



**RECORD OF WORKSHOP
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025**

On this 16th day of December 2025 at 4:05 p.m., the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a Workshop in the Legislative Chamber Room located at 255 S. Kansas Avenue with the following members present:

PRESENT:	Mayor	Adrian Gonzalez
	Mayor Pro Tem	Pete Garcia Jr.
	Commissioner	Adrian Farias (arrived 4:25 p.m.)
	Commissioner	Letty Lopez
	Commissioner	Pete Garcia Jr.
	Commissioner	JP Rodriguez (arrived 5:00 p.m.)

ABSENT:	Commissioner	Israel Gonzalez Jr.
	Commissioner	Josh Pedraza

STAFF PRESENT:	Xavier Salinas	City Manager
	Norma A. Cantu	City Secretary
	Eden Ramirez	City Attorney

Also present: Omar Rodriguez, Asst. City Manager/Director of Parks and Recreation, Rosie Cavazos, Finance Director, Rebekah de la Fuente, Planning and Code Enforcement Director, Joe Pedraza, Asst. PCE Director, Peter Hermida, City Engineer, Robert Lopez, Police Chief, Chris Sanchez, Fire Marshall, Nick Castillo, Asst. Public Works Director, Arnoldo Becho, Library Director, Luz Galindo, HR Director, Ludivina Cardoza, Court Clerk, Krista Cheramie, Animal Care Services Director; and other staff members.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Certification of Public Notice.

Mayor Gonzalez called the meeting to order and certified the public notice of the meeting as properly posted Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

B. Roll Call.

Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary conducted a roll call to show attendees.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and presentation by Public Works Department for Streets, Ditches and ROW, Water/Sewer Distribution, and Solid Waste.

David Arce, Public Works Director, provided a wide-ranging presentation covering multiple divisions of Public Works beginning with Equipment Purchases that included a new roll-off truck approved in the previous year's budget had been received and additional equipment pending through the D&M leasing program included a camera system, slope mower, brush truck, and bucket truck.

Streets Department: The department completed approximately 10 miles of roadway paving in 2025 plus parking lots at Gilbert Garza Park. David Arce emphasized ongoing

staff cross-training for operating equipment like the zipper and paver, focusing on achieving smooth road transitions, particularly around manholes. The department addressed 225 pothole work orders, though the actual number of repairs was higher since crews often fix multiple issues on a single street.

Xavier Salinas, City Manager, emphasized the importance of cross-training to ensure projects continue when staff members are absent. David Arce explained they had brought in manufacturer representatives to train multiple staff on operating the zipper equipment and planned similar training for paver operations.

Gilbert Garza Park parking lot project added 65 parking spaces. The project was completed entirely in-house, from caliche base to paving and striping. Some discussion about park lighting took place and staff indicated was being looked at.

At this time Eddie Serna introduced himself as the newly hired Parks and Recreation Director and stated the city was committed to evaluating the lighting concerns at Gilbert Garza Park; existing lights operate on timers from 5:45 pm until 6:45 pm, with sports courts illuminated until 11:00 pm. Commissioner Lopez noted citizen complaints about darkness at 6:00 pm, particularly around playgrounds and exercise areas. Xavier Salinas mentioned ongoing efforts to obtain quotes for solar lighting, like what's used at Harlon Block, was being done.

David Arce reported for Drainage Maintenance, the department maintained approximately 22 miles of drain ditches and right-of-way. Mayor Gonzalez and Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. stressed the importance of prioritizing ditches in flood-prone areas and the need for immediate action noting that citizens were genuinely afraid of flooding and damaging their homes.

Xavier Salinas confirmed there are several shovel-ready projects for the area of McCoy's and Cornerstone and could be implemented soon. Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. suggested creating a dam west of the crossing near McCoys to allow for pumping water out and investigating the blockage.

David Arce stated the Right-of-Way Maintenance division continue with right-of-way maintenance and overviewed sites where crews cleared overgrown grass from curb areas. Commissioner Lopez inquired about enforcement action for abandoned properties with overgrown vegetation; reported for Alley Maintenance the department handles significant cleanup of alleys, dealing with both brush and improperly disposed trash and coordinating with contractors from power companies to assist when they trim trees in alleys. Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. asked about security cameras used to monitor illegal dumping. Rebekah de la Fuente, Director of Planning and Code Enforcement, stated the city has 4-5 "Spartan" cameras that can be mounted on poles or trees and send images to staff cell phones when triggered.

David Arce reported that the Water Distribution division completed several in-house water line replacements, including a major 2-inch waterline replacement project from Oklahoma Street to the business Stars. They also replaced deteriorated cast iron pipes at individual properties that were restricting water flow. Other work included installing new taps, 6-inch water line replacements, and hydrant installations. The Water collections division staff overviewed examples of manhole rehabilitation, converting brick manholes to smoother surfaces.

Sanitation Division has continued growth in the division, with a focus on expanding roll-off business services. David Arce stated plans for holiday cleanup containers were from

December 22nd through the New Year's period at the Old City Shop location. Discussion ensued about limiting hours to prevent illegal dumping.

Mayor Gonzalez requested that staff develop data-driven justification for additional garbage trucks based on the city's growth from 950 to 1,300 residential pickups.

Brush Collection: The presentation addressed ongoing brush collection challenges, particularly with developers who clear land and expect city services to remove the debris. David Arce explained they're working on a fee structure for such situations but noted concerns about diverting resources from regular residential routes.

Recycling Center: David Arce stated both recycling centers now operate Monday through Friday with approximately 50-65 daily visitors, totaling around 14,000 visitors annually. The centers accept various materials including glass, plastic, tin, aluminum, and tires.

Upcoming Projects: staff outlined several pending projects including: transitioning to WIS for garbage routing services in Q1 2026, starting the Cornerstone Ditch and Cotton Estates Ditch widening projects in January, continuing street overlays on Pike and other streets, developing an ordinance for roll-off services, delivery of camera truck and vacuum truck (expected March 2026) and installing backup batteries at four major intersections to maintain traffic signal function during power outages.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:08 p.m. Commissioner Farias seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. moved to convene the workshop into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

A. Personnel - Discussion regarding the goals, objectives, and evaluation of the City Manager for the City of Weslaco as authorized by Section §551.074 of the Texas Government Code.

B. Legal Consultation – Discussion relating to the City’s rights, duties, privileges, and obligations in connection to the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fire Union (IAFF-WFFA Local 3207) from its effective date through September 30, 2028, as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

C. Legal Consultation – Consultation with City Attorney regarding Liquid Environmental as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

D. Legal Consultation – Consultation with the City Attorney regarding Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) development as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

E. Legal Consultation—Consultation with the City Attorney regarding a lawsuit styled Christopher De Leon d/b/a De Leon Aircraft Maintenance Professional vs. City of Weslaco Cause Number 7:22-CV-00210 pending in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, as authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

At 5:31 p.m. Mayor Gonzalez stated the City Commission had completed its Executive Session and reconvened the workshop as open to the public.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to adjourn the workshop meeting of December 16, 2025, at 5:40 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

Adrian Gonzalez, **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, **CITY SECRETARY**