

Todo el equipo es propiedad de la ciudad de Brownsville, por lo tanto, asegúrese de registrar la salida del aparato prestado antes de tomar su lugar.

¡TRADUCCION EN ESPAÑOL DISPONIBLE!

La ciudad de Brownsville ofrece servicios de interpretación al español, tenemos audífonos a disposición del público presente afuera de las cámaras de la comisión municipal.

Todo el equipo le pertenece a la ciudad de Brownsville, por lo tanto, asegúrese de firmar el formulario de salida antes de tomar su lugar.





NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE

Pursuant to Chapter 551, Title 5 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Open Meetings Act, notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Brownsville, Texas, in accordance with Article V, Section 12, of the Charter of said City, will convene a **Regular Meeting** on **July 7, 2026**, at **5:00 p.m.**, at the **City Commission Chambers**, located on the **Second Floor** of the **Brownsville City Hall-Old Federal Building**, located at **1001 East Elizabeth Street**, Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas, 78520.

Pursuant to Section 551.127, Texas Government Code, one or more Commissioners or employees may attend this meeting remotely using videoconferencing technology. The video and audio feed of the videoconferencing equipment can be viewed and heard by the public at the address posted above as the location of the meeting. Members of the Public, Employees, and the City Commission may join via the Webex Teleconference Meeting by logging on at:

<https://brownsvilletx.webex.com/brownsvilletx/j.php?MTID=mb0f8d1240d8f166059ae34c036f78f88>

Meeting number: 2532 697 4533

Password: commission (26664774 when dialing from a video system)

CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL

B. INVOCATION

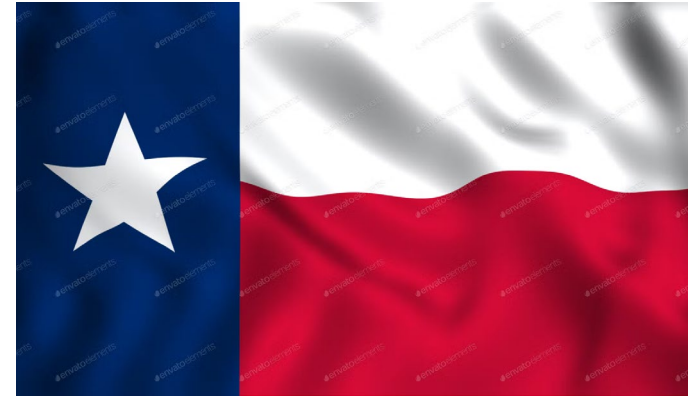
**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAGS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND
THE STATE OF TEXAS**

Pledge of Allegiance to United States



I pledge allegiance to the flag
of the United States of
America and to the Republic
for which it stands, one Nation
under God, indivisible, with
liberty and justice for all.

Texas Pledge



Honor the Texas flag, I pledge
allegiance to thee, Texas, one
state under God, one and
indivisible.

PROCLAMATION(S)

1) Recognizing "Parks and Recreation Month"

Commissioner Gustavo De Leon / Commissioner Bryan Martinez



*A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COMMISSION
OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS,
Recognizing "Parks and Recreation Month"*

WHEREAS, the City of Brownsville’s Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) plays a vital role in enriching the quality of life for all residents by managing more than 40 parks, miles of trails, athletic fields, recreational facilities, and open spaces that support physical health, mental well-being, and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department delivers inclusive and high-quality programming—ranging from youth sports and cultural events to senior wellness activities and summer camps—that bring our community together across generations and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Brownsville’s parks are essential to the city’s public health strategy, providing access to safe spaces for outdoor recreation, exercise, and relaxation that combat chronic illness, support emotional resilience, and enhance overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the department is currently leading the development of a Parks, Health, and Recreation Master Plan to ensure equitable access, modernized infrastructure, and long-term growth aligned with Brownsville’s values and future vision; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION of the City of Brownsville, Texas, do hereby **RECOGNIZED** and commend the City of Brownsville Parks and Recreation Department for its invaluable contributions to the quality of life of all residents; and we encourage the community to support, celebrate, and participate in the programs, services, and initiatives that continue to strengthen and enrich our city.

DONE, on this, the 7th day of July, 2026.

2) Recognizing "The Brownsville Fire Department"

Commissioner Gustavo De Leon / Commissioner Bryan Martinez



PROCLAMATION
*A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COMMISSION
OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS,
Recognizing the "The Brownsville Fire Department"*

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2026, the Brownsville Fire Department displayed extraordinary courage, professionalism, and unwavering dedication while responding to two significant fire emergencies within the community; and

WHEREAS, in the early morning hours, fire crews were dispatched to a major residential fire at 330 West Jefferson Street, deploying three fire engines, one aerial ladder truck, one water tender, one ambulance, an Assistant Chief, and an EMS Supervisor; and

WHEREAS, upon arrival, firefighters encountered a structure heavily involved in flames and acted swiftly to contain the fire, protect neighboring properties, and ensure that no occupants were trapped, demonstrating exceptional skill and commitment to public safety; and

WHEREAS, later that evening, the Brownsville Fire Department responded to a large commercial fire at Wellington Plaza, involving six fire engines, two aerial ladder trucks, one water tender, one ambulance, and five command staff members; and

WHEREAS, the fire spread rapidly through the attic space, threatening multiple businesses and nearby occupancies, requiring a complex, multi-hour operation marked by coordinated teamwork, endurance, and decisive action; and

WHEREAS, through the collective efforts, bravery, and steadfast dedication of all responding personnel, the Brownsville Fire Department successfully contained both incidents, prevented further loss to surrounding homes and businesses, and upheld the highest standards of service to the residents of Brownsville; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION of the City of Brownsville, Texas, do hereby **RECOGNIZED** and commend the **Brownsville Fire Department** for its exceptional performance, heroism, and service provided on June 15, 2026, and for our community.

DONE, on this, the 7th day of July, 2026.

3) Recognizing " The Brownsville Dynamite Volleyball Club"

Commissioner Nurith Galonsky / Mayor John Cowen Jr.



PROCLAMATION
A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COMMISSION
OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS,
Recognizing "The Brownsville Dynamite Volleyball Club"

WHEREAS, the Brownsville Dynamite Volleyball Club 13U team has demonstrated exceptional dedication, teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship throughout the 2025–2026 volleyball season; and

WHEREAS, through hard work, perseverance, and a strong commitment to excellence, these outstanding student-athletes proudly represented the City of Brownsville and their community both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, the Brownsville Dynamite Volleyball Club 13U team earned the distinguished title of *Lone Star Regionals Elite Division Champions* during the tournament held in Houston, Texas, on May 9–10, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the members of this championship team are proudly recognized as: #1 Andrea Vela, #6 Lilibeth Cisneros, #7 Abigail Silva, #8 Gigi Rodríguez, #9 Paola Garcia, #10 Kate Chapa, #12 Suri Hernández, #15 Marisol González, #24 Paola Monsse Coronado, #26 Zuleyka Alaniz; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION of the City of Brownsville, Texas, do hereby **RECOGNIZED** commend the **Brownsville Dynamite Volleyball Club 13U Team** for their remarkable accomplishments, exemplary sportsmanship, and for bringing pride and recognition to our community.

DONE, on this, the 7th day of July, 2026.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Public Comment Period

Section 2-26. Meetings and agendas.

(f) Public *input during meetings.*

(1) *Conduct.*

- a. Conversations between or among audience members should be conducted outside the meeting room. Attendees should refrain from conversations while commission is in session.
- b. Cell phones. Attendees must refrain from the operation and use of cellular telephones, pagers, etc., or any mechanical devices that may disrupt city commission proceedings.
- c. Placards, banners, or signs are not be permitted in the commission chambers or in any other room in which the city commission conducts a meeting. Included in this prohibition are various hats, caps, visors, and t-shirts, which may represent sentiments as alluded to, regarding placards, banners and/or signs.
- d. Exhibits, displays, and visual aids used in connection with presentations to the city commission, are permitted.
- e. Only city commission members and city staff may approach the dais. If report, letter, etc., is to be presented to the commission, it should be given to the city secretary, (or staff) who will make the distribution. It is preferable that the item to be distributed be given to the city secretary prior to meeting time. A copy of the item should be made available for the city secretary's official record.
- f. All comments shall be made to the mayor and city commission as a whole, and not to individual commission members.

Comments are limited to 3 minutes.
Please abide by the allotted time.

03:00

PRESENTATION(S)

- 1) Review and Comparison of Organizational Culture Assessment Results: 2024 vs 2025.

CITY OF BROWNSVILLE · ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & HR

Culture Assessment Results Comparison

2024 vs 2025
2026 Strategies



Perla Cepeda
Chief People Officer



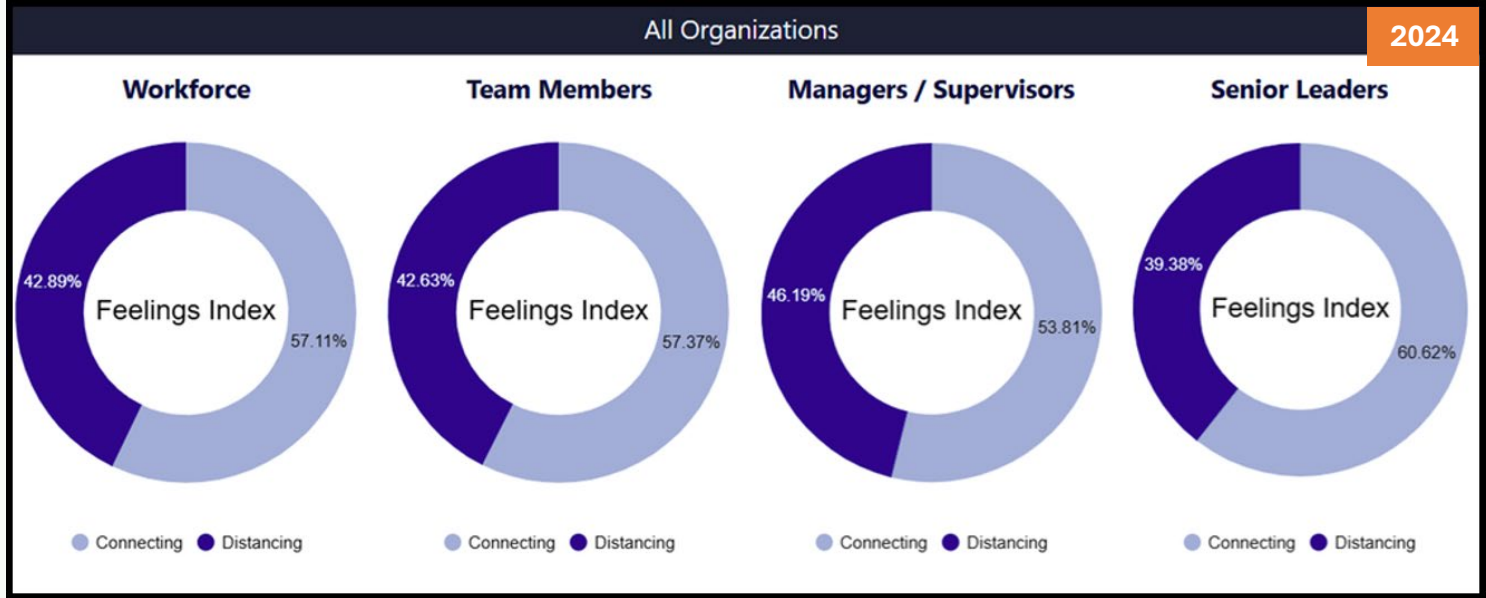
Timeline of Key Culture Milestones

CULTURE BACKGROUND



Employee Engagement Growth

September 2024 – December 2025



- Highlights**
- 2024- 86% of Participation
 - 2025- 89% of Participation
 - Team Members saw the largest gain at +17.28%.
 - Workforce-wide engagement rose +16.16%.
 - Growth recorded across every employee level.



Employee Engagement

Increase from December 2024 with 86% of Participation to December 2025 with 89% of Participation

Workforce

+16.16%

increase

All employees

Team Members

+17.28%

increase

Front-line, admin, clerical

Managers & Supervisors

+9.54%

increase

Senior Leaders

+15.47%

increase

CMO, Directors, ADs, Sr. Mgrs



Key Organizational Initiatives

GAP IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



Compensation

- Compensation Analysis (50th percentile)
- COLA Adjustments
- One-time stipends
- Compression Adjustment
- Continue Longevity Pay



Benefits

- Tuition Reimbursement
- Parental Leave Policy
- Vision Plan & Affordable Pet Insurance (voluntary)
- 457 Deferred Comp Match
- Flex Schedule
- Annual Leave increase by tenure & Holiday Increase
- Health Insurance (Frontier Clinic at no cost for employees and family members)



Engagement

- Culture Assessment
- Women's Leadership Conference
- Continue enhancing the Annual Employee Conference by improving its quality, value, and employee experience.
- Mother's/Father's Day
- Admin Professional Day
- Bring Your Kids at Work
- Meet & Treat & Mingle & Jingle
- Meet & Greet with the City Manager for New Employees
- Workshield Investigation System



Training & Development

- Department Retreats
- Executive Retreats: 360 Evaluations, IDPs
- Book Briefings
- Leadership & Professional Development Programs
- One City Univeristy
- HR & Safety Ambassadors Academy
- Payroll/Procurement Best Practices
- Customer Service Training
- Presentation Skills Training



Leadership Behaviors

ACTION PLAN 2025–2026



Behaviors to Continue

- Bring us together as One Team.
- Ask us how we are doing and offer to help.



Behaviors to Stop

- Assigning everything as top priority / rush job.
- Allowing double standards or only focusing on squeaky wheels.



Behaviors to Start

- Help balance the load and avoid burnout.
- Hold people and teams accountable.

Benefits & Compensation



Engagement



Training & Development



Training & Development



Creating a Workplace of Choice

BUILDING TOWARD ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE



Culture & Engagement

- Employee feedback initiatives
- Improving workplace communication
- Strengthening employee engagement
- Building a stronger One City culture



Leadership Effectiveness

- Supervisor training initiatives
- Leadership accountability
- Succession Planning
- Coaching & development strategies
- Strengthening management effectiveness



Workplace Excellence

- Strategic workforce initiatives
- Best workplace practices implementation
- Employee experience enhancement
- Preparing for organizational excellence recognition (Great Place To Work)

Thank You

Organizational Development & Human Resources



People · Purpose · Projects

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

- 1) Brownsville Chamber of Commerce DC
Fly-In: Federal Engagement and
Advocacy Update.



2026 BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER WASHINGTON, D.C. FLY-IN

September 15 - 17, 2026

Advocacy . Leadership . Growth

The Brownsville Chamber of Commerce is a member driven business organization whose principal mission is to advance the business interests of its members through leadership, civic engagement, promotion, support and advocacy.



U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Accredited

Four-Star Distinction



2025 BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER WASHINGTON, D.C. FLY-IN

KEY FEDERAL ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

  Broadband Expansion & Digital
Equity

 Healthcare
 Infrastructure, Energy & Trade
 Water Supply & Resiliency



2025 BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER WASHINGTON, D.C. FLY-IN

DELEGATION



The Right Choice.



Burton
McCumber
& Longoria, LLP
CPAs & Advisors



WHY YOUR PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

Be the voice of the businesses you represent.

BUILDING BROWNSVILLE'S COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

- Align Public and Private Sector priorities around a shared Federal agenda.
- Advance strategic investments that strengthen infrastructure, trade, workforce, and economic competitiveness.
- Build lasting relationships with federal leaders that open doors for future opportunities.
- Position Brownsville to compete for the resources, partnerships, and policies that will shape our next generation of growth.

IMPORTANCE OF FEEDBACK

- Reflect the priorities of our local businesses.
- Support strategic economic development.
- Strengthen Brownsville's competitiveness.
- Position our region for future federal investment.



WHEN BROWNSVILLE SPEAKS WITH ONE VOICE, WASHINGTON LISTENS.



2026 Federal Advocacy Priorities Survey

Your feedback is essential in helping us advocate effectively on the issues that matter most to local businesses and our region, and we encourage you to take a few moments to complete the survey and make your voice heard.

2026 BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER WASHINGTON, D.C. FLY-IN

Current Delegation Roster | June 30, 2026



- 2) Recognizing the Office of the City Secretary for receiving the 2026 Achievement of Excellence Award from the Texas Municipal Clerks Association (TMCA).



City Manager's Update City Secretary's Office

City Secretary's Office honored by Texas Municipal Clerks Association (TMCA)

The **Texas Municipal Clerks Association** recognized the **City of Brownsville City Secretary's Office** with the **2026 Achievement of Excellence Award**, a statewide honor for municipal clerk offices that demonstrate excellence in statutory compliance, transparency, records management, elections, innovation, professional development, and effective municipal operations.

This recognition highlights the City Secretary's Office's commitment to accurate records, open government, efficient public processes, and professional service to the Mayor and City Commission, City departments, and the Brownsville community.



- 3) Recognizing the Communications & Marketing Department and Brownsville TV for receiving three 2026 Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers (TAMIO) awards.



City Manager's Update CMD & BTV TAMIO Recognitions

Communications and Marketing & Brownsville TV Honored by Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers (TAMIO)

The Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers recognized the City of Brownsville Communications and Marketing & Brownsville TV with **3 TAMI Award** honors for outstanding municipal communications across video production, event coverage, and public information campaigns. These award-winning projects helped showcase city achievements, celebrate local traditions, promote downtown revitalization, and strengthen public engagement with Brownsville residents.

TAMI AWARD • 1ST PLACE

State of the City Opening Achievements

Special or One-Time Program

AWARD OF HONOR

New Downtown Campaign

Video Campaign

AWARD OF HONOR

89th Annual Grand International Parade

Best Recurring Special Event



CONSENT AGENDA ITEM(S):

The following are considered to be routine by the City Commission and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a City Commissioner so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.

Consent Agenda Items

- 1) Consideration and **ACTION** to reject proposals for RFP No.101-26-ODHR-RFP For Temporary Staffing Services. (Procurement Department)
- 2) Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the quote/proposal submitted by SHI Government Solutions, Inc. for Rubrik data protection, backup, disaster recovery, cybersecurity resilience, and Microsoft 365 data protection services, in the amount of \$158,288.15, as budgeted, under proposed Contract No. 289-26-IT-CP. (Information Technology Department)
- 3) Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Supportive Services Program allocation for Round 2 under the U. S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) HOME American Rescue Plan (ARP) program. (Grants and Community Development)
- 4) Consideration and **ACTION** to authorize an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Brownsville and TxDOT for the installation and reimbursement for the operation and maintenance of the traffic signals within a municipality. (Engineering and Public Works Department)
- 5) Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the proposal submitted by Roadway Asset Services, LLC (RAS), in the amount of \$276,366, as budgeted, for Pavement Management Services, under proposed Contract No. 298-26-EPW-CP, for a term of nine months. (Engineering and Public Works Department)
- 6) Consideration and **ACTION** to authorize contracts with Ceballos Lawn Care and NVS Corporate Services for Contract No. 135-26-HLH-RFP, Mowing Services for Vacant Lot, in an estimated amount of \$55,000 annually per vendor, for a term of two (2) years with one (1) optional one-year renewal. (Health, Wellness & Animal Services)
- 7) Consideration and **ACTION** to authorize a contract with Noble Texas Builders, LLC in the amount of \$457,709.00 for Contract No. 257-26-PRK-CP, for a term of 2.5 months (approximately 75 calendar days), for improvements at Morningside Park and Brownsville Sports Park for the Parks and Recreation Department. (Parks and Recreation Department)
- 8) Consideration and **ACTION** on **Resolution Number 2026-108** to accept the recommendation of the Brownsville Fire Department and authorize the appointment of Assistant Chief Ismael Gamboa to the Cameron County Emergency Communication District (CCECD) Board of Directors. (Fire Department)
- 9) Consideration and **ACTION** to approve **Resolution Number 2026-094** approving and entering into a multi-use agreement between the city of Brownsville and the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) to improve five bus stops with monopoles located along the state right-of-way. (Brownsville Metro)
- 10) Consideration and **ACTION** to approve **Resolution Number 2026-098** designating an officer or employee to calculate the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate, Voter-Approval Tax Rate, and De Minimis Rate, if applicable, in accordance with section 26.04 of the Texas Tax Code for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. (Financial Services)
- 11) Consideration and **ACTION** to discuss and approve **Resolution Number 2026-099** expressing official intent to reimburse with tax-exempt obligation proceeds costs associated with certain capital improvements. (Financial Services Department)
- 12) Consideration and **ACTION** on **Resolution Number 2026-103** authorizing preparation of an updated Service and Assessment Plan (SAP) for the Paseo De La Resaca Lighting and Landscaping Maintenance Public Improvement District (PID); calling for and authorizing the publication of a Notice of Public Hearing regarding the updated SAP and levy of the PID assessments under Chapter 311, Texas Tax Code, and such other matters related thereto. (Paseo De La Resaca PID Board)
- 13) Consideration and **APPROVAL** on **SECOND** and **FINAL READING** of **Ordinance Number 2026-1806**, to annex into the City of Brownsville boundary limits, a property described as a 47.27-acre tract being Lot 1, Block 202, El Jardin Resubdivision, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Volume 4, Page 48, Map Records of Cameron County, Texas, save and except all that part or portion thereof conveyed to the County of Cameron in deed dated November 18, 1993, recorded in Volume 2658, Page 181, Official Records of Cameron County, Texas, located on South Dakota Avenue, Brownsville, Texas 78521, as shown in Exhibit "A". (Planning & Redevelopment Department)
- 14) Consideration and **APPROVAL** on **SECOND** and **FINAL READING** of **Ordinance Number 235-2026-009**, to rezone from Commercial Corridor (CC) to Residential Estate (RE) to allow a single-family residence for 2.64 acres out of 5.0 acres out of the Baldauf 10.88-acre tract out of the C.B. Hamlet 47.9-acre tract, Share 12, El Jardin Subdivision, Cameron County, Texas, located at 32 Fish Hatchery Road, Brownsville, Texas 78520, as shown in Exhibit "A". (District 4) (Planning & Redevelopment Department)
- 15) Consideration and **APPROVAL** on **SECOND** and **FINAL READING** of **Ordinance Number 235-2026-010**, to rezone from Residential Single-Family (R-1) to Residential Suburban (R-2) to allow a duplex for Lot 4, Block 4, McKenzie Estates Subdivision, Cameron County, Texas, located at 995 North Iowa Road, Brownsville, Texas 78521, as shown in Exhibit "A". (District 2) (Planning & Redevelopment Department)
- 16) Consideration and **APPROVAL** on **SECOND** and **FINAL READING** of **Ordinance Number 235-2026-011-S**, to request a Specific Use Permit (SUP) in a Commercial Corridor (CC) zoning district to allow an event center for Lot 2, Block 1, Juan Garza Subdivision Replat, Cameron County, Texas, located at 4810 Boca Chica Boulevard, Brownsville, Texas 78521, as shown in Exhibit "A". (District 1) (Planning & Redevelopment Department)

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PUBLIC HEARING #1

Public Hearing and **ACTION** on **FIRST READING** on **Ordinance Number 2026-1809** designating a +/- 1,021.48 acre area located in Cameron County, Texas, as a tax increment reinvestment zone; describing the boundaries of the zone; creating a board of directors for the zone; providing for an effective date and a termination date for the zone; naming the zone the "Estrella Reinvestment Zone Number Six, City of Brownsville"; establishing a tax increment fund; and containing other findings and provisions related thereto

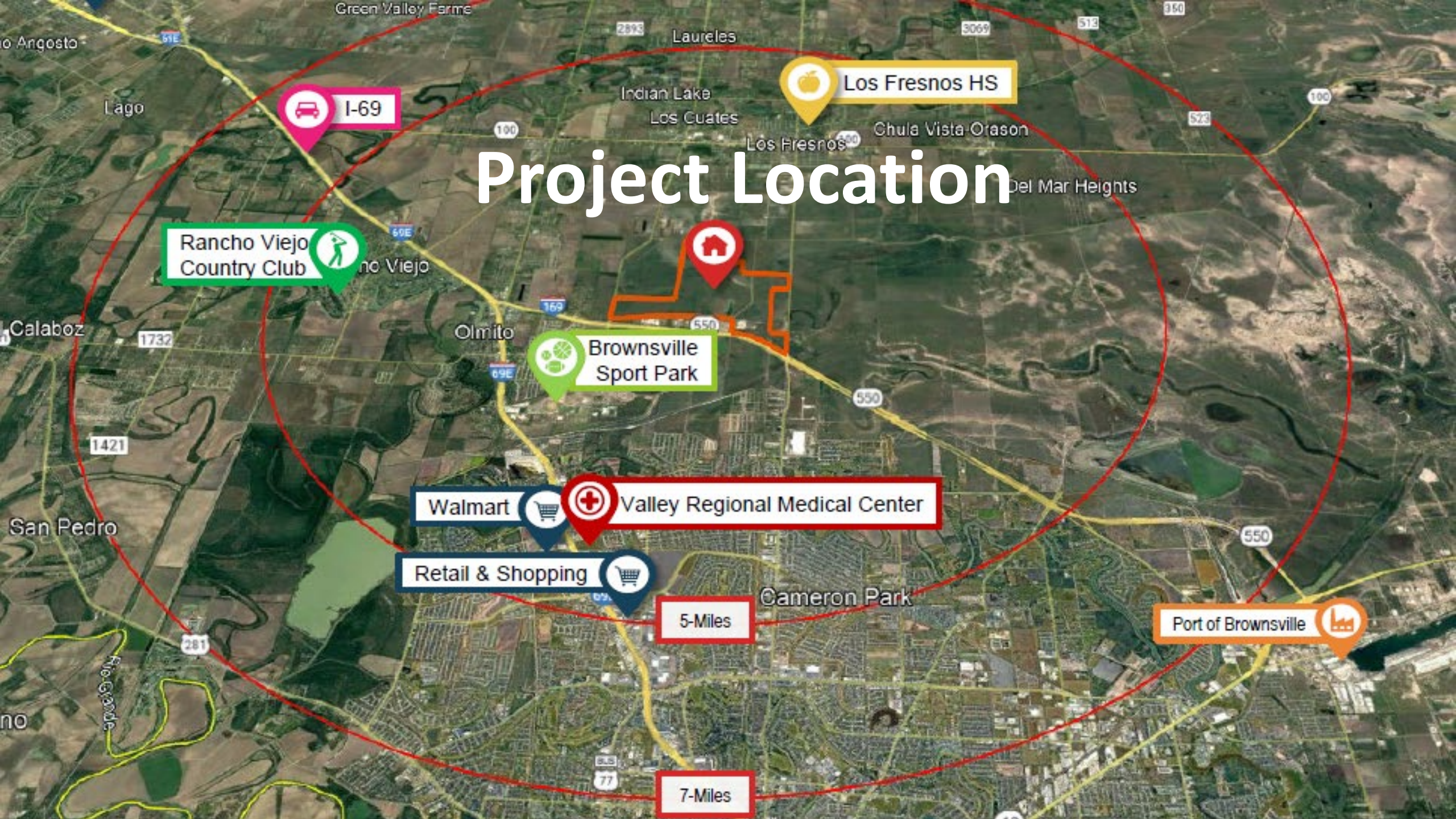


Estrella – Master Planned Community

Developer Requested Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone
City of Brownsville Presentation



Project Location



ESTRELLA



898 Acres – 3600 Units



Single-family, multi-family & executive-level housing



100,000 sqft Commercial & Retail



On-site schools & church



Parks & 32 Miles of Hike & Bike Trails



Class-A Community Center



Fiber-to- Home



Anticipated taxable value of over \$2 Billion at completion



Community Amenity Summary

Over \$50MM

Estrella Community Center & Clubhouse

- Resort Style Swimming Pool
- Community Lifestyle Program
- 24/7 Security
- Common Areas for Meetings & Parties
- Workout Facility
- Playgrounds
- Picnic Areas
- Pickleball & Basketball Courts
- Sports Fields

Estrella Community Amenities – Over 230 Acres of Parks, Lakes & Open Spaces

- Lushly Landscaped Parks (maintained by HOA)
- Lakes/Resacas (constant water retention)
- Over 30 Miles of Hike/Bike Trails & Sidewalks, with proposed connection to Historic Palo Alto Battlefield Trail





ESTRELLA - SPORTS PARK AND COMMUNITY PARK

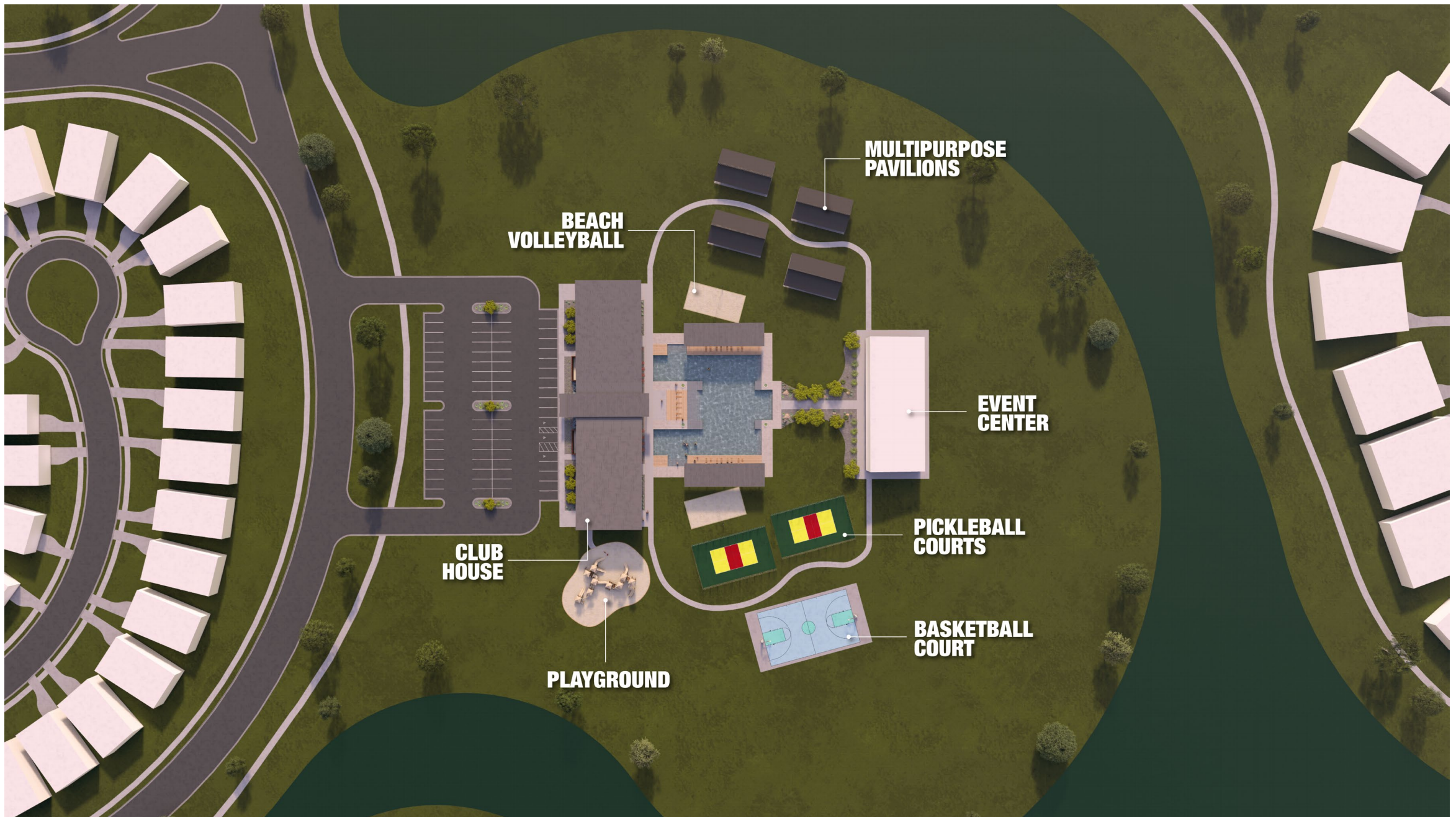
Brownsville, Texas

RHODES

HEFFNER DESIGN TEAM

NORTH
SCALE 1" = 70'





**BEACH
VOLLEYBALL**

**MULTIPURPOSE
PAVILIONS**

**EVENT
CENTER**

**PICKLEBALL
COURTS**

**BASKETBALL
COURT**

**CLUB
HOUSE**

PLAYGROUND



Preliminary Financing Plan for Brownsville TIRZ No. 6

26 Year Estimated Build Out

Summary Fact Sheet

June 25, 2026

Site Area (in Acres)	=	1,021.48	Total Sq. Ft. =	44,495,686.22
2026 Base Value	= \$	4,608,493.00		

				Projected Taxable Value
Residential Units	Entry 45'	1,339	Units	\$ 397,683,000.00
	Move Up 55'	683	Units	\$ 252,710,000.00
	2nd Move Up 70'	452	Units	\$ 239,560,000.00
	SF Rental	369	Units	\$ 92,250,000.00
	Villas 35'	329	Units	\$ 90,475,000.00
	Totals	3,172	Units	\$ 1,072,678,000.00
Apartments		430	Units	\$ 60,200,000.00
Commercial		100,000	Square Feet	\$ 20,000,000.00
TOTAL				\$ 1,152,878,000.00

Projected Taxable Value at Year 30 \$ 2,539,514,622.34

TIF Participation Rates:

City of Brownsville	50% of Tax Rate	\$ 112,374,667.16
Cameron County	50% of M&O Tax Rate	\$ 62,802,964.21
Total TIF Tax Pledge=		\$ 175,177,631.37

Collection Rate 97.00%

Est. Total TIRZ Revenues \$ 169,922,302.43

Est. Infrastructure Costs \$ 260,565,745.84

Formation and Administrative Costs \$ 500,000.00

Total Project Costs \$ 261,065,745.84

Surplus/(Deficit) \$ (91,143,443.41)

Additional Developer Contribution to Public Infrastructure \$ 91,143,443.41

Est. TIRZ Term 30 Years

The projections and estimates contained in this Finance and Project Plan are subject to and may be impacted by market & economic conditions both domestic & international. Actual completion & construction of the Project may take more or less time than described herein. However it is understood that the Developer will use its best efforts to complete the project as quickly as economically feasible. A growth rate of 3.00% per year has been used to establish value of future tax base, year over year. PID bonds are anticipated and requested with debt service assessments being offset by TIRZ Revenues. Developer will work with City Staff and consultants in the sizing and timing of such issuance(s).



Public Comment Period

Section 2-26. Meetings and agendas.

(f) Public *input during meetings.*

(1) *Conduct.*

- a. Conversations between or among audience members should be conducted outside the meeting room. Attendees should refrain from conversations while commission is in session.
- b. Cell phones. Attendees must refrain from the operation and use of cellular telephones, pagers, etc., or any mechanical devices that may disrupt city commission proceedings.
- c. Placards, banners, or signs are not be permitted in the commission chambers or in any other room in which the city commission conducts a meeting. Included in this prohibition are various hats, caps, visors, and t-shirts, which may represent sentiments as alluded to, regarding placards, banners and/or signs.
- d. Exhibits, displays, and visual aids used in connection with presentations to the city commission, are permitted.
- e. Only city commission members and city staff may approach the dais. If report, letter, etc., is to be presented to the commission, it should be given to the city secretary, (or staff) who will make the distribution. It is preferable that the item to be distributed be given to the city secretary prior to meeting time. A copy of the item should be made available for the city secretary's official record.
- f. All comments shall be made to the mayor and city commission as a whole, and not to individual commission members.

Comments are limited to 3 minutes.
Please abide by the allotted time.

03:00

PUBLIC HEARING #2

Public Hearing and **ACTION** on **FIRST READING** on **Ordinance Number 2026-1810** designating a +/- 804.13 acre area located in Cameron County, Texas, as a tax increment reinvestment zone; describing the boundaries of the zone; creating a board of directors for the zone; providing for an effective date and a termination date for the zone; naming the zone the "Greater Brownsville Tech District Reinvestment Zone Number Five, City of Brownsville"; establishing a tax increment fund; and containing other findings and provisions related thereto.

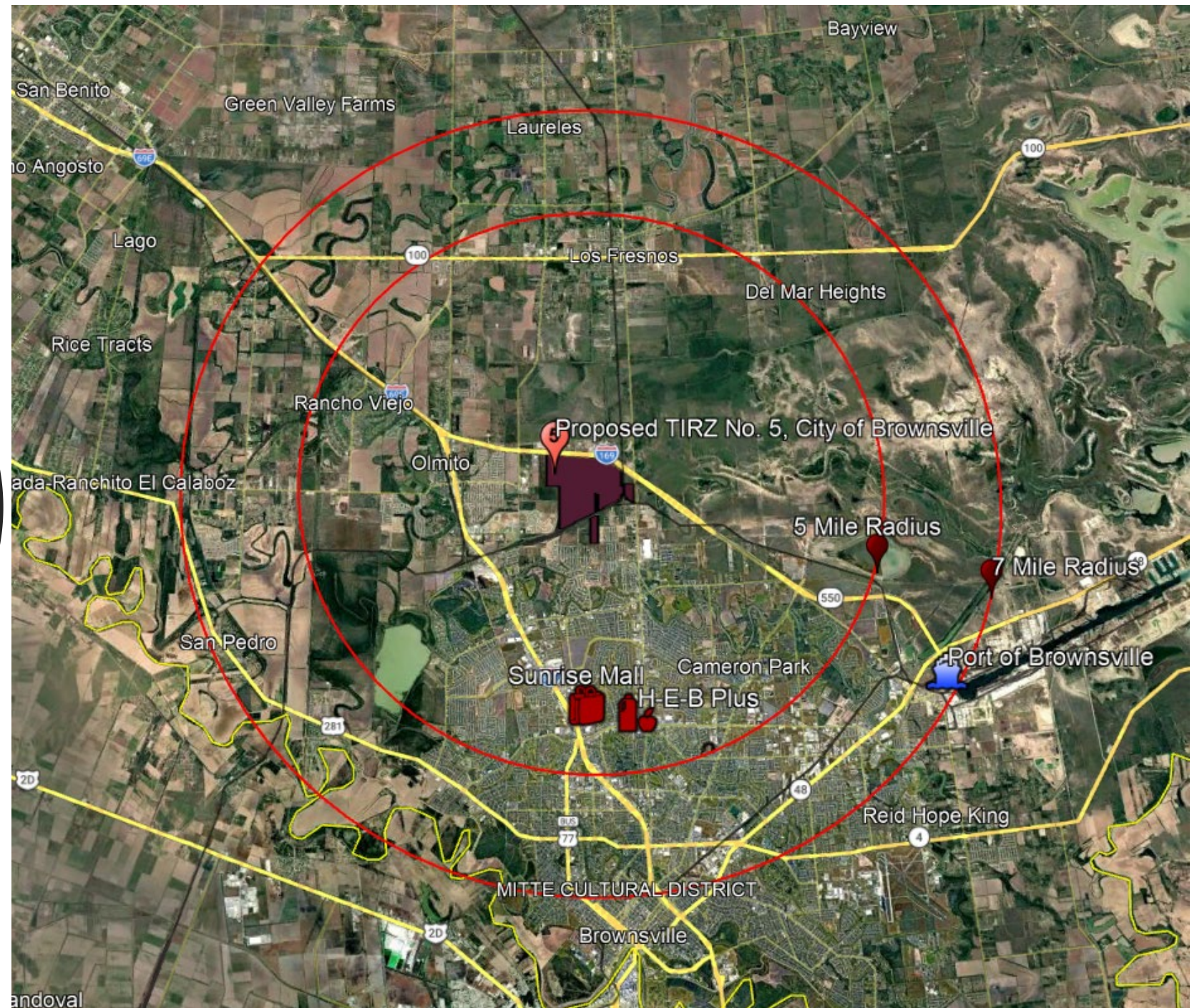
Greater Brownsville Economic Development Corporation

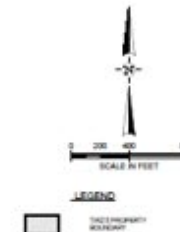
Proposed Reinvestment Zone
Number Five, City of Brownsville



GREATER
BROWNSVILLE **EDC**

Project Location





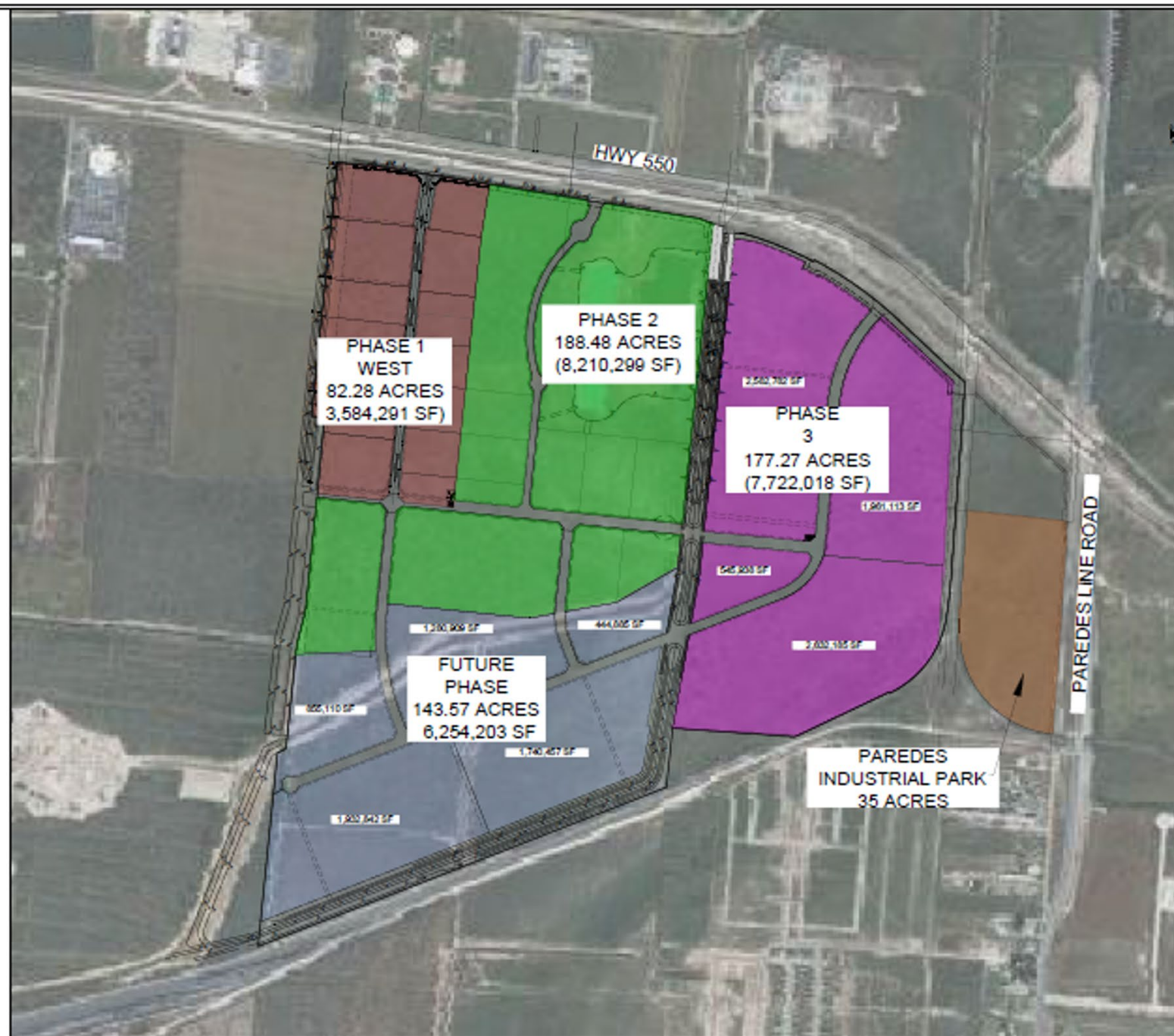
Greater **Brownsville** Greater Brownsville
GREATER BROWNSVILLE TECH DISTRICT
PHASE 2
 BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS



NO.	DATE	REVISIONS



THE SEAL, APPROVAL OR THE SIGNATURE
 HERE AUTHORIZED BY THE
 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 DATE: _____ BY: _____
 TITLE: _____
 THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ON
 FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE
 CLERK
 PROJECT NO. 2017-001
 COUNTY: BROWNSVILLE
 COUNTY ST. JACOB
 CHECKED BY: [Signature]
 SCALE: 1" = 400'
 SHEET TITLE:
TIRZ 5
PROPERTY
BOUNDARY

[illegible]

PRELIMINARY

FOR INTERIM REVIEW ONLY

THIS SECTION AND THE OTHER
 SECTION ARE TO BE USED
 FOR THE PURPOSES OF
 INTERIM REVIEW OF

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

REMARKS: _____

BY: _____

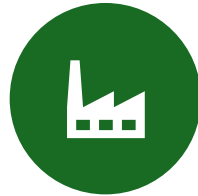
DATE: _____

[illegible]

Key Benefits of Proposed TIRZ



\$1.615 Billion in projected new taxable value over life of Proposed TIRZ



9.36 Million SF of new manufacturing & warehouse development



454,707 SF of new office & commercial space



Major public infrastructure investment (water, wastewater, drainage, electric & roads)



Attraction of major employers and high-quality manufacturing jobs



Significant job creation and long-term economic growth



Partnership opportunities with Cameron County through interlocal agreements



Creation of a premier industrial and employment hub to support long-term regional competitiveness

Engineer's Preliminary Opinion of Probable Construction Costs

Title: Greater Brownsville Tech District
Acres: ± 804

Date of Estimate: February 5, 2026

Owner: Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation
Contact: Eleazar Rodriguez
Address: 500 E. Saint Charles
 Brownsville, Texas, 78520
E-Mail: erodriguez@greaterbrownsville.com

Halff Engineer: John Clint, PE
Halff PM: Michael Salinas, PE
Address: 1075 Paredes Line Road
 Brownsville, Texas 78521
Phone: (956) 303-7110

Construction Cost

Item No.	Item	Amount
1	Site Preparation & SW3P	\$ 500,000.00
2	Site Earthwork Phase 1 West	\$ 1,220,000.00
3	Site Earthwork (COB-GBIC Onsite Earthwork Agreement)(Fuel and Labor) ¹	\$ 1,980,000.00
4	Site Earthwork ²	\$ 17,400,000.00
5	Road Improvements	\$ 26,100,000.00
6	Drainage Improvements	\$ 5,370,000.00
7	Road Ditch Culvert (Naranjo Road Crossing North)	\$ 750,000.00
8	Road Ditch Culvert (Naranjo Road Crossing South)	\$ 750,000.00
9	San. Sewer Improvements	\$ 5,690,000.00
10	Water Improvements	\$ 3,510,000.00
11	Offsite Utility Improvements	\$ 1,110,000.00
12	Sanitary Sewer Lift Station (Phase 1)	\$ 1,150,000.00
13	Sanitary Sewer Lift Station (Phase 3)	\$ 1,200,000.00
14	Street Lighting/Electrical Improvements (On Site)	\$ 10,020,000.00
15	Offsite Electrical Improvements (Off Site)	\$ 2,000,000.00
16	Electrical Substation	\$ 35,000,000.00

Sub-Total \$ **113,750,000.00**

Professional Services & Fees

Item No.	Item	Amount
17	Engineering, Surveying, Material Testing & Construction Phase	\$ 17,070,000.00

Sub-Total Cost \$ **130,820,000.00**

20% Contingency \$ 22,750,000.00

3% Inflation over 5 years \$ 24,459,719.59

Total of Construction \$ **153,570,000.00**

Total of Construction (with inflation) \$ **178,029,719.59**

¹ GBIC and the City had a deal to pay approximately \$6 per CY of earthwork.

² An additional 800,000 cubic yards is needed to bring the properties outside of the floodplain limits.

Preliminary Financing Plan for Brownsville TIRZ No. 5

Summary Fact Sheet

July 1, 2026

Zone Area (in Acres) =	804.13	Total Sq. Ft. =	35,028,050.90
2026 Base Assessed Value = \$	0.00		

Uses				<u>Projected Taxable Value</u>
Offices/Services	454,707	BldgSqft	\$	87,403,666.29
Manufacturing	9,358,278	BldgSqft	\$	1,527,681,394.29
City Property & Pond	3,832,844	Land Sqft	\$	-
Development Reserve (PUB)	3,578,454	Land Sqft	\$	-
TOTAL			\$	1,615,085,060.57

Projected Taxable Value at Year 30	\$	1,615,085,060.57	(Assumes Annual Appreciation Factor)
---	-----------	-------------------------	--------------------------------------

TIRZ REVENUES			
	<u>Participation Rate:</u>	<u>Taxing Entity:</u>	<u>Estimated Contribution:</u>
	75%	City	\$ 106,149,936.24
	75%	County M&O	\$ 59,324,141.42
		Est. Total=	\$ 165,474,077.67
TIRZ Term	30 Years		

Est. Adjusted TIRZ Revenues (99% Collection Rate)	\$	163,819,336.89
Est. Project Costs	\$	178,029,719.59
Admin Cost	\$	(300,000.00)
Formation Costs	\$	(350,000.00)
Excess (Shortage)	\$	(14,860,382.70)
Additional Developer Contribution	\$	14,860,382.70

The projections and estimates contained in this model are subject to and may be impacted by market & economic conditions both domestic & international. Actual completion & construction of the projects may take more or less time than described herein. However it is understood that the Developer will use its best efforts to complete the project as quickly as economically feasible. A growth rate of 2.75% per year has been used to establish value of future tax base, year over year, which is lower than the actual average over the past ten (10) years. Bond(s) may be anticipated, the total amount and timing of such bonds shall be coordinated with the governing body and its professional consultants on such issuance(s).

Public Comment Period

Section 2-26. Meetings and agendas.

(f) Public *input during meetings.*

(1) *Conduct.*

- a. Conversations between or among audience members should be conducted outside the meeting room. Attendees should refrain from conversations while commission is in session.
- b. Cell phones. Attendees must refrain from the operation and use of cellular telephones, pagers, etc., or any mechanical devices that may disrupt city commission proceedings.
- c. Placards, banners, or signs are not be permitted in the commission chambers or in any other room in which the city commission conducts a meeting. Included in this prohibition are various hats, caps, visors, and t-shirts, which may represent sentiments as alluded to, regarding placards, banners and/or signs.
- d. Exhibits, displays, and visual aids used in connection with presentations to the city commission, are permitted.
- e. Only city commission members and city staff may approach the dais. If report, letter, etc., is to be presented to the commission, it should be given to the city secretary, (or staff) who will make the distribution. It is preferable that the item to be distributed be given to the city secretary prior to meeting time. A copy of the item should be made available for the city secretary's official record.
- f. All comments shall be made to the mayor and city commission as a whole, and not to individual commission members.

Comments are limited to 3 minutes.
Please abide by the allotted time.

03:00

**ITEMS FOR
INDIVIDUAL
CONSIDERATION(S)**

ACTION ITEM #1

Consideration and **APPROVAL** on **SECOND** and **FINAL READING** on **Ordinance Number 2026-1807** amending Chapter 66, Municipal Court, providing for municipal court civil jurisdiction to enforce health and safety and nuisance abatement ordinances; authorizing the issuance of search and seizure warrants; providing for concurrent jurisdiction; creating a court of record, and other matters pertaining thereto

City of Brownsville Municipal Court of Record
City of Brownsville – Chapter 66, Code of Ordinances



Purpose of the Ordinance - Create a Municipal Court of Record:

- **Civil jurisdiction** for the purpose of enforcing municipal ordinances enacted under Subchapter A, Chapter 214, L.G.C. and Subchapter E, Chapter 683, Transportation Code;
- **Concurrent jurisdiction** with a district court or a county court at law under Subchapter B, Chapter 54, L.G.C., within the municipality's territorial limits and property owned by the municipality located in the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction for the purpose of enforcing health and safety and nuisance abatement ordinances; and
- **Authority to issue:**
 - (a) search warrants for the purpose of investigating health and safety or nuisance abatement ordinance violations; and
 - (b) seizure warrants for the purpose of securing, removing, or demolishing the offending property and removing debris from the premises

City of Brownsville Municipal Court of Record
City of Brownsville – Chapter 66, Code of Ordinances



Municipal Court:

- Able to start August 1st or potentially earlier
- Already looking into equipment and software / uses audio/visual for arraignments already
- 4 judges and 3 courts to administer the increased dockets

Code Compliance / Public Health / City Attorney's Office

- Code Compliance Docket is already in place (training conducted)
- Provide additional training for civil cases in municipal court
- Improve / update processes for Code of Ordinance enforcement

City of Brownsville Municipal Court of Record
City of Brownsville – Chapter 66, Code of Ordinances



Questions



ACTION ITEM #2

Consideration and **ACTION** on the following proposed Charter amendments for the Special Election to be held on November 3, 2026. (Charter Review Committee/ Office of the City Secretary/ Office of the City Attorney):

- a. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, Section 13 – Compensation (Address Mayor and City Commissioner's compensation)
- b. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add 21-B. - Office of the City Secretary (Creating the office) Agenda July 7, 2026 – Page 5 of 7
- c. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add 21-C. - Office of the City Auditor (Creating the office)
- d. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, Section 28A. Audit and oversight committee (Increasing the membership and general clean-up)
- e. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add Section 35, Municipal Campaign Finance (Requiring Commission to set by ordinance)
- f. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to modify Section 4. - Qualifications.(Adding tax delinquency or other liability due to City as a bar to holding office)
- g. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, Section 3. - Vacancies (Adding automatic triggers for forfeiting office)
- h. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, Section 3. - Vacancies (Adding discretionary triggers for forfeiting office)
- i. Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add Section 35, Code of Ethics; Ethics Advisory Commission (Requiring Commission to create and adopt rules by ordinance)
- j. Amending Charter Art. VII., General Provisions, to add Section 3-A, - The Initiative(Adding initiative petition procedures for citizens)
- k. Amending Charter Art. VII., General Provisions, to add Section 3-B, - Referendum (Adding referendum procedures for citizens)
- l. Amending the Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add Section 22-B, Merit Hiring (Adding Merit principle hiring to City Charter)
- m. Amending the Charter Art. I through VII, except Art. VI, Utilities Board, to revise or eliminate provisions that have been superseded by state law and to update or eliminate archaic language

Charter Review Committee/ Office of the City Secretary/ Office of the City Attorney



JULY 7, 2026
CHARTER AMENDMENT
PROPOSITIONS





Resolution

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-004A

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, the City's Home Rule Charter was adopted at an election held on December 13, 1915, and which the enumeration of powers made in the Charter shall never be construed to preclude, by implication or otherwise, the city from exercising the powers incident to the enjoyment of local self-government, nor to do any and all things not inhibited by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Committee members are appointed by action of the Brownsville City Commission at duly called City Commission meetings, in order to review the existing City Charter and provide for amendments; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the committee shall be to review the City Charter regarding possible revisions to said charter, determine which Articles and Sections of the Charter need amendment, deletion, or addition, develop a list of possible amendments to the Charter for review by the City Commission and present Committee recommendations to the City Commission for the purpose of calling a Charter Amendment Election; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission shall appoint seven (7) members and the term of office for each member of the Committee shall be until recommendations have been presented to the City Commission for their review and approval. Each member shall serve without compensation. Service on the City Charter Review Committee shall not preclude service on any other board or commission of the City, and committee members may serve simultaneously on other boards or commissions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, THAT:

1. The following individuals are appointed or re-appointed to serve expired or un-expired terms to the Charter Review Committee.

NAME	APPOINTED BY	TERM ENDING
Liliana Elizondo	Mayor	12/31/2027
Nate Tipton	At Large "A"	12/31/2027
	At Large "B"	12/31/2027
Tomas Tijerina	District 1	12/31/2027
Daniel Salinas	District 2	12/31/2027
	District 3	12/31/2027
Arron Rendon	District 4	12/31/2027

2. The Charter Review Committee is charged with considering and making recommendation to the City Commission on the following City Charter amendments:

- a. ARTICLE V. – Administrative Provisions to address compensation under section 13, Audit and Oversight Committee under section 28A, campaign finance, a disciplinary provisions for city commission members;
- b. Technical and other amendments that are required to bring the City Charter in compliance with federal and state law changes that may be brought forward to the Charter Review Committee by the City Manager or City Attorney; and
- c. Other Charter matters as the City Commission may deem necessary and prudent review.

3. The Charter Review Committee may adopt bylaws to govern the conduct of its meetings and hearings, but shall at all times be subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act and the Texas Public Information Act.

4. The Charter Review Committee shall meet at least monthly to study issues, research preliminary findings and make an interim report of these findings to the City Commission so that a special election of the Charter Amendments may be called before Monday, August 17, 2026, the deadline to order an election for November 2026, or Friday, February 12, 2027, the deadline to order an election for May 2027.

5. The Charter Review Committee shall hold four (4) public hearings before making recommendation to the City Commission at the City Commission Chambers at City Hall and at least two locations throughout the City to solicit community feedback on issues to be considered in the City Charter Amendment election.

6. The Charter Review Committee shall, by majority vote of all of its members, make its final recommendations to the City Commission before Monday, August 17, 2026, the deadline to order an election for November 2026, or Friday, February 12, 2027, the deadline to order an election for May 2027, concerning the issues in the charge to the Charter Review Committee. The report may include the position of the minority and any accompanying explanations of the majority and minority positions.

7. The City Commission may amend the charge of the Charter Review Committee at any time.

8. The City Commission shall hold a public hearing at its City Commission meeting on or before Monday, August 17, 2026, the deadline to order an election for November 2026, or Friday, February 12, 2027, the deadline to order an election for May 2027, on the

preliminary draft of the proposed City Charter Amendments to obtain citizen feedback on the Amendments under consideration.

9. The City Commission shall make the final determination concerning whether and when to hold a City Charter Amendment election and the propositions to be submitted to the voters at the election.

10. The Charter Review Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the City Commission and shall serve unless or until replaced by the City Commission and shall be subject to rules applicable to other City boards and commissions, including the City's Ethics Ordinance Chapter 38. The Charter Review Committee shall cease to exist upon the accomplishment of the purpose for which it was created unless earlier abolished by majority vote of the City Commission.

11. The Office of the City Attorney, in conjunction with the Office of the City Secretary, shall serve as board liaisons to the Charter Review Committee.

PASSED and APPROVED on this 6th day of January 2026.

City of Brownsville

John Cowen Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Mayra A. Rios

Mayra A. Rios
City Secretary





Summary of Resolution

- Charge:
 - ARTICLE V. Administrative provisions to address **Compensation** under Section 13,
 - **Audit and Oversight Committee** under section 28A,
 - **Campaign finance,**
 - **Disciplinary provisions** for City Commission members
 - **Technical and other amendments** that are required to bring the City Charter into compliance with federal and state law changes that may be brought forward to the CRC by the City Manager or City Attorney
 - Other charter provisions that the City Commission may deem necessary and prudent to review
- Required **4 public hearings**: May 11th (Chambers), June 1st (Chambers), June 8th (BEC), June 15th (BEC)
- Held 1 extra public hearing: June 30th (BEC)
- **City Commission has the final determination** concerning whether and when to hold a City Charter Amendment election and the propositions to be submitted to the voters at the election



Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, Section 13 – Compensation (Address Mayor and City Commissioner's compensation):



Article V – Administrative Provisions

Section 13 – Compensation:

Currently Reads:	Recommendation:
The mayor and city commissioners elected after the adoption of this amendment shall each receive as compensation for their services during their term of office the annual sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for the mayor and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for city commissioners.	The mayor and city commissioners elected after the adoption of this amendment shall each receive as compensation for their services during their term of office the annual sum of forty sixty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$ 40,000 62,500) for the mayor and twenty-five fifty thousand dollars (\$ 25,000 50,000) for city commissioners.
Proposition A:	
Shall Article V, Section 13 of the City Charter be amended to provide that the mayor's annual pay be set at the rate of sixty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$62,500) and that the city commissioners' annual pay be set at the rate of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)?	



Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add 21-B. - Office of the City Secretary (Creating the office)



Art. V., 21-B. - Office of the City Secretary (Creating the Office of the City Secretary):

Currently Reads:	Recommendation:
No Section in Charter as to a City Secretary's Office. Would be an addition to Charter.	(a) <u>Upon consultation with the City Manager, the City Commission, by majority vote, may appoint and remove a City Secretary. He/she shall serve at the pleasure of the City Commission and receive such compensation as determined by the City Commission.</u> (b) <u>Unless excused by the City Commission for good cause, he/she shall attend all meetings of the City Commission and keep accurate minutes of its proceedings; engross and enroll all laws, resolutions and ordinances of the City Commission; preserve and keep in order all books, papers, documents, records and files of the City Commission of the executive departments; and keep a record of all commissions and licenses issued and shall countersign the same. He/she shall appoint such assistants and staff as may be approved in the adopted budget of the City. He/she shall have custody of the seal of the City and shall affix sample to such documents and, obligations of the City as he/she may be legally authorized to do. The City Commission may adopt such ordinances or resolutions as are necessary to administer and govern such offices.</u> (c) <u>In no event shall a City Secretary be terminated within ninety (90) days after a general election, except for misconduct, malfeasance or misfeasance.</u>



Art. V., 21-B. - Office of the City Secretary (Creating the Office of the City Secretary):

Currently Reads:

No Section in Charter as to a City Secretary's Office.

Would be an addition to Charter.

Proposition B:

Shall the City Charter be amended by adding section 21-B to Article V, providing for the appointment of a city secretary and defining the duties and powers of the office of the city secretary, including the obligation to attend all meetings of the City Commission and keep accurate minutes of its proceedings; engross and enroll all laws, resolutions and ordinances of the City Commission; preserve and keep in order all books, papers, documents, records and files of the City Commission of the executive departments; and keep a record of all commissions and licenses issued and shall countersign the same; appoint such assistants and staff as may be approved in the adopted budget of the City; have custody of the seal of the City and shall affix sample to such documents and, obligations of the City as he/she may be legally authorized to do?



Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add 21-C. - Office of the City Auditor (Creating the office)



Art. V., 21-C. - Office of the City Auditor (Creating the Office of the City Auditor):

Currently Reads:

28-A, (g) The Committee shall employ a city auditor who shall oversee all administrative and operational functions of the Office of the City Auditor. The city auditor, under the supervision of the Committee, shall develop policies and procedures for implementing the purpose and responsibility of the Committee.

Recommendation:

- (a) Office of the City Auditor Created: There shall be an Office of the City Auditor which is charged with conducting financial, fiscal compliance, and financial procedure audits of all city departments, offices, agencies, created entities, corporations, and programs.
- (b) Appointment by the City Commission; Compensation: The Office of the City Auditor shall be under the direction and control of the City Auditor, who shall be appointed by the City Commission. The City Auditor must be a person knowledgeable in public financial and fiscal theory, municipal accounting and auditing, and public administration. The City Auditor's compensation shall be fixed by the City Commission.
- (c) Term, removal, absence, or disability of city auditor: The City Auditor shall not be appointed for a definite fixed time but shall be removable at the will and pleasure of the City Commission by a vote of not less than a majority of the entire Commission. If removed after serving six (6) months, the City Auditor may demand written charges and the right to be heard thereon at a public meeting of the City Commission prior to the date on which the City Auditor's final removal...



Art. V., 21-C. - Office of the City Auditor (Creating the Office of the City Auditor):

Currently Reads:

28-A, (g) The Committee shall employ a city auditor who shall oversee all administrative and operational functions of the Office of the City Auditor. The city auditor, under the supervision of the Committee, shall develop policies and procedures for implementing the purpose and responsibility of the Committee.

Recommendation:

(c) (cont'd)...shall take effect, but pending such hearing the City Commission may suspend the City Auditor from office. The action of the City Commission in suspending or removing the City Auditor shall be final. In case of the absence or disability of the city auditor, the City Commission may designate some qualified person to perform the duties of the office.

(d) Advisor to Audit and Oversight Committee: Consistent with other provisions of this Charter, the City Auditor shall advise the Audit and Oversight Committee and report to them all administrative and operational functions of the Office of the City Auditor.

(e) Duties: The City Auditor shall oversee all administrative and operational functions of the Office of the City Auditor. The City Auditor, under the supervision of the Audit and Oversight Committee, shall develop policies and procedures for implementing the purpose and responsibility of the Committee.



Art. V., 21-C. - Office of the City Auditor (Creating the Office of the City Auditor):

Currently Reads:

28-A, (g) The Committee shall employ a city auditor who shall oversee all administrative and operational functions of the Office of the City Auditor. The city auditor, under the supervision of the Committee, shall develop policies and procedures for implementing the purpose and responsibility of the Committee.

Recommendation:

(f) Appointment of Assistants: Within the budget approval process and personnel procedures established by the City Commission for all departments, the City Auditor shall have the power to appoint, employ and remove such assistants, employees and personnel as he/she may deem necessary for the efficient administration of the affairs of the Office of the City Auditor and to prescribe and fix their duties, scope of authority and qualifications.

Proposition C:

Shall the City Charter be amended by adding section 21-C to Article V, providing for the appointment of a city auditor and defining the duties and powers of the office of the city auditor, including the obligation to conduct financial, fiscal compliance, and financial procedure audits of all city departments, offices, agencies, created entities, corporations, and programs; serve as an advisor to the Audit and Oversight Committee and report to them all administrative and operational functions of the Office of the City Auditor?



Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, Section 28A. Audit and oversight committee (Increasing the membership and general clean-up)



Section 28A. – Audit and oversight committee

Addition in red underline and deletion in red struck through text:

There is established by this Charter the Audit and Oversight Committee.

- (a) The Committee shall assist City Commission and management by providing independent advice and guidance on the adequacy of the entity's initiatives regarding values and ethics, governance structure, risk management, internal control framework, oversight of the internal audit activity, external auditors and other providers of assurance, as well as financial statements and public accountability reporting.
- (b) The Committee shall provide City Commission with advice and guidance regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of management's practices and potential improvements to those practices.
- (c) The Committee shall consist of ~~five~~ seven (7) members with each committee member appointed by a member of the City Commission. The appointment of each member shall be approved by a vote of no less than five out of the seven members of City Commission. The members of the Committee should collectively possess sufficient knowledge of audit, finance, computer technology, law, governance, and risk and control.
- (d) In discharging its responsibilities, the Committee, and its designees, shall have unrestricted access to members of city management, city employees, and information it deems necessary to discharge its duties.

Section 28A. – Audit and oversight (cont'd):

Addition in red underline and deletion in red struck through text:

(e) The Committee shall institute and oversee any special investigations or activities related to its purpose which are necessary in discharging its duties. In conducting such investigations, the committee may compel the attendance of witnesses, the production of books and papers and other evidence, and for that purpose may issue subpoenas or attachments as provided by City Charter.

(f) The Committee shall meet at least quarterly, and all meetings of the Committee shall be posted and conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

(g) The Committee shall, in consultation with the City Auditor, provide advice to the City Commission with respect to oversight for financial reporting, internal controls and auditing activities ~~employ a city auditor who shall oversee all administrative and operational functions of the Office of the City Auditor. The city auditor, under the supervision of the Committee, shall develop policies and procedures for implementing the purpose and responsibility of the Committee. The Committee shall be authorized to engage external auditors, as the committee requires, in carrying out its responsibilities. This includes the authority to hire and terminate external auditors and advisors, as well as the responsibility to approve services and fees paid to such resources.~~

(h) The Committee shall report to the City Commission annually, summarizing the committee's activities and recommendations.

(i) City Commission shall adopt an ordinance implementing the terms of this subsection.



Section 28A. – Audit and oversight committee

Proposition D & E:

Shall Article V, Section 28(A) of the City Charter be amended to allow the City Commission to appoint 7 members instead of 5 members to the Audit and Oversight Committee, with each City Commissioner making a nomination for appointment to the Committee when a vacancy exists by virtue of a term-limit, resignation, death, or other incapacity?

Shall Article V, Section 28(A) of the City Charter be amended to authorize the Audit and Oversight Committee to engage external auditors, as the committee requires, in carrying out its responsibilities. This includes the authority to hire and terminate external auditors and advisors, as well as the responsibility to approve services and fees paid to such resources?



Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add Section 35, Municipal Campaign Finance (Requiring Commission to set by ordinance)



Municipal Campaign Finance:

Currently Reads:	Recommendation:
No language within Charter	The city commission shall provide by ordinance campaign finance restrictions that comply with federal and state law.
Proposition F:	
Shall Article V of the City Charter be amended to add Section 35, Municipal Campaign Finance to require the City Commission to set municipal campaign finance regulations that comply with federal and state law?	



Municipal Campaign Finance

Proposed Language:

Charter Article V.

Administrative Provisions

Section 35 – Municipal Campaign Finance

- (a) Disclosure.** The city commission shall enact ordinances to protect the ability of city residents to be informed of the financing used in support of, or against, campaigns for locally elected office. The terms of such ordinances shall include, but not be limited to, requirements upon candidates and candidate committees to report in a timely manner to the appropriate city office: contributions received, including the name and address of each contributor who has contributed; expenditures made; and obligations entered into by such candidate or candidate committee. In so far as is permissible under federal and state law, such regulations shall also provide for fines and imprisonment for violations. The ordinance shall provide for convenient public disclosure of such information by the most appropriate means available to the city.
- (b) Contribution and Spending Limitations.** In order to combat the potential for, and appearance of, corruption, and to preserve the ability of all qualified community members to run for public office, the city shall, in so far as is permitted by federal and state law, have the authority to enact ordinances designed to limit contributions and expenditures by, or on behalf of, candidates for locally elected office. Ordinances pursuant to this section may include but are not limited to: limitations on candidate and candidate committees that affect the amount, time, place, and source of financial and in-kind contributions; and, voluntary limitations on candidate and candidate committee expenditures tied to financial or non-financial incentives.



Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to modify Section 4. - Qualifications. (Adding tax delinquency or other liability due to City as a bar to holding office)



Disciplinary Provisions for City Commission:

Currently Reads:

Art. V., Section 4. - Qualifications.

The mayor and each commissioner shall be citizens of the United States and resident citizens of the City of Brownsville, and have the qualifications of electors therein. The mayor, commissioners and other officers and employees shall not hold any other public office of emolument and shall not be interested in the profits or emoluments of any contracts, job, work, or service for the municipality, or interested in the sale to the city of any supplies, equipment, material, or articles purchased. Any elected officer, appointed managerial officer, or managerial employee of the city who shall cease to possess any of the qualifications herein required shall forthwith forfeit his office and any such contract in which any officer or employee is or may become interested may be declared void by the commission.

Recommendation:

Art. V., Section 4. - Qualifications.

The mayor and each commissioner shall be citizens of the United States and resident citizens of the City of Brownsville, and have the qualifications of electors therein. The mayor, commissioners and other officers and employees shall not hold any other public office of emolument and shall not be interested in the profits or emoluments of any contracts, job, work, or service for the municipality, or interested in the sale to the city of any supplies, equipment, material, or articles purchased; and shall not be personally delinquent in the payment of any taxes or other liability due the city or be disqualified by reason of any provision of any other section of this Charter. Any elected officer, appointed managerial officer, or managerial employee of the city who shall cease to possess any of the qualifications herein required, or any other section of this Charter, or convicted of a felony while in office, shall immediately ~~forthwith~~ forfeit his/her office and any such contract in which any officer or employee is or may become interested may be declared void by the commission.



Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, Section 3. - Vacancies (Adding automatic triggers for forfeiting office)

Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, Section 3. - Vacancies (Adding discretionary triggers for forfeiting office)



Disciplinary Provisions for City Commission:

Currently Reads:

Art. V., Section 3. - Vacancies.
Vacancies in the city commission shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the said city commission at the first regular meeting thereafter, at which a majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, and, until the majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, such remaining members shall have the same power, duties and authority, as if they comprised the whole number of members provided for in this Charter, provided, if a majority of the city commission is vacated at any one time, such vacancies shall then be filled by majority vote of the qualified electors of the said city, at a special election for the remainder of the term, as provided by ordinance to be adopted by the remaining members of the city commission.

Recommendation:

Art. V., Section 3. - Vacancies, Forfeiture of Office, Filling of Vacancies, Ineligibility.

(A) Vacancies The office of the Mayor or of a Commission Member shall become vacant upon death, resignation, removal from office in any manner authorized by law, or by forfeiture of office.

(B) Forfeiture of Office

(1) Mandatory Grounds.

The Mayor or a Commission Member shall forfeit office if he or she:

- a. lacks at any time during the term of office any qualification for holding the office prescribed by this Charter or by law;
- b. fails to meet the residency requirements for election to office;
- c. is convicted of a felony;
- d. fails to attend three consecutive regular Commission meetings without being excused by the Commission;



Disciplinary Provisions for City Commission:

Currently Reads:

Art. V., Section 3. - Vacancies.

Vacancies in the city commission shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the said city commission at the first regular meeting thereafter, at which a majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, and, until the majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, such remaining members shall have the same power, duties and authority, as if they comprised the whole number of members provided for in this Charter, provided, if a majority of the city commission is vacated at any one time, such vacancies shall then be filled by majority vote of the qualified electors of the said city, at a special election for the remainder of the term, as provided by ordinance to be adopted by the remaining members of the city commission.

Recommendation:

(1) **Mandatory Grounds. (cont'd)**

e. violates the prohibited personal financial interest provision set forth in Art. V., Section 4, as determined by the Ethics Advisory Commission or City Attorney, or any other provisions of this Charter that prescribe forfeiture; or

f. fails to attend six consecutive or non-consecutive regular Commission meetings in any twelve-month period with or without being excused by the Commission.

(2) **Potential Grounds.**

If the Mayor or a Commission Member is convicted of any criminal offense other than a felony or Class C Misdemeanor, the City Attorney shall file a petition for Declaratory Judgement with the District Courts of Cameron County for a determination on whether the crime is one involving moral turpitude. If it is determined by the District Court Judge that the Mayor or Commission Member was convicted of a crime...



Disciplinary Provisions for City Commission:

Currently Reads:

Art. V., Section 3. - Vacancies.

Vacancies in the city commission shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the said city commission at the first regular meeting thereafter, at which a majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, and, until the majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, such remaining members shall have the same power, duties and authority, as if they comprised the whole number of members provided for in this Charter, provided, if a majority of the city commission is vacated at any one time, such vacancies shall then be filled by majority vote of the qualified electors of the said city, at a special election for the remainder of the term, as provided by ordinance to be adopted by the remaining members of the city commission.

Recommendation:

...involving moral turpitude, then the City Commission shall automatically order a recall election at the next allowable election date under the Texas Elections Code and dispense of the certified recall petition required under Section 5(a) of the Charter.

(C) Filling of Vacancies

Vacancies in the city commission shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the said city commission at the first regular meeting thereafter, at which a majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, and, until the majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, such remaining members shall have the same power, duties and authority, as if they comprised the whole number of members provided for in this Charter, provided, if a majority of the city commission is vacated at any one time, such vacancies shall then be filled by majority vote of the qualified electors of the said city, at a special election for the remainder of the term, as provided by ordinance to be adopted by the remaining members of the city commission.



Disciplinary Provisions for City Commission:

Currently Reads:

Art. V., Section 3. - Vacancies.
Vacancies in the city commission shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the said city commission at the first regular meeting thereafter, at which a majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, and, until the majority of the remaining members of said city commission can agree, such remaining members shall have the same power, duties and authority, as if they comprised the whole number of members provided for in this Charter, provided, if a majority of the city commission is vacated at any one time, such vacancies shall then be filled by majority vote of the qualified electors of the said city, at a special election for the remainder of the term, as provided by ordinance to be adopted by the remaining members of the city commission.

Recommendation:

(D) Ineligibility

The Mayor or Commission Member who is removed from office due to recall, conviction of a felony or court order, irrespective of the length of time served, thereafter shall be ineligible to hold elected office with the City of Brownsville.



Disciplinary Provisions for City Commission:

Proposition G, H, and I:

Shall Article V, Section 4 of the City Charter be amended to require a candidate for City Commission, or a current office holder, to not be personally delinquent in the payment of any taxes or other liability due the city or be disqualified by reason of any provision of any other section of the City Charter?

Shall Article V, Section 3 of the City Charter be amended to require that a City Commissioner automatically forfeits their office if he or she lacks at any time during the term of office any qualification for holding the office prescribed by the Charter or by law; fails to meet the residency requirements for election to office; is convicted of a felony; fails to attend three consecutive regular Commission meetings without being excused by the Commission; violates the prohibited personal financial interest provision set forth in Article V, Section 4, or any other provisions of this Charter that prescribe forfeiture; or fails to attend six consecutive or non-consecutive regular Commission meetings in any twelve-month period with or without being excused by the Commission?

Shall Article V, Section 3 of the City Charter be amended to state that if the Mayor or a Commission Member is convicted of any criminal offense other than a felony or Class C Misdemeanor, the City Attorney shall file a petition for Declaratory Judgement with the District Courts of Cameron County for a determination on whether the crime is one involving moral turpitude. If it is determined by the District Court Judge that the Mayor or Commission Member was convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, then the City Commission shall automatically order a recall election at the next allowable election date under the Texas Elections Code and dispense of the certified recall petition required under Section 5(a) of the Charter.



Amending Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add Section 35, Code of Ethics; Ethics Advisory Commission (Requiring Commission to create and adopt rules by ordinance)



Ethics Committee & Ordinance:

Currently Reads:	Recommendation:
No language within Charter except nepotism language: Section 30. - Nepotism. No person related within the second degree by affinity, or within the third degree by consanguinity, to the mayor or any of the commissioners, shall be appointed by the city commission, nor a person thus related to the city manager shall ever be appointed by him to any office, position, clerkship or service of the city.	The City Commission shall provide by ordinance an Ethics Board and conflict of interest/disclosure regulations.
Proposition J:	
Shall Article V of the City Charter be amended to add Section 36, Code of Ethics; Ethics Board, requiring the City Commission to create an Ethics Board and adopt conflict of interest and disclosure rules via ordinance through the adoption of an Ethics Code for elected officials, appointed officials, and city employees?	



Ethics Committee & Ordinance:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 36 – Code of Ethics; Ethics Board:

(a) **Code of Ethics.** The use of public office for private gain is prohibited. The city commission shall implement this prohibition by ordinance, the terms of which shall include, but not be limited to: acting in an official capacity on matters in which the official has a private financial interest clearly separate from that of the general public; the acceptance of gifts and other things of value; acting in a private capacity on matters dealt with as a public official; the use of confidential information; and appearances by city officials before other city agencies on behalf of private interests. This ordinance shall include a statement of purpose and shall provide for reasonable public disclosure of finances by officials with major decision-making authority over monetary expenditures and contractual and regulatory matters and, insofar as permissible under state law, shall provide for fines and imprisonment for violations.

(b) **Ethics Board.** The City Commission shall, by ordinance, establish an independent board of ethics to administer and enforce the conflict of interest and financial disclosure ordinances. No member of the board may hold elective or appointed office under the city or any other government or hold any political party office. Insofar as possible under state law, the City Commission shall authorize the board to issue binding advisory opinions, conduct investigations on its own initiative and on referral or complaint from officials or resident, subpoena witnesses and documents, refer cases for prosecution, and recommend administrative fines. The City shall provide annual training and education to city officials and employees, including candidates for public office, regarding the ethics code.



Amending Charter Art. VII., General Provisions,
to add Section 3-A, - The Initiative (Adding
initiative petition procedures for citizens)



The Initiative:

Currently Reads:	Recommendation:
No language within Charter except nepotism language:	Amending Charter Art. VII., General Provisions, to add Section 3-A, - The Initiative (Adding initiative petition procedures for citizens)
Proposition K:	
Shall Article VII of the City Charter be amended to add Section 3-A, Initiative, to add initiative procedures for citizens?	



The Initiative:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 3-A – The Initiative:

- (a) **POWER TO INITIATE ORDINANCES.** The qualified voters of this city shall have the right, at their option, to propose ordinances, not in conflict with this Charter, the Constitution or the laws of the State of Texas, and to adopt the same at the polls, such power being known as the initiative. A petition, meeting the requirements hereinafter provided and requesting the commission to pass an ordinance, therein set forth or designated, shall be termed an initiative petition, and shall be acted upon as hereinafter provided.
- (b) **PREPARATION OF INITIATIVE PETITIONS.** Signatures to initiative petitions need not all be on one paper, but the circulator of every such paper shall make an affidavit substantially as follows: That each signature appended to the paper is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be and was made by said person in his or her presence. With each signature shall be stated the place of residence of the signer, giving the street and number, or other description sufficient to identify the place. Each signature shall be in ink or with indelible pencil. All such papers pertaining to any one measure shall have written or printed thereon the names and addresses of at least five (5) registered voters who shall be officially regarded as filing the petition, and shall constitute a committee of the petitioners for the purposes hereinafter named. All such papers shall be filed in the office of the city secretary as one instrument.



The Initiative:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 3-A – The Initiative:

(c) FILING OF PETITIONS. Within twenty-five (25) days after the filing of the petition, the city secretary shall ascertain by examination the number of registered voters whose signatures are appended thereto, and whether this number is at least ten (10) per cent of the total number of registered voters as shown by the registration books, and he or she shall attach to said petition his or her certificate showing the result of said examination. If by the secretary's certificate, of which notice in writing shall be given to one or more of the persons designated, the petition is shown to be insufficient it may be amended within ten (10) days from the date of said certificate by filing supplementary petition papers with additional signatures. The secretary shall, within twenty-five (25) days after such amendment, make examination of the amended petition, and if his or her certificate shall show to be insufficient, the secretary shall file the petition in his or her office and shall notify each member of the committee to that effect. The final finding of the insufficiency of a petition shall not prejudice the filing of a new petition for the same purpose; but no new petition covering the same ordinance in substance shall be filed until at least six (6) months have elapsed.



The Initiative:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 3-A – The Initiative:

(d) PREPARATION OF INITIATIVE PETITIONS. Signatures to initiative petitions need not all be on one paper, but the circulator of every such paper shall make an affidavit substantially as follows: That each signature appended to the paper is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be and was made by said person in his or her presence. With each signature shall be stated the place of residence of the signer, giving the street and number, or other description sufficient to identify the place. Each signature shall be in ink or with indelible pencil. All such papers pertaining to any one measure shall have written or printed thereon the names and addresses of at least five (5) registered voters who shall be officially regarded as filing the petition, and shall constitute a committee of the petitioners for the purposes hereinafter named. All such papers shall be filed in the office of the city secretary as one instrument.

(e) SUBMISSION OF PETITION TO COUNCIL. If the petition shall be found to be sufficient, the secretary shall so certify and submit the proposed measure to the commission at its next meeting. Upon receiving the proposed measure the commission shall at once proceed to consider it and shall take final action thereon within thirty (30) days from the date it is filed with them.



The Initiative:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 3-A – The Initiative:

(f) ELECTION ON INITIATED MEASURES. If the commission shall fail to pass the proposed measure, or shall pass it in a form different from that set forth in the petition, then the measure shall, if demanded in writing by the committee, be submitted by the commission to the vote of the electors at the next election occurring in the city; provided, that the City Commission shall, if in their judgment the public interests demand it, order an election to be held at an earlier date to be fixed by the commission.

(g) INITIATIVE BALLOTS. The ballot used in voting upon an initiated ordinance shall state the caption of the ordinance and below the caption shall set forth on separate lines the words, "For the Ordinance" and "Against the Ordinance." Where an initiated ordinance and an alternative ordinance proposed by the commission are submitted, the ballot shall state the captions of each ordinance, clearly designating them "Ordinance No. 1" and "Ordinance No. 2," respectively, and shall set forth below the captions on separate lines the words "For Ordinance No. 1," "For Ordinance No. 2,". Where an initiated ordinance and an alternative ordinance are submitted each voter shall vote "For" only one ordinance. Where an initiated ordinance and an alternative ordinance are submitted to the voters, the measure that receives the highest number of favorable votes shall prevail in that election.



The Initiative:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 3-A – The Initiative:

(h) NUMBER OF MEASURES TO BE INITIATED; INITIATED ORDINANCES SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT OR REPEAL BY COMMISSION. Any number of proposed measures may be voted upon at the same election in accordance with the provisions of this Charter. Initiated ordinances, adopted by the electors, shall be published and may be amended or repealed by the commission as in the case of other ordinances; but not until two years after such ordinance or ordinances shall become effective.



Amending Charter Art. VII., General Provisions,
to add Section 3-B, - Referendum (Adding
referendum procedures for citizens)



The Referendum:

Currently Reads:	Recommendation:
No language within Charter except nepotism language:	Amending Charter Art. VII., General Provisions, to add Section 3-B, - Referendum (Adding referendum procedures for citizens)
Proposition L:	
Shall Article VII of the City Charter be amended to add Section 3-B, Referendum, to add referendum procedures for citizens?	



The Referendum:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.
General Provisions

Section 3-B – The Referendum:

- (a) **Submission of ordinance to voters prior to taking effect or within thirty days of passage; section not applicable to routine or emergency measures, general appropriation ordinance or bond ordinances.** If prior to the date when an ordinance of a general nature passed by the City Commission shall take effect, or within thirty (30) days after the passage of same, a referendum vote should be demanded on same, as hereafter provided, such ordinance shall be submitted to the legal voters of the City of Brownsville, and the same shall not be effective and valid until the said ordinance shall have been approved by a majority of those voting thereon; provided, that this section shall not apply to mere matters of routine, or emergency measures passed on the ground of urgent public need for the preservation of peace, health, safety or property, by a vote of not less than three-fourths of the City Commission, nor to the general appropriation ordinance, ordinance appropriating money or levy of taxes or to salaries or benefits of public officers or employees, bond ordinances, or capital programs.



The Referendum:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 3-B – The Referendum:

(b) Referendum petition. Whenever there shall be presented to the City Commission a petition or petitions, signed by ten (10) per cent of the registered and qualified legal voters of said city, demanding that an ordinance passed by the commission, and set forth in said petition or petitions, be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city, it shall be the duty of the commission to submit such proposed ordinance to a vote of the qualified electors of said city at the next election held thereafter by said city. The signatures to said petition need not all be appended to one paper, but each signer shall add to his signature his or her place of residence, giving the street and number. All signatures must be made in ink or with indelible pencil. One of the signers of said petition shall make oath before a duly qualified officer that the statements therein are true and that each signature to said petition is a genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be and was signed in his or her presence by such person; provided, that any petition intended to require a submission to referendum of an ordinance enacted by the City Commission shall be presented to the commission within thirty (30) days after the enactment of such ordinance, and not thereafter. The City Commission may, if in its judgment the public interest so demands, provide for such referendum election to be held at an earlier date than that of the next ensuing election, in which event the said date shall be fixed by the commission.



The Referendum:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 3-B – The Referendum:

(c) ALTERATION OR AMENDMENT OR PROPOSED ORDINANCE. If the City Commission shall alter or amend said proposed ordinance (as it may do), and such amended ordinance should not be satisfactory to the persons demanding the referendum, then the said amended ordinance shall be, if demanded in writing by a committee of five (5) signers, to be designated in the petitions as the committee to act for the said petitioners, submitted to a vote of the people at the next election ensuing in the city, unless a different date be set by the Commission. Or if said ordinance should not be amended or altered by the City Commission, the same course shall be taken in respect thereto as in the case of amended ordinances.

The ballots used in such election shall contain the words, -"For the Ordinance Passed by the City Commission on a certain date" (stating the nature of the ordinance), and "Against the said Ordinance." If a majority of the votes cast shall be in favor of the adoption of said ordinance, the said ordinance as passed shall be valid and effective, as other ordinances of the city, upon proper publication if required. If a majority of the votes cast as [at] such election be against the said ordinance it shall not be valid and effective.



The Referendum:

Proposed Language:

Charter Article VII.

General Provisions

Section 3-B – The Referendum:

(d) ORDINANCES PASSED BY REFERENDUM SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT OR REPEAL BY COMMISSION AFTER SIX MONTHS. Referendum ordinances adopted by the electors shall be published and may be amended or repealed by the commission as in the case of other ordinances, but not until six (6) months after such ordinance shall become effective.



Amending the Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add Section 22-B, Merit Hiring (Adding Merit principle hiring to City Charter)



Merit Hiring:

Currently Reads:

No language within Charter except the following language:
Article V, Administrative Provisions

Section 20. - City manager; his responsibilities and powers of appointment and removal; removal of officers and employees; and non-interference with appointments and removals...All appointments and removals of officers and employees shall be subject to the personnel policy adopted by the commission, except as otherwise provided by this Charter, or as provided by law.

Section 22. - Contracts for services...No contract shall ever be made which binds the city to pay for personal services to be rendered for any stated period of time, except as provided below. All appointive officers and employees shall be subject to the personnel policy adopted by the commission subject, however, to the provisions for civil service herein or hereinafter made a part of this Charter. Provided that the Commission shall have the authority to enter into an employment contract with a City Manager on terms decided by the commission but which shall not exceed two years in duration.

Recommendation:

Amending the Charter Art. V., Administrative Provisions, to add Section 22-B, Merit Hiring (Adding Merit principle hiring to City Charter)

Proposition M:

Shall Article V of the City Charter be amended to add Section 22-B, Merit Hiring to add that city employees or appointed officials shall be selected or hired on the basis of the merit principle?



Merit Hiring:

Proposed Language:
Charter Article V. Administrative Provisions <u>Section 22-B – Merit Hiring</u> (a) <u>Merit Principle. All appointments, employment, and promotions of city officers and employees shall be made solely on the basis of merit and fitness demonstrated by a valid and reliable examination, licensure, experience, or other evidence of competence.</u> (b) <u>Merit System. Consistent with all applicable federal and state laws, the City Commission, at the recommendation of the City Manager, shall adopt such personnel policies as necessary for the establishment, regulation, and maintenance of a merit system governing the effective administration of the employees of the city's departments, offices and agencies, including but not limited to classification and pay plans, examinations, force reduction, removals, working conditions, provisional and exempt appointments, in-service training, grievances and relationships with employee organizations.</u>

Charter Article V.
Administrative Provisions
Section 22-B – Merit Hiring

- (a) Merit Principle. All appointments, employment, and promotions of city officers and employees shall be made solely on the basis of merit and fitness demonstrated by a valid and reliable examination, licensure, experience, or other evidence of competence.
- (b) Merit System. Consistent with all applicable federal and state laws, the City Commission, at the recommendation of the City Manager, shall adopt such personnel policies as necessary for the establishment, regulation, and maintenance of a merit system governing the effective administration of the employees of the city's departments, offices and agencies, including but not limited to classification and pay plans, examinations, force reduction, removals, working conditions, provisional and exempt appointments, in-service training, grievances and relationships with employee organizations.



Amending the Charter Art. I through VII, except Art. VI, Utilities Board, to revise or eliminate provisions that have been superseded by state law and to update or eliminate archaic language



General Clean-up:

Currently Reads:	Recommendation:
Charter currently contains archaic language referencing 1915 and other obsolete provisions.	Amend the Charter Art. I through VII, except Art. VI, Utilities Board, to revise or eliminate provisions that have been superseded by state law and to update or eliminate archaic language.
Proposition N:	
Shall the City's Charter Article I through VII, except Article VI, Utilities Board, be amended to revise or eliminate provisions that have been superseded by state law and to update or eliminate archaic language to current usage?	



Dates for the November 3, 2026 Election

Charter Amendment Election Dates

July 7, 2026 City Commission Meeting	City Commission to vote individually on Charter Amendment Propositions
July 21, 2026 City Commission Meeting	Ordinance 1st Reading – Public Hearing/Order the Election (with final Charter Amendment wording)
August 4, 2026 City Commission Meeting	Ordinance 2nd Reading – Officially Ordering the Election (<u>August 17, 2026 Deadline to order election</u>)
July 8, 2026 – November 3, 2026	Education may begin as soon as Commission approves propositions
November 3, 2026	Election

BOARD APPOINTMENT(S)

ACTION ITEM #1

Consideration and **ACTION** on **Resolution Number 2025-076C** to appoint or reappoint members to the Brownsville Border Film Commission.



Brownsville Border Film Commission

- **Purpose:** The Brownsville Border Film Commission is AFCI-Certified, one of eleven Regional Texas Film Commissions, and a Film-Friendly Community. Located in the southern tip of Texas, Brownsville offers an unforgettable and matchless experience along the border sister city to Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico with beautiful landscapes, historical sites, unique flora and fauna, and wealth of culture and talent.
- **Meeting Schedule:** The Board meets every third Thursday of each month at 5:30pm for regular open meetings at the Brownsville Visitor Center located at 1312 E. Adams St.
- **Composition: 7 members**
 - Each member of the City Commission shall have an appointment

Member	Appointed Date	Term Expiration	Appointed by
Comm. Bryan Martinez	11/18/2025	Term of Office	
Bobby Torres	1/7/2025	6/30/2027	Mayor
Elizabeth Shull	5/6/2025	6/30/2027	At-Large "A"
Jason Fry	06/02/2026	6/30/2028	At-Large "B"
Jesus Treviño	11/18/2025	6/30/2027	District 1
Carmen Nordyke	11/18/2025	6/30/2027	District 2
Jessica Molina	06/02/2026	6/30/2028	District 3
VACANCY		6/30/2028	District 4

 Vacancy



Brownsville Border Film Commission

Applicant's Name	District
Lorena D Herrera	1
Daniel Salinas	2
Giovanni Hernandez	2
Jose Olvera Villalpando	2
Julio C Martinez	2
Manuel G Arredondo	2
Mario I Rojas	2
Alejandra C. Rodriguez	3
Roberto Longoria	3

Applicant's Name	District
Ruben A Martinez	3
Brenda McKinnon	4
Gloria Magana	4
Jesus De Leon	4
Liliana Benavidez	4
Mayra I Cruz	4
Lidia B. Garcia	Outside City Limits
Melissa Marcelloni	Outside City Limits

ACTION ITEM #2

Consideration and **ACTION** on **Resolution Number 2025-083C** to appoint or reappoint members to the Paseo De La Resaca Lighting and Landscaping Maintenance District Service Plan Board (PASEO).



Paseo de la Resaca Public Improvement District Board

- **Purpose:** The board's purpose is to improve landscaping and lighting and establish or improve parks and/or park-like facilities. The Paseo de la Resaca Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District was created in conformance with Chapter 372 of the Texas Local Government Code and was adopted by Resolution on September 24, 1996, amended by Resolution 2001-087 on December 11, 2001, and Resolution 2025-035 on March 18, 2025.
- **Meeting Schedule:** Meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Brownsville Events Center, Suite A, 1 Events Center Boulevard, Brownsville, Texas 78526.
- **Composition:** (7) members, which shall be appointed by the City Commission, with each City Commission member responsible for nominating a member to the Board position corresponding to their place, with at least three (3) members owning commercial or residential property within the district being appointed by the Mayor, At-Large A, and At-Large B.

Member	Appointed Date	Term Expiration	Appointed by
Oscar Lozano	4/1/2025	6/30/2027	MAYOR
Nancy Dimas	4/18/2025	6/30/2027	AT-LARGE "A"
Alberto Robledo	06/02/2026	6/30/2028	AT-LARGE "B"
Favio Balladares	5/6/2025	6/30/2027	DISTRICT 1
Comm. Linda C. Macias	3/18/2025	6/30/2027	DISTRICT 2
VACANCY		6/30/2028	DISTRICT 3
Dino Chavez	06/16/2026	6/30/2028	DISTRICT 4

 Vacancy



Paseo de la Resaca Public Improvement District Board

Applicant's Name	District
Marissa G. Fuentes	1
Yadira Zapata	1
Antonio Dietrich	2
Austin Boggess	2
Eloy Olvera	2
Augustine J. Anduiza	3
David De La Garza	3
Diana K. Medina	3
Jesus Gracia	3
Joan A. Rodriguez	3
Maria E. Ramirez Soto	3
Ruby Vasquez	4

ACTION ITEM #3

Consideration and **ACTION** on **Resolution Number 2025-084** to appoint or reappoint members to the Brownsville Public Library System Advisory Board.



Brownsville Public Library System Advisory Board

- **Purpose:** The Brownsville Public Library System Advisory Board was established by Chapter 62 of the Code of Ordinances to better promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community and its orderly development.
- **Meeting Schedule:** Meets the second Monday of the month at the Main Branch Library (2600 Central Blvd.) or the Southmost Branch Library (4320 Southmost Blvd.).
- **Composition:** 7 members
 - Each member of the City Commission shall have an appointment

 Vacancy

Member	Appointed Date	Term Expiration	Appointed by
Hania Hussain	11/04/2025	12/31/2027	Mayor
Mandy L. Martinez	11/18/2025	12/31/2028	Comm. At – Large “A:
Rosa E. Maldonado	7/15/2025	12/31/2027	Comm. At – Large “B:
Jose Uvalles	11/18/2025	12/31/2028	Comm. District 1
VACANCY		12/31/2027	Comm. District 2
George E. Olivo	11/12/2024	12/31/2026	Comm. District 3
Nora I. Garza	11/18/2025	12/31/2028	Comm. District 4



Brownsville Public Library System Advisory Board

Applicant's Name	District
Yadira Zapata	1
Martin Leal	2
Rosalinda Williams	2
Alyssa Gutierrez	3
Analize M. Velazquez	3
Augustine J. Anduiza	3
Luciana Morales-Mendoza	3
Ruben A. Martinez	3

Applicant's Name	District
Anthony A. Antinori	4
Christopher Galicia	4
Gloria Magana	4
Graciela Alonso	4
Liliana Benavidez	4
Mayra Cruz	4
Ruby G. Vasquez	4
Melissa Marcelloni	Outside City Limits

ACTION ITEM #4

Consideration and **ACTION** on **Resolution Number 2025-100** to appoint or reappoint members to the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC).



Transit Advisory Committee

- **Purpose:** To monitor the performance of the Brownsville Metro System Quality statistical reports, to review requested and proposed service, policy, and procedure changes to assure that needs have been addressed, to review individual complaints, incidents, and/or suggestions as needed, and to review the acquisition and development of major facilities to address the needs of the entire community.
- **Meeting Schedule:** Meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm, in the Community Room, on the Second Floor of La Plaza Building, located at 755 International Blvd., Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas, 78520.
- **Composition:** 7 members
 - Each member of the City Commission shall have an appointment

Member	Appointed Date	Term Expiration	Appointed by
Cecilia A Gomez	11/4/2025	12/31/2027	Mayor
Graham Sevier	11/4/2025	12/31/2027	Comm. At – Large “A
Christina Villarreal	11/18/2025	12/31/2026	Comm. At – Large “B
Sandra G Mitchell	11/18/2025	12/31/2027	Comm. District 1
VACANCY		12/31/2027	Comm. District 2
Sergio Zarate	11/4/2025	12/31/2026	Comm. District 3
Gilbert Rodriguez	11/18/2025	12/31/2026	Comm. District 4



Vacancy



Transit Advisory Committee

Applicant's Name	District
Oscar Olvera	1
Giovanni Hernandez	2
Juliana Diaz	2
Karla Cantu	2
Analize M. Velazquez	3
Augustine J. Anduiza	3
Jordan C. Tarango	4
Juan Moya	Outside City Limits
Melissa Marcelloni	Outside City Limits

ACTION ITEM #5

Consideration and **ACTION** on **Resolution Number 2025-101** for the removal and appointment of the members to the Building & Standards Commission.

ACTION ITEM #6

Consideration and **ACTION** on **Resolution Number 2025-102** for the removal and appointment of the members to the Board of Adjustment.



Buildings & Standards / Board of Adjustment

Purpose

BSC: To serve as a quasi-judicial board to the City Commission for the purpose of hearing cases concerning alleged violations of the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code and COB adopted codes and Ordinances regarding Chapter 18 – Building and Building Regulations. Issues orders to vacate, relocate occupants, repair, demolish, or secure premises, and may assess civil penalties.

BOA: Hold public hearing and acting on applications for variances, special exceptions, and appeals of an administrative decision.

When they meet

In person, once a month at 5:30 PM at the City Commission Chambers located at City Hall on the second (2nd) floor of the Old Federal Courthouse: 1001 E. Elizabeth Street.

Who they are

As per UDC, BSC & BOA are now composed of seven (7) board members and four (4) alternate board members.



Removed / VACANCY

Member	Appointed Date	Term Expiration	Appointed by
Dillon Vanderford (R)	7/15/2025	12/31/2027	Mayor
Hector Guerra (R)	7/15/2025	12/31/2027	Commissioner At-Large “A”
Larry Hollman (R)	7/15/2025	12/31/2026	Commissioner At-Large “B”
Gilbert Hernandez (R)	8/19/2025	12/31/2027	Commissioner District 1
Jose Trevino (R)	7/15/2025	12/31/2027	Commissioner District 2
Emmanuel Hernandez (R)	7/15/2025	12/31/2026	Commissioner District 3
Alejandro Moreno (R)	8/19/2025	12/31/2026	Commissioner District 4
Ruben Martinez (A)	08/05/2025	12/31/2027	Commissioner At Large “A”
Jesus Flores (A)	08/05/2025	12/31/2027	Commissioner At Large “B”
Jeff Ray (A)	10/21/2025	12/31/2027	Mayor
Gilbert Rodriguez (A)	1/6/2026	12/31/2027	Commissioner District 2



Buildings & Standards / Board of Adjustment

Applicant's Name	District
Yadira Zapata	1
Maribel Chapa	1
Oscar Olvera	1
Victor Ochoa	1
Jesus Hernandez	2
Karla Cantu	2
Manuel Arredondo	2
Augustine J. Anduiza	3
Beatriz A. Maldonado	3

Applicant's Name	District
Eduardo Garrido	3
George E. Monterrubio	3
Hector E. Siller	3
Jesus Gracia	3
Karen Garza	3
Gloria Magana	4
Angela Han	4
Claudia Y. Lozano	4
Stephanie Kferman	Outside City Limits

EXECUTIVE SESSION(S)

EXECUTIVE SESSION #1

Closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Real Property Deliberation), and 551.087 (Economic Development Deliberation) related to Project Egypt.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

Closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Real Property Deliberation), and 551.087 (Economic Development Deliberation) related to Project Headquarters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #3

Closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Real Property Deliberation), and 551.087 (Economic Development Deliberation) related to Project Marketsquare.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #4

Closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Real Property Deliberation), and 551.087 (Economic Development Deliberation) related to Project Romeo.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #5

Closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.087 (Economic Development Deliberation) related to Solid Waste Services.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #6

Closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney, including Contemplated or Pending Litigation) related to: Fire Truck Price-Fixing Litigation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #7

Closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney, including Contemplated or Pending Litigation) related to: Midtown Entertainment District enforcement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #8

Closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney, including Contemplated or Pending Litigation and/or Settlement Offer) related to CCAD Property ID 30393.



**THE CITY COMMISSION
IS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**POSSIBLE ACTION ON
ANY ITEM(S) AS
DISCUSSED IN
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM #1

Consideration and **ACTION**, if any, related to
Resolution Number 2026-104 on Project Egypt.

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM #2

Consideration and **ACTION**, if any, related to
Resolution Number 2026-107 on Project Headquarters

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM #3

Consideration and **ACTION**, if any, related to **Resolution Number 2026-106** on Project Marketsquare.

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM #4

Consideration and **ACTION**, if any, related to
Resolution Number 2026-105 on Project Romeo.

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM #5

Consideration and **ACTION**, if any, related to Fire Truck Price-Fixing Litigation.

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM #6

Consideration and **ACTION**, if any, related to
Midtown Entertainment District enforcement.

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM #7

Consideration and **ACTION**, if any, related to CCAD
Property ID 30393.

ADJOURNMENT