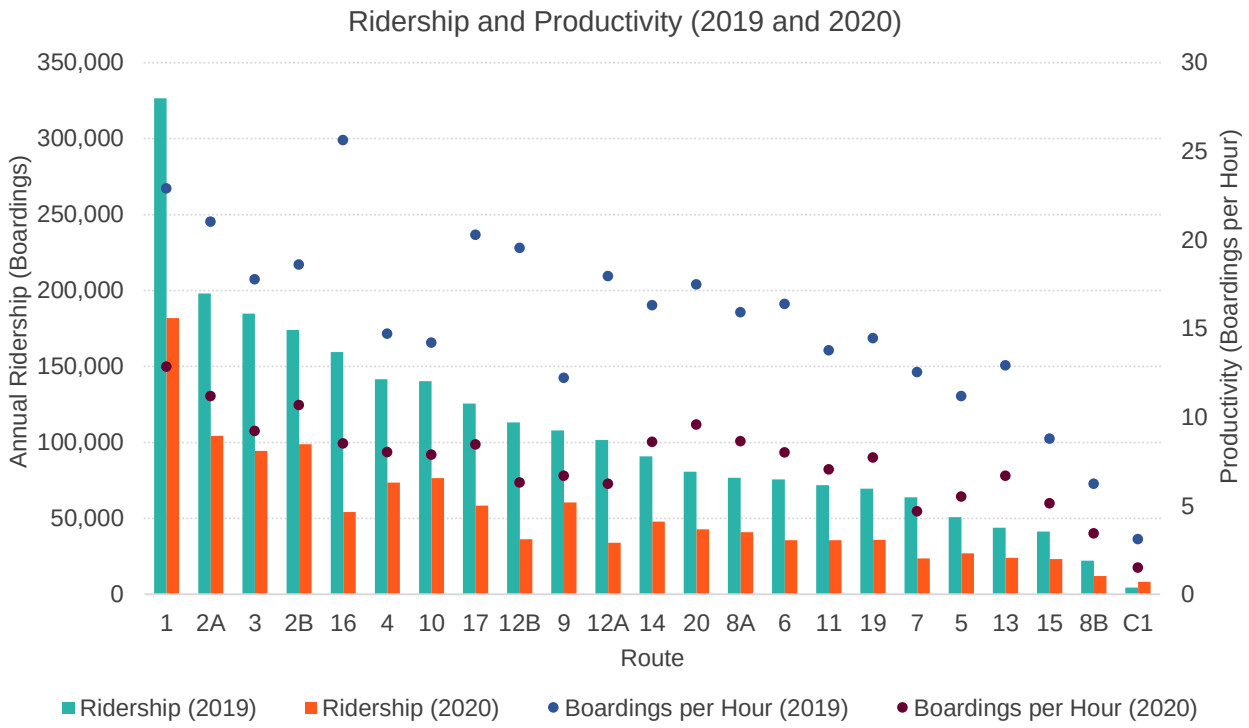
- Laredo's **older core is dense and mixed-use**, providing good conditions for productive transit. Otherwise, **post-WWII developments are designed with vehicles in mind**—not easy for transit to serve effectively

- **Three key routes** that are the most frequent carry **27% of ridership**

- El Metro's key markets are **transit critical populations, students, seniors, and people with few alternatives** to transit for mobility needs.

RIDERSHIP AND PRODUCTIVITY

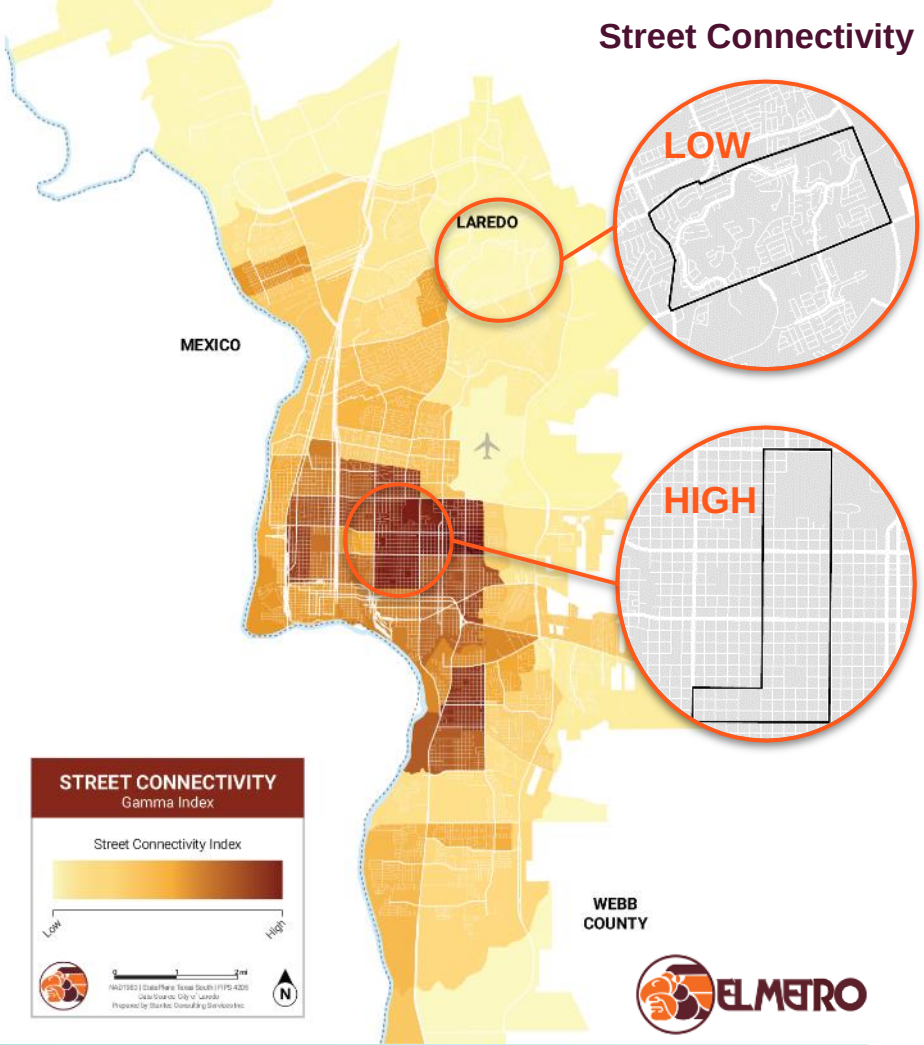
- 4 routes carry nearly 1/3 of all ridership
- The most productive routes are 16 and 1
- The routes with the greatest ridership in 2019 also had the greatest ridership in 2020



CHALLENGES

Rail Crossings

Street Connectivity



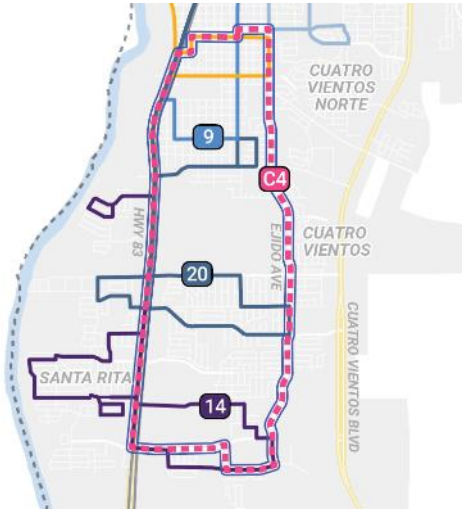
EL METRO NETWORK PLAN
VISION AND OBJECTIVES

- STRENGTHEN CORE SERVICES
- SIMPLIFY THE NETWORK
- MATCH SERVICE LEVELS WITH DEMAND
- ATTRACT RIDERS TO TRANSIT
- PLAN FOR THE FUTURE
- MAKE TRANSIT INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE
- CREATE SEAMLESS CONNECTIONS

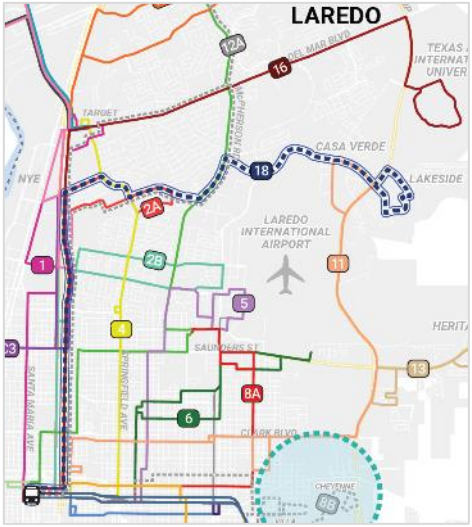
SHORT-TERM NETWORK RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPOSED NETWORK MAP

New circulator C4



New route to Lakeside, route 18



Potential microtransit concept to replace 8B

FEATURES

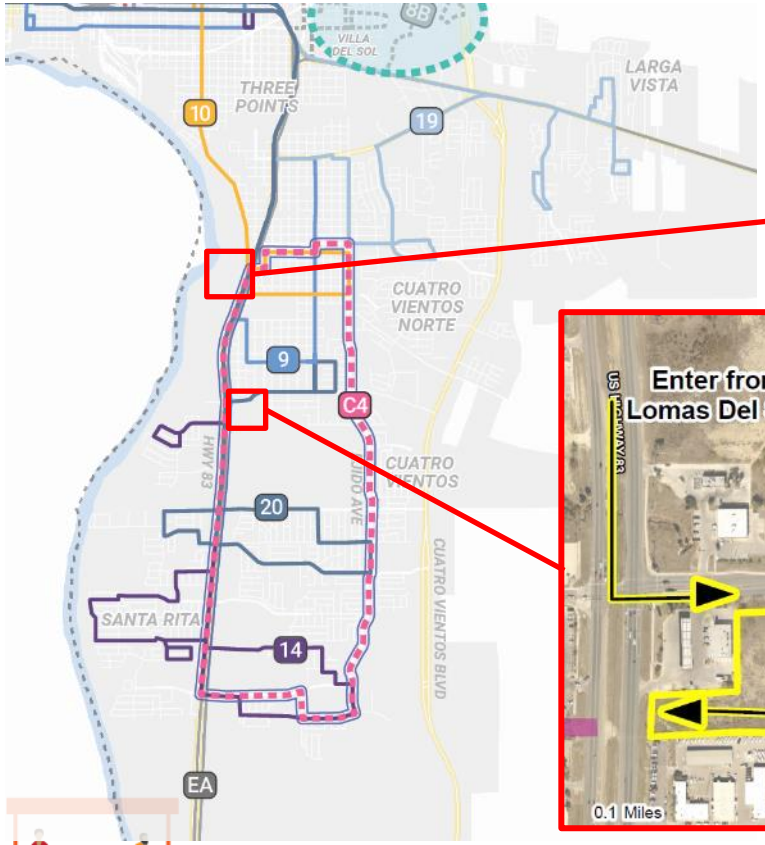
- More areas served
- Now serving Lakeside, Jacaman Rd, Cuatro Vientos, Ejido Ave
- New circulator (C4) and microtransit services

LONG TERM NEEDS: NORTH HUB

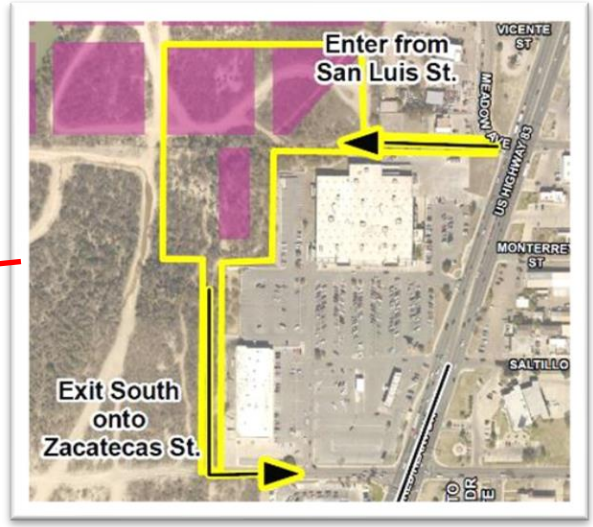
PURPOSE

- To facilitate transfers between bus lines that is accessible
- Better waiting experience for customers
- Multimodal hub

LONG TERM NEEDS: SOUTH HUB



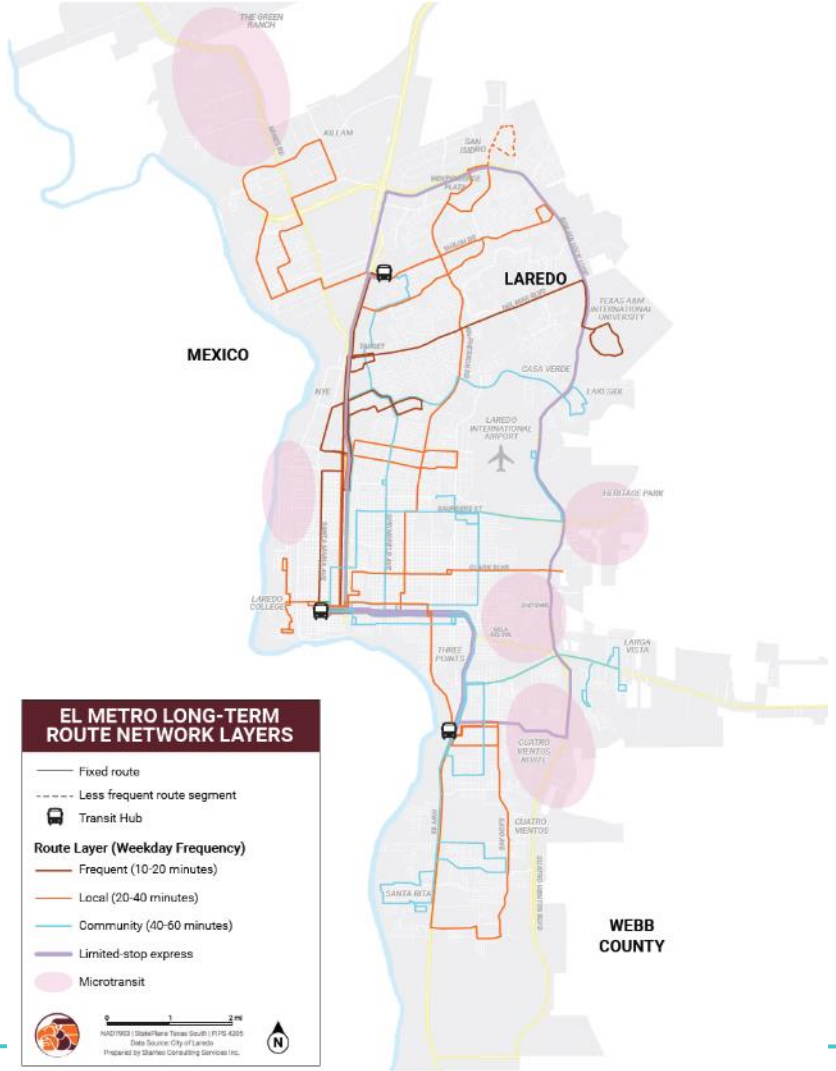
Option 1



Option 2

LONG-TERM NETWORK CONCEPTS

PROPOSED CONCEPT



FEATURES

- Uses pulsing at multiple hubs to support shorter waiting times, more access to opportunities, improved frequency on key routes
- Simplifies routing, reduces redundancy, and adopts a service hierarchy to enhance legibility of the network
- Leverages ‘family of services’—fixed-route, paratransit AND microtransit
- Maintains productive routes of current network (like routes 1, 2A/B, 16, etc.)

EL METRO COA PLAN
GOALS

IMPROVE TRANSIT SERVICE – incrementally improve transit service through strategic actions targeting reliability and frequency, while preparing for network restructuring after open new hubs

ENHANCE THE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE – to help grow ridership, El Metro needs to focus on riders as customers. Improve waiting conditions, trip planning and wayfinding, and rationalizing the fare structure.

EXPAND EL METRO'S VALUE TO LAREDO – foster a transit-first vision through collaboration with city partners and community organizations

SUPPORTING RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Improve Transit Service	B. Enhance Customer Service	C. Expand El Metro's Value to Laredo
1. Implement route adjustments 2. Create data collection and usage plan 3. Develop and adopt transit service guidelines 4. Pilot microtransit services 5. Establish transit priority infrastructure task force 6. Develop NextGen bus network 7. Address shortcomings with El Lift	1. Develop bus stop program 2. Conduct a fare strategy and revenue study 3. Improve accessibility for all ages and abilities and improve customer service 4. Improve trip planning tools	1. Implement branding and marketing plan 2. Implement working group of El Metro staff and city partners 3. Implement partnership programs for passes and transportation 4. Expand El Metro's internal resources and capacity

MEASURING PERFORMANCE

A. IMPROVE TRANSIT SERVICE
• Increase average speed • Improve frequency and span of service • Increase access to destinations
B. ENHANCE THE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE
• Increase ridership and boardings per revenue hour • Increase customer satisfaction and on-time performance • Increase vehicles in good state of repair • Increase percent of stops and vehicles that are ADA-compliant • Decrease travel cost as a share of income
C. EXPAND EL METRO'S VALUE TO LAREDO
• Increase transit mode share • Increase operating and capital funding per capita/decrease net cost per passenger boarding • Increase partnerships with local stakeholders • Increase fare programs with local employers and school districts • Increase percent jobs and population within ½-mile of frequent transit service • Decrease per capita VMT

KEY NEXT STEPS

- Scheduling and run cutting of short-term network proposals
- Revise plan and/or schedules (incorporating feedback from El Metro and MPO)
- Present to Mass Transit Board for adoption
- Implement short-term route recommendations

Thank you and discussions

TEAM

El Metro Staff

Sasha Pejcic Project Manager
Brian Putre Deputy Project Manager
Michele Colley Task Lead
David Verbich Task Lead

Mario Pena Principal
Viviana Frank Principal
Frank Rotnofsky Principal
Leslie Aboumrad Project Manager
Paola Sofia Fernandez Community Engagement
Brenda Tijerina Community Engagement

V. REPORT(S) AND PRESENTATIONS (No action required).

B. Presentation by TxDOT and the FY 2023 Unified Transportation Program project selection.

Plans and Studies conducted by or for the MPO

Date	Name of Study	Description/Objective	Prepared by
2000	Corridors & Intersections Analysis	To study and develop transportation solutions for thirty-one intersections within the City of Laredo.	Carter & Brugess, Inc.
2001	Laredo Corridors & Intersection Analysis Ph. II	To study and develop transportation solutions for twenty-six intersections within the City of Laredo.	Carter & Brugess, Inc.
2001	Laredo Comprehensive Mobility Plan	This plan documents the existing conditions, at-grade crossing analyses, improvement recommendations, estimated costs, and implementation schedule for improving existing railroad grade crossings in the Laredo area.	Wilbur Smith Associates
2003	Bus Rapid Transit Transit Plan	The primary objective of the study is to develop a feasible plan for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service and facilities for the Laredo Urban Area	PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF
2003	Travel Time and Delay Survey	The purpose of this technical summary is to describe the results of the analysis of data collected as part of the travel time and delay survey conducted in Laredo, Texas in February of 2002.	Texas Transportation Institute (TTI)
2004	Commercial Vehicle Survey	To provide data that will enable TxDOT to forecast total commercial vehicle travel demand within the urban area and to predict routing of commercial vehicles on the road network.	Alliance Transportation Group, Inc.
2005	Railroad Quiet Zone Analysis	The purpose of this analysis is to identify potential New Quiet Zones that may be established in the City of Laredo.	Wilbur Smith Associates
2006	Laredo River Road Corridor Study	To conduct a feasibility study concerning the construction of a road (River Road) that would run parallel to the Rio Grande River in Laredo, TX. This proposed roadway corridor would connect the existing portion of River Road to Mines Road to the north and US 83 to the south.	Alliance Transportation Group, Inc.
2006	Railroad Quiet Zone Study	To evaluate the railroad crossings in the City in order to determine what measures might be appropriate to establish Quiet Zones.	Wilbur Smith Associates
2007	San Bernardo Ave. Renovation Restoration Project	To provide a set of recommendations for redeveloping the San Bernardo Avenue corridor into a Specialized Development District that can both maintain its function as an arterial street serving the downtown area, and transforming San Bernardo Avenue into a pedestrian-friendly destination corridor.	Alliance Transportation Group, Inc./ Land Design Studio/Puig Eng., LLC.

2007	US 83 Improvement Study (Updated)	The US 83 Improvement Study will develop potential operational and design alternatives that will help alleviate peak hour traffic congestion for US 83 within the study area (CSJ# 0038-01-057)	RJ Rivera Associates, Inc.
2008	2007 Texas Border Crossing Travel Time Study	This report summarizes the results of the 2007 Texas Border Crossing Travel Surveys and vehicle classification counts conducted at Texas border with Mexico and the states of New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana.	Texas Transportation Institute (TTI)
2008	City of Laredo Downtown Signalization Report	To perform a comprehensive traffic study for the City's downtown street network. The project will encompass that area within the downtown area to include the boundaries between IH35 (San Dario Avenue) on the east and Santa Isabel Avenue on the west, Washington Street on the north and River Road on the south.	Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
2008	Laredo Traffic Calming and Access Management Workshop Report	Workshop for the Laredo transportation planning community, school districts, emergency response agencies, and other interested parties to discuss how traffic calming and access management measures can help reduce the volume and speed of traffic on local streets, particularly near residential areas, schools, churches, parks and recreational facilities and other public spaces. And, to improve traffic operations along arterials by limiting unrestricted access near retail and business areas.	RJ Rivera Associates, Inc.
2009	Laredo Transit Development Plan	The Laredo Transit Development Plan (TDP) sets out a five-year program of improvements to serve the public transportation needs within the Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization boundary. The TDP included the following elements: A passenger intercept survey of El Metro passengers, conducted at the Transit Center in downtown Laredo. A boarding and alighting survey, conducted on board El Metro buses. Analysis of recent performance of transit services in the area, especially El Metro, the fixed-route transit system, and El Lift, the primary paratransit service. Data are also provided on El Aguila, the rural fixed-route and paratransit provider. Recommendation of improvements that can be accomplished within the next five years, and a suggested timetable for their accomplishment.	Parsons Brinckerhoff Americas Inc.
2010	McPherson Road Mobility and Capacity Study	The objective of this study is to evaluate existing and projected traffic conditions on McPherson Road between Loop 20 and US Highway 59 (Saunders Street) to develop recommendations for mobility improvements, which may include, but would not be limited to the following Traffic Signal System Synchronization, Access Management (Reduce Conflict Points), Alternative Parallel Traffic Routes, One-Way Side Street Pairing.	WilburSmith Associates/Puig Engineering, LCC.
2011	Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study	To assess the feasibility of implementing Bus Rapid Transit service (BRT).	ARCADIS US, Inc.

2011	Del Mar Boulevard Corridor Study	To evaluate Del Mar Boulevard and identify mobility improvements. This study includes collection of sufficient information to measure, evaluate, and identify a range of mobility tool concepts that will improve mobility and safety. These tools are designed to reduce travel delay, reduce crash rates, improve pedestrian and transit mobility, enhance land use, enhance the aesthetic character of the corridor, and promote economic vitality along the corridor.	Alliance Transportation Group, Inc.
2013	El Lift Assessment Technical Report	This Technical Report presents the observations, data collected, and analysis of the Collaborative, Inc. team (the team) used to develop the 2013 ADA Paratransit Plan Update for El Metro.	The Collaborative, Inc.
2014	Congestion Management Process	To serve as an organized and transparent way for our planning area to indentify and manage congestion, connect performance measures to support funding for projects, and evaluate recommended strategies to ensure we are effectively addressing congestion.	MPO Staff (in-House)
2015	Kansas City Southern Railroad Quiet Zone Study	To evaluate and recommend improvements at highway-rail grade crossings located along the KCSR. This project is an update to the Quiet Zone plan prepared in 2006 by Wilbur Smith and Associates.	Kimley-Horn and Associates (KHA)
2015	Congestion and Delay Study	To evaluate the transportation system and prepare a report as part of the Congestion Management Process (CMP) in compliance with the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) requirements.	CoPLAN
2016	FM 1472 Analysis	To conduct an analysis of approximately 5.25 miles along the FM1472 (Mines Rd) cooridor from Loop 20 (now called IH69W) and FM 3338 (Las Tiendas Road). The purpose of the analysis was to identify potential short-term, medium-range, and long-range improvements along the corridor.	Texas Transportation Institute (TTI)
2016	El Metro Transit Development Plan	To provide a new Comprehensive Five Year Transit Development Plan (TDP), which will evaluate existing El Metro fixed route services and provide practical recommendations for maximizing route efficiencies and service in the Laredo region.	CDM Smith
2018	Laredo Mobility Study	The purpose of the Laredo Mobility Study is to identify potential grade separations, grade crossing closures, railroad relocations, or other transportation system improvements along railroad corridors in the City of Laredo.	TxDOT
2019	Kansas City Southern Railroad Quiet Zone Study	To evaluate and recommend improvements at highway-rail grade crossings located along the KCSR. This project is an update to the Quiet Zone plan prepared in 2006 by Wilbur Smith and Associates.	Kimley-Horn and Associates (KHA)
2019	Bicycle and Pedestrian Masterplan	The plan provides guidance for the development and implementation of an interconnected network of designated on and off street bicycle facilities.	Nelson NYGAARD

2021	Active Transportation Plan (ATC)	To enhance mobility in the region by providing safe, accessible, and alternate modes of transportation for the future of Laredo and Webb County citizens. The Active Transportation Plan provides a set of active transportation policy and project recommendations as well as a strategic framework for implementation.	MPO Staff (in-House)
2021	Laredo Transit Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA)	A plan to optimize and improve El Metro's services regarding: • Efficiency and Effectiveness, • Routes, • Schedules, • Frequency and • Accessibility.	Stantec Consulting Services, Inc./ Able City

Note: Required Five-Year updates of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan not listed.

Other Plans and Studies*

Date	Name of Study
2002	South Meadow Ave. Overpass Improvements Feasibility Study
2006	El Portal Circulation Study
2006	Route Analysis Study
2006	City of Laredo - Railroad Relocation Feasibility Study
2006	South Texas Planning Region Public Transportation Coordination Plan
2007	Feasibility Study and Environmental Constraints Report West Laredo Corridor Phase II Realignment of Flecha Lane and Las Cruces Drive along FM 1472.
2011	Laredo Downtown Master Plan
2011	San Bernardo Ave. Corridor
2012	Laredo District Border Master Plan
2013	San Bernardo Sidewalks
2014	Laredo International Airport Master Plan Study Update
2014	The Hachar Loop Feasibility Study
2016	Texas Freight Mobility Plan
2017	VIVA Laredo - City of laredo Comprehensive Plan
2018	Railroad Quiet Zone Study
2018	Laredo Trade Numbers
2019	City of Laredo Downtown Parking Study
2020	Quiet Zone Implementation Project.
N/A	Texas-Mexico Border Transportation Master Plan

**Other Plans and Studies (Non-MPO) relevant to transportation planning.*

Team, please see the update below. Please include in the Policy Committee packet.

1. FM 1472 and Killam Industrial Blvd. Turn Lanes – NTP for the contractor was provided by TxDOT at the end June. Currently, Anderson Columbia is working from Big Bend to South of Killam Industrial Blvd. The Killam Turn Lanes portion of the project and the northern potion of the project began on the week of the 7th of December. The first Construction Progress Meeting is on the 16th of December.
2. Los Presidentes (Cuatro Vientos to Brownwood) – Construction is ongoing. Our 5th construction progress meeting was held on 11/23/21. Currently, the project is scheduled for completion in June 2022. **The project is 55% to 57% complete**. Regarding the Cuatro Vientos Acceleration/ Deceleration Lane project, the project was awarded to Anderson Columbia in October 2021. We anticipate construction to commence in early 2022.
3. Vallecillo Road – We are continuing to communicate with officials from the Texas Transportation Commission and higher regarding the importance of the project to the Laredo Greater Area and the State.
4. Other Items:

    - The WCCL RMA conducted their November Board Meeting on 11/16/21.
    - The WCCL RMA will conduct a Transportation Reinvestment Zone Workshop for the full WCCL RMA Board, members of City Council, members of Commissioners Court and members of the MPO staff on 12/17/21.
    - The WCCL RMA is anticipating a Board meeting for the month of January.

If you have any other questions, please let us know. I hope you have a great day.

Antonio Rodriguez, PE
WCCL RMA GEC Deputy Program Manager
Cell (512) 800-0382

LAREDO & WEBB COUNTY
AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Director's Report
December 15, 2021

1. The MPO is coordinating with TxDOT to add the World Trade Bridge Expansion project to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Inclusion of the project in the TIP, STIP, and Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) would allow participation and oversight of the environmental clearance process by FHWA and TxDOT.

2. As requested by the Policy Committee, quarterly reports by City of Laredo staff on the Flecha Lane (CSJ 0922-33-076) and Calton and Santa Maria Interchange (CSJ 0922-33-093) projects will begin in January 2022.

3. MPO staff continues to coordinate with Bill Frawley of the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) on the ongoing MPO process review as well as with all appropriate parties.

4. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was passed by Congress and signed by the President on November 15, 2021. MPO staff will continue to review guidance related to the new law with specific attention to new requirements relevant to MPOs as well as new funding opportunities.

5. Upcoming regularly scheduled meetings:
   - Technical Committee – January 11, 2022
   - Policy Committee – January 19, 2022
   - Active Transportation Committee – January 26, 2022