



The Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization Vision

The vision for the development of the transportation system and its infrastructure must look towards the anticipated growth of the Rio Grande Valley. As we move toward our vision, the MPO seeks one that will be environmentally friendly as well as care for the land as we build it. A vision will re-enforce economic and social goals leading to increased accessibility and mobility. These goals will assist us as we pursue excellence in our educational, occupational, familial, social, recreation, and religious opportunities. Through the means of transportation, our objective is to continuously provide and make available these opportunities in Hidalgo County.

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the metropolitan area of Hidalgo County will continue to provide the maximum amount of mobility for residents and visitors within the urbanized portions of the county as well as recognize the importance of sufficient connections to destinations outside of the area, especially international connections to various cities around Mexico. The MTP and its subsequent implementation are and will remain sensitive to the impacts on the natural and historic/built environment that can result from construction and operation of transportation facilities and systems. The Plan will support the goals of the United States Congress in showing fiscal constraint and the goals of safety, air quality, clean water, preservation of neighborhoods and cultural integrity. The plan will envision to the degree possible, future conditions and provide for the realistic and affordable development of a transportation system that will allow people to have adequate mobility to achieve a full, well rounded lifestyle.

Section 134 (h) of Title 23 U.S.C. of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) section 5303 (h) of Title 49 U.S.C. lists eight planning factors that must be considered as part of the transportation planning process for all metropolitan areas. At a minimum, these factors shall be explicitly considered, analyzed as appropriate, and reflected in the production of planning documents. These factors, as listed below, are considered in prioritizing projects for inclusion in the Long Range Transportation Plan.

- *Support the economic vitality of the United States, the States, metropolitan areas, and non-metropolitan areas, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.*





2010 - 2035 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Vision

- *Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.*
- *Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.*
- *Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.*
- *Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.*
- *Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes throughout the State, for people and freight.*
- *Promote efficient system management and operation.*
- *Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.*

Keeping in mind the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 23, Part 450, Subpart B, Article 306, the Hidalgo County MPO incorporates the eight planning factors in the transportation planning process of the metropolitan area as “the metropolitan transportation planning process shall be continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive, and provide for consideration and implementation of projects, strategies and services that will address the planning factors”.

