

**WEBB COUNTY – CITY OF LAREDO
REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY BOARD**

WC-CL RMA Board of Directors Meeting
LCA Engineering
10410 Medical Loop, Suite 1A
Rio Grande Conference Room
Laredo, Texas 78045
September 23, 2025

BOARD MINUTES

The Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA) Board met at the above time and place. The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m. WC-CL RMA Board Chairman Jed A. Brown present and presiding. The following Board members were present:

Jed A. Brown
Douglas B. Howland
Oscar Lopez
Jose Murillo
Alfonso Mendiola

Directors Arturo Dominguez and Diana Palacios arrived after the meeting was called to order. Board Members Antonio Arce and David Garcia were absent.

AGENDA

1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer Jed A. Brown called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. Chairman Brown notified everyone present that a notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and then asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Welcome of Board Members – Jed Brown (WC-CL RMA Presiding Office)

Chairman Brown informed all present that the meeting was being recorded and thanked LJA Engineering for hosting the meeting.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Open Public Forum/Comment Period.

No public comments to report.

5. Action Item: Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action concerning the Approval of the June 4, 2025 WC-CL RMA Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Motion to approve the June 4, 2025 WC-CL RMA Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by: Jose Murillo

Second by: Alfonso Mendiola

Discussion: No discussion was held

In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

6. Chair's Report

A. Compliance Calendar Update

Chair provided a status report regarding the Compliance Calendar noting that financial statements were submitted on time and further noting that October 1 will be a new fiscal year.

7. Presentations

A. Financial Report

Oscar Lopez, Treasurer, presented the financial report as of June 2025. The total cash available from various accounts is \$10,693,874.63. Investments of various treasury bonds and fixed income investments total \$2,275,721.62. Account receivables with a total of \$787,108.05 and accounts payables/liabilities total \$495,365.20. Total assets amount to \$13,756,704.30. Total bank balance at the end of June is \$957,704.94

B. Status Report on Vehicle Registration Fees (VRF's)

The amount of VRF funds that were received and paid to the WC-CL RMA at the end of June is \$673,270.

C. Financial Investment Planning Report

Treasurer and Investment Officer Oscar Lopez presented the Investment Officer report for the period of April 1 to June 30, 2025. He provided highlights, including a 2,180.95 balance in a money market account at Commerce Bank, and a certificate of deposit valued at \$2,202,389.01. The investment account at the end of the period totaled \$9,789,262.35 and ended at \$9,692,262.61 (including accrued interest). Detailed activity on interest earned, matured investments, and purchases are included in the report.

Chairman Brown thanked Mr. Lopez for his work, noting the report's thoroughness and expressing appreciation for his service as Investment Officer. No questions were raised.

Motion: Motion to accept Financial Report, Status Report on VRF and Financial Investment Report as presented.
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: Diana Palacios
Discussion: No discussion was held
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

8. **Action Item (Resolution 25-12): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to amend Chapter 2 of the WC-CL RMA Policy Code regarding procurement procedures for professional services on federally funded projects.**

Chairman Brown introduced the item and provided background regarding recent discussions with TxDOT involving federal funding compliance requirements. He explained that while the RMA's procurement procedures were already compliant with federal law, TxDOT requested that certain provisions be explicitly stated in writing within the RMA's policy code. To ensure future clarity and prevent similar issues, the proposed amendment would align the RMA's written policies with federal procurement standards.

Brian O'Reilley, legal counsel, further clarified that the amendment reflects procedures the RMA already follows and simply incorporates the federal language verbatim into the policy code to satisfy TxDOT's documentation requirements.

A motion to approve the amendment to Chapter 2 of the WC-CL RMA Policy Code as presented was made by Mr. Lopez and seconded by Mr. Mendiola. Following a point of order raised by Ms. Lisa Paul to clarify that the approval applies to the amendment as presented in the board packet, the motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Motion to Approve Resolution 25-12
Moved by: Oscar Lopez

Second by: Alfonso Mendiola
Discussion: No discussion was held
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

9. Action Item (Resolution 25-13): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Work Authorization No. 5.0 with LJA Engineering, Inc. for the Cuatros Vientos TRZ Implementation.

Melisa Montemayor, LJA Engineering, presented the item, providing background on the Cuatros Vientos Tax Reinvestment Zone (TRZ). He explained that the TRZ study had been completed previously and that this next phase would move the project into implementation. LJA Engineering will continue its partnership with TXP to lead the implementation efforts, including project management, refinement of the TRZ boundaries, and stakeholder outreach with landowners.

Ms. Montemayor noted that the total cost of the project is approximately \$100,000, with \$70,000 allocated between TXP and LJA Engineering, and an additional \$30,000 estimated from the Lock Board. He clarified that half of the costs will be shared with the City of Laredo.

Chairman Brown added that coordination with the City will be essential, especially following recent staff changes. He emphasized maintaining the project timeline to ensure adoption before December 31, 2025, aligning with the tax roll schedule. Board members discussed how TRZ funds are derived from existing property tax increments rather than additional taxes, and how the City will determine the percentage allocated to the tax increment account.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Mendiola, seconded by Mr. Dominguez, to approve Resolution 25-13, approving Work Authorization No. 5.0 with LJA Engineering, Inc. for the Cuatros Vientos TRZ Implementation. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Motion to Approve Resolution 25-13
Moved by: Alfonso Mendiola
Second by: Arturo Dominguez
Discussion: No discussion was held
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

10. Action Item (Resolution 25-14): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 2.2 with LJA Engineering for an extension of time for the North Laredo TRZ Financial Feasibility Study.

Melisa Montemayor with LJA Engineering presented the item, explaining that the

extension would move the project deadline to December 31, 2026, with no change in payment terms or services. She emphasized the importance of beginning the study now to capture future tax increments before development occurs in North Laredo, as only post study developments qualify for inclusion in the TRZ tax increment.

Chairman Brown inquired about the timeline and whether the study and implementation could be expedited. Ms. Montemayor responded that the proposed schedule is realistic given the number of stakeholders involved—approximately 80 to 100 property owners—and the coordination required for meetings and data collection. She noted that delays primarily resulted from the city’s legal review and execution of the Interlocal Agreement (ILA).

Chairman Brown emphasized the need to move forward promptly, noting that Councilmember Vanessa Perez, whose district includes the area, has requested updates. He also suggested briefing the City’s new liaison once hired to ensure continuity and understanding of the project’s purpose and history. Board members discussed the potential for changes in City leadership by 2026 and agreed on the importance of maintaining project momentum.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Murillo and seconded by Ms. Palacios to approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 2.2 with LJA Engineering for an extension of time for the North Laredo TRZ Financial Feasibility Study.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Motion to Approve Resolution 25-14

Moved by: Jose Murillo

Second by: Diana Palacios

Discussion: No discussion was held

In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

11. Action Item (Resolution 25-15): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1.3 with LJA Engineering, Inc. for additional time and budget through September 30, 2026, for General Consulting Engineering Services.

Chairman Brown introduced the item, explaining that Work Authorization No. 1 covers the RMA’s general consulting engineering (GEC) agreement with LJA Engineering. This agreement allows LJA to provide ongoing engineering and project management services for non–project specific tasks that do not have separate budget line items, such as VIA, Safe Streets for All, Vision Zero, or TRZ support. He noted that the agreement operates on a five year term and that the funding level remains consistent with previous years, approximately \$30,000 per month.

Melisa Montemayor with LJA Engineering presented the details of the proposed Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1.3, explaining that it extends the contract term through September 30, 2026, with payment terms not to exceed \$359,685.55. The scope includes continued support for project management, staff augmentation, meeting attendance, technical services, and general operational assistance to the RMA. Ms. Montemayor noted this is a standard annual renewal that maintains continuity of services.

Chairman Brown added that when reviewing monthly payments, he is pleased when invoices come in under budget, though that typically reflects slower project activity. He noted that the RMA's major expenditures are tied to ongoing initiatives such as VIA and Safe Streets for All, and that this renewal will be incorporated into the upcoming budget discussion.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Murillo and seconded by Mr. Mendiola to approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1.3 with LJA Engineering, Inc. for additional time and budget through September 30, 2026.

Motion: Motion to Approve Resolution 25-15
Moved by: Jose Murillo
Second by: Alfonso Mendiola
Discussion: No discussion was held
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

12. Action Item (Resolution 25-16): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve a Resolution in support of the Laredo Coalition for Improved Highway Exchanges (LECHE), specific to a pilot project South Texas Roadway, a proposed connection between US 59 and SH 359.

Chairman Brown introduced the item, explaining that LECHE requested RMA support for a pilot project connecting US 59 and SH 359. The coalition previously presented six months ago and is now seeking shared funding participation from the City, County, and RMA, each contributing approximately \$333,000 for project studies.

LECHE President James Gonzalez reported that Webb County has already approved its share, and the City of Laredo will consider the item soon. He clarified the RMA would serve as a supporting sponsor, not the lead, with Congressman Cuellar also supporting the initiative federally.

Chairman Brown noted that while RMA funds are limited and already committed, a Resolution of Support would show the agency's backing for regional coordination.

After discussion, Mr. Murillo moved, and Mr. Mendiola seconded, to approve Resolution 25-16, a Resolution of Support for LECHE's South Texas Roadway Project connecting US 59 and SH 359.

Motion: Motion to Approve Resolution 25-16
Moved by: Jose Murillo
Second by: Alfonso Mendiola
Discussion: No discussion was held
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

13. General Engineering Consultant Update on the following projects:

a. Vallecillo Road Project

The Vallecillo Road Project is progressing with schematic, PS&E, and construction plans, with drainage work and a traffic impact study pending; full document submittal is targeted for February 2026 and right of way maps for City Council approval by June 2026. Stakeholder outreach is underway, with a first responders' meeting scheduled for October, and environmental reports have been approved, though a historic resources survey may add approximately 90 days. Right-of-way revisions and utility coordination, including City of Laredo, CenterPoint, Phillips 66, AT&T, and Spectrum, are ongoing, with estimated relocation costs of \$2 million and staggered timelines ranging from 6 weeks to 12 months depending on the provider. Critical path items include environmental clearance, annexation, and utility approvals, with ongoing design work continuing; construction is planned to begin in Spring 2027 and finish by late summer 2027, while meetings with stakeholders and appraisal coordination will continue to ensure schedules and approvals are met.

b. Vision Zero Webb Laredo Safety Action Plan / SS4A

The Vision Zero Webb Laredo Safety Action Plan update highlighted that both English and Spanish versions of the plan, including all appendices, are available online, with over 600 pages of content. The RMA grant period has concluded, and the team is finalizing the grant closeout, including submitting the final invoice and required reports to FHWA by the end of November. The implementation grant is under review, with the website serving as a key reference for federal evaluation. Technical assistance continues for the City of Laredo, including potential Safe Routes to School pilot programs and TA set aside projects, with recommendations expected in October. Overall, the LJA team emphasized ongoing progress and proper documentation to demonstrate community safety improvements and ensure efficient use of funding.

c. Springfield Phase IV Project

The Springfield Phase IV Project has reached closeout following the ribbon cutting for the completed road. The City Council approved project closeout on August 4, including warranty certificates, fund adjustments, and final payments totaling \$851.95, with a final contract amount of \$737,039. The RMA financed the full construction cost, marking another successful project completion and demonstrating effective collaboration with city and county partners. No future phases have been requested by the City, and outstanding invoice issues remain unresolved.

d. Concord Hills Blvd. Extension

The Concord Hills Extension project is progressing, with donation agreements still underway among several landowners. The agreement with Land Development Company was approved by City Council on August 18, while agreements with [name inaudible on recording] Investors LLC and the Khiladi Group remain under developer review. The City anticipates completing all related tasks and securing City Council participation by October. Design work is at 90% completion, with final plans submitted in July and full design completion expected by the end of September. The project is estimated to go to letting in November or December 2025. The RMA's primary role has been to provide \$1 million in funding and serve as facilitator and mediator to help advance the project, which had previously faced delays. A groundbreaking is anticipated by year's end, with a ribbon cutting possible in early 2026.

e. Cuatro Vientos TRZ Implementation

The Cuatros Vientos Transportation Reinvestment Zone (TRZ) Implementation update highlighted ongoing coordination between the City of Laredo, Webb County, and the RMA to finalize administrative and financial steps required for full TRZ activation. The focus remains on establishing clear procedures for revenue collection, allocation, and project eligibility to ensure compliance with state guidelines. The RMA continues to provide support as facilitator and advisor to streamline interagency collaboration and maintain project momentum. Additional updates will follow as the framework moves toward formal implementation and project identification under the TRZ structure.

f. North Laredo TRZ Feasibility Study

The update on the North Laredo Transportation Reinvestment Zone (TRZ) Feasibility Study focused on assessing potential boundaries, revenue projections, and infrastructure needs to determine the viability of establishing a TRZ in the area. The study aims to identify key corridors that would benefit from reinvestment funding and evaluate how projected tax increments could support transportation improvements. The RMA continues coordinating with the City of Laredo to gather data, review development trends, and ensure alignment with long term mobility goals. Once

completed, the feasibility report will guide next steps on whether to proceed with formal designation and implementation of the North Laredo TRZ.

g. City of Laredo Colombia Solidarity International Bridge Presidential Permit Application update

The update on the City of Laredo Colombia Solidarity International Bridge project noted significant progress following the issuance of the Presidential Permit by the White House in June 2025, authorizing expansion of the bridge from six to twelve lanes. The \$1 million in Category 12 funds contributed by the RMA has been incorporated into the MPO Transportation Improvement Program, allowing the project to be federalized for development. The City of Laredo is now advancing the Donation Acceptance Proposal (DAP) process, which must demonstrate to GSA, CBP, and USDOT that no federal funds will be required for operations or staffing related to the expansion. Submission of the DAP is anticipated by early 2026, after which the City may proceed with design, environmental clearance, and bid letting within the five year permit window. The expansion aims to improve traffic flow and efficiency at the port of entry without requiring additional federal staffing. The RMA reaffirmed its continued support in assisting the City's transportation initiatives as needed.

h. TxDOT Project Development Funding Across the State of Texas

The Board received an overview of TxDOT's project development funding allocations across Texas, highlighting notable reductions in available funds for the Laredo District compared to previous fiscal years. In FY 2024, the Laredo District received approximately \$24.9 million for project development, which increased slightly to \$32.1 million in FY 2025 but dropped to \$21.5 million for FY 2026, significantly less than the \$89 million requested by district leadership. The presentation emphasized that these funds cover project development activities such as schematics, environmental clearances, and design work, not construction. Rising inflation and limited state and federal revenues have reduced available resources statewide, creating challenges for large scale projects like the Vallecillo Overpass, which alone requires roughly \$12 million for design and an estimated \$120 million for construction. The Board discussed the importance of continued advocacy and collaboration with state officials to secure funding for priority projects, while noting that future allocations could still fluctuate based on economic and legislative developments.

14. Report: Date/Time/Location of Next Regular Board Meeting

Chairman Brown informed the Board that the next board meeting exact date, time, and location will be determined and communicated to the group.

15. Adjournment.

On a motion made by Arturo Domingez, and second by Alfonso Mendiola. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.