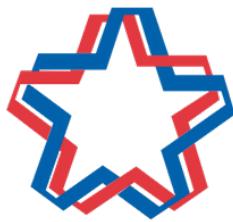


# Texas Association of Regional Councils

## Programmatic Committee + Staff Association Meeting Agendas (Draft)

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Texas Association  
of Regional Councils

## Bi-Annual Staff Training & Board of Directors Meeting

Cambria Austin Downtown | Austin, TX

February 3-6, 2026

\*All TARC Meeting events located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor

### SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026

9:00 am – 5:00 pm      Texas Regional Broadband Program Kickoff Meeting (Moon Tower)  
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm      HHSC Office of Area Agencies on Aging Training (Waterloo)

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

8:00 am – 5:00 pm      **TARC Staff Association Trainings & Meetings**  
                                    Joint Public Safety Training & Meeting (Waterloo B)  
9:00 am – 5:00 pm      **TARC Staff Association Trainings & Meetings**  
                                    Community & Economic Development Staff Association (Waterloo A)  
                                    Finance and Personnel Association (Moon Tower A)  
                                    Texas Association of Area Agencies on Aging (Moon Tower B)  
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm      **TARC Staff Association Trainings & Meetings**  
                                    Solid Waste Planners' Association (Whiskey River)

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

9:00 am – 9:50 am      **Committee Meetings**  
                                    Environmental Quality Committee (Whiskey River)  
                                    Transportation Committee (Moon Tower A)  
10:00 am – 10:50 am      **Committee Meetings**  
                                    Public Safety Committee (Whiskey River)  
                                    Community & Economic Development Committee (Moon Tower A)  
11:00 am – 11:50 am      **Committee Meetings**  
                                    Health & Human Services Committee (Whiskey River)  
                                    Emergency Communications Committee (Moon Tower A)  
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm      **Executive Directors' Council Meeting** (Waterloo)  
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm      **Legislative Committee Meeting & Collaboration Forum** (Moon Tower)

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

8:00 am – 9:00 am      **Budget & Bylaws Committee Meeting** (Whiskey River)

9:00 am – 9:30 am	<a href="#">Coffee &amp; Conversation</a> (Moon Tower)
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	<a href="#">Board of Directors Meeting</a> (Moon Tower)

## EVENT NOTES

### REGISTRATION

Please be sure to register for this meeting. There is no need to provide proof of registration but if you're a fan of coffee, registration tells us how much we should order.

[Click here to Register.](#)

The meeting rooms can get chilly. We recommend dressing in layers to ensure your comfort, easily adjust to the varying temperatures, and stay focused on the fantastic content we have lined up.

### HOTEL INFORMATION

We will be gathering once again in the vibrant [Rainy Street area of Austin](#)! The [Cambria Hotel Austin Downtown](#) is located at 67 East, right on the southbound access road of I-35 in the Rainey Street District. (Please be aware, there is construction along 35 through downtown Austin so pack your patience.) All TARC meetings will take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel.

The room block has closed but if you need assistance with making, amending or cancelling a reservation, please email [kliledowty@txregionalcouncil.org](mailto:kliledowty@txregionalcouncil.org).

### PARKING

TARC has negotiated a 50% discount (\$25/night) on parking for overnight guests at the hotel. Please let the valet attendant know you are with the Texas Association of Regional Councils. [We encourage guests to tip accordingly if you're pleased with the service](#).

The hotel does not have a self-park garage option. Due to the volume of attendees, please expect a **brief wait for parking**, especially during peak times. The hotel will be fully staffed and prepared and will utilize a **secondary overflow garage** located approximately 7 minutes from the hotel.

*You may receive automated texts from the hotel noting a different parking rate. The language in the message includes the hotel's standard rate but when you arrive, be sure to let the parking attendant and/or hotel staff know you're there for TARC and they will ensure you receive the negotiated parking rate.*

*Meeting information subject to change.*

Tuesday,  
February 3, 2026



## COG Kickoff Meeting

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Cambria Austin Downtown | Moon Tower

### AGENDA

**9:00 am    Welcome & Introductions**

**John Austin Stokes**  
Executive Director, TARC

**9:20 am    Overview of the Texas Regional Broadband Program**

**Idali Reyes**  
Digital Opportunity Specialist  
Texas Broadband Development Office

**10:00 am    COG Participation & Application Overview**

**Alex Guerrero**  
Director of Regional Initiatives  
Texas Association of Regional Councils

**10:30 am    Program Roles & Responsibilities**

**Idali Reyes & Alex Guerrero**

**11:15 am    Program Templates & Planning Tools Overview**

**Idali Reyes & Alex Guerrero**

**12:00 pm    Lunch (on your own)**

**1:30 pm    Reporting, Monitoring & Compliance Overview**

**Idali Reyes & Alex Guerrero**

**2:00 pm    Budget, Reimbursement & Financial Tracking**

**Alex Guerrero**

**2:30 pm    KPMG Session: Onboarding, SmartGrants & Compliance**

**Cody Bowles**  
Senior Associate, Grants Management  
KPMG

**3:00 pm    Program Timeline, Office Hours & Ongoing Support**

**Alex Guerrero**

**3:30 pm    Open Discussion & Q&A**

**Alex Guerrero**

**4:30 pm    Closing Remarks & Next Steps**

**5:00 pm    Adjourn**

\*Meeting information subject to change

Please register to attend at: [TARC February 2026 Meeting Registration](#)

## AGENDA

	<b>Discussion Item</b>	<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Time Allocated</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	Katlyn Le, OAAA Director	1:00 PM
<b>2</b>	<b>General Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grants Management System</li> <li>• Fiscal Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Fiscal Year 2025 Closeout Progress</li> <li>◦ Request for Adjustment Process Discussion</li> </ul> </li> <li>• MIPPA &amp; SHIP</li> <li>• State Performance Report</li> </ul>	Katlyn Le, OAAA Director Lori Conner, OAAA Manager  Trina Cortez, OAAA Manager Eric DeJong, OAAA Data Analyst	1:00 – 1:30 PM
<b>3</b>	<b>PeerPlace System Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data Migration</li> <li>• Training Plan</li> <li>• IAMOnline/PeerPlace User Access</li> </ul>	Betty Flores, OAAA Manager	1:30 – 1:45 PM
<b>4</b>	<b>BREAK (Set-up for Virtual Sessions)</b>		1:45 – 2:00 PM
<b>5</b>	<b>State Plan on Aging Goals &amp; Objectives (Virtual)</b>	Melissa Meadows, OAAA Program Specialist	2:00 – 2:30 PM
<b>6</b>	<b>PeerPlace System Demonstration (Virtual)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PeerPlace Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ User Login</li> <li>◦ Portal Page Overview</li> <li>◦ Client Search Function</li> <li>◦ Client Profile Overview</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Client Intake/ Profile Form</li> <li>• Other Forms and Assessments</li> </ul>	Ola Adisa, OAAA Systems Analyst	2:30 – 4:00 PM

Wednesday,  
February 4, 2026



Texas Association of  
Regional Councils

## Joint Public Safety Training & Meeting

Joint training of the TARC Homeland Security Association of Texas (HSAT) & the TARC Criminal Justice Planners' Association (CJPA)

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Cambria Austin Downtown | Waterloo B

### AGENDA

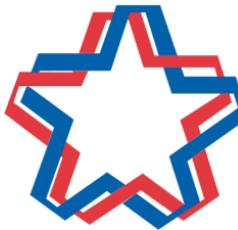
8:00 am	Welcome & Introductions	Mike Claude Deep East Texas Council of Governments HSAT Chair
8:05 am	<b>Homeland Security Association of Texas (HSAT) Business Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Treasurer's Report</li><li>• Approval of Minutes</li><li>• New Business<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Officer election-Secretary</li></ul></li></ul>	Mike Claude
8:30 am	<b>Preparedness in Practice: A Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Overview</b>	Randy Meshell Preparedness Division Chief Texas Division of Emergency Management
9:15 am	<b>Stronger Plans, Stronger Regions: Navigating TDEM's New Local Planning Process with COG Support</b>	Vanessa Medina Unit Chief Preparedness Division Texas Division of Emergency Management
10:15 am	<b>Reggie: Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Overview</b>	Dan Borgeson Unit Chief Preparedness Division Texas Division of Emergency Management
10:45 am	<b>Statewide LEPC Engagement &amp; the COG Role</b>	Chris Earp Section Chief Preparedness Division Texas Division of Emergency Management
11:30 pm	<b>Lunch on your own</b>	
1:00 pm	<b>From Pasture to Plains: How New World Screwworms Shape Texas's Agricultural Future</b>	Holli Tietjen-Hale Director of Emergency Management Texas Animal Health

Please join us on Thursday, February 5, 2026, for the Public Safety Committee meeting from 10:00 am – 10:50 am in Whiskey River

2:00 pm	<b>Texas Crisis Intervention Update: Enhancing Support When It Matters Most</b>	Marisa Quintanilla Regional Services Director Rio Grande Council of Governments
2:45 pm	<b>Powering Progress: Inside the Research &amp; Statewide Movement to Strengthen Texas SARTs (Sexual Assault Response Team)</b>	Angela Moya Public Safety Director Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission Deepika Modali SART Lead Analyst Texas Association Against Sexual Assault
3:30 pm	<b>From Big Picture to Local Impact: A Strategic Planning Primer</b>	Brandon Gentry Preparedness Program Manager Homeland Security Division Texas Department of Public Safety
4:30 pm	<b>Criminal Justice Planners' Association Business Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treasurer's Report</li> <li>• Approval of Minutes</li> <li>• New Business</li> </ul>	Kaylan Arendale South East Texas Regional Planning Commission CJPA Chair
5:00 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>	

*\*Meeting information subject to change.  
Please register to attend: [Click here](#)*

*Please join us on Thursday, February 5, 2026, for the Public Safety Committee meeting from 10:00 am - 10:50 am in Whiskey River*



Texas Association of  
Regional Councils

## Community & Economic Development Staff Association Training & Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

9:00 AM – 4:30PM

Cambria Austin Downtown | Waterloo A

### AGENDA

9:00 AM	Call to Order & Welcome	Toni Lindsey, Chair Ark-Tex Council of Governments
9:05 AM	Staff Association Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Old Business</li><li>• New Business</li></ul>	Toni Lindsey
9:30 AM	Financial Assistance Programs for Drinking Water, Waste Water and Flood Mitigation	Scott Galaway Outreach Specialist Texas Water Development Board
10:30 AM	Turning Data Into Action: Energy Efficient Strategies	Shaun Auckland Senior Manager, Government and Community Engagement SPEER
12:00 PM	Lunch on your own	
1:30 PM	Innovating Urban Mobility: Real-World Strategies for Safer, Smarter, and More Connected Cities	Sarah Coulter Senior Assistant Director, Strategic Initiatives, Houston Public Works City of Houston, TX
2:30 PM	Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE): The Texas Toolkit for Local Governments	Teresa Smith Director of PACE Transactions TX PACE Authority
3:30 PM	TDHCA Single Family and Homeownership Programs	Matthew Lovitt Senior Legislative Affairs Advisor Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
4:30 PM	Adjourn	

*Please join us Thursday, February 5, 2026, for the TARC Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting from 10:00 am – 10:50 am in Moon Tower A.*



## Finance and Personnel Association Training & Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Cambria Austin Downtown | Moon Tower A

### AGENDA

9:00 am	Call to Order & Welcome	Jeff King, Chair SETRPC
9:05 am	Finance Management Updates for State 9-1-1 Programs	Lorraine Meek Deputy for Finance Management Commission on State Emergency Communication
10:00 am	New + Notable for Texas Employers <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Separation of Employment</li><li>• Labor Law Poster Changes</li><li>• Updates to I-9 &amp; E-Verify Requirements</li></ul>	Laura Ingram Principal Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.
11:00 am	Using AI to Optimize COG Human Resources	Brandy Brannon, CPM Assistant Executive Director ETCOG
12:00 pm	Lunch on your own.	
1:30 pm	FAPA Business Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approval of Minutes</li><li>• Treasurer's Report</li><li>• Old Business<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ State Procurement Threshold Discussion</li></ul></li><li>• New Business<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Indirect Cost Rate Negotiation Status</li><li>◦ Virtual Meeting Opportunities</li></ul></li></ul>	Jeff King
2:00 pm	Grants Management Intensive <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Internal Controls</li><li>• Indirect Cost Approaches</li><li>• Subrecipient Monitoring</li></ul>	Rachel Werner Principle MyFedTrainer
5:00 pm	Adjourn	

\*Meeting information subject to change

Please register to attend at: <https://forms.office.com/r/e66VB6wbHj>



# Texas Association of Area Agencies on Aging Training & Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

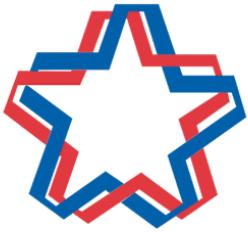
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Cambria Austin Downtown | Moon Tower A

## AGENDA

9:00 am	Welcome and Introductions	Paula Johnson T4A President Harris County AAA
9:05 am	The CATCH Program in Partnership with Texas Health at Home	Dr. Janice Sparks Executive Director CATCH Community Care Hub Christina Bartha Texas Healthy at Home
10:00 am	Updates on Federal Aging Policy	Amy Gotwals Chief, Policy & External Affairs USAging
11:30am	T4A Business Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Approval of Minutes</li><li>○ Treasures Report</li><li>○ Old Business</li><li>○ New Business</li></ul>	Paula Johnson
11:30 am	Lunch on your own	
1:00 pm	Strengthening Statewide Support for Veterans: Partnership Opportunities With the Texas Veterans Land Board	Jimmy Smaragdis Director of Marketing and Outreach Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB)
2:00 pm	AARP Strategic Insights: Progress and Priority Focus Areas	Andrea Earl Associate State Director AARP
3:00 pm	Disability Community Coordinator Initiative	Alexandra Venegas Central Region Disability Community Coordinator Olu Motoni East Region Disability Community Coordinator
4:00 pm	Adjourn	

Please join us Thursday, February 5, 2026, for the TARC Health and Human Services Committee  
Meeting from 11:00 am – 11:50 am in Whiskey River.



Texas Association of  
Regional Councils

## Solid Waste Planners' Association Training & Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Cambria Austin Downtown | Whiskey River

### AGENDA

1:30 PM    Welcome & Roll Call

Ken May

Chair

Capital Area Council of  
Governments

1:35 PM    Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Training & Updates

Jessica Uramkin & Anju Chalise  
Waste Permits Division  
TCEQ

2:30 PM    COG Spotlight: Vermiculture in Schools

Melisa Gonzales-Rosas  
Lower Rio Grande Valley  
Development Council

3:30 PM    Opportunities to Enhance Recycling Infrastructure  
for Local Economic Development: A presentation  
of the findings from the Texas Recycling  
Infrastructure Economic Development – Initiative  
Team (TRIED-IT) Summit

Steve Shannon  
Member, STAR & MSWRRAC  
Lecturer, Texas State University

4:30 PM    Solid Waste Planners' Association Meeting

Ken May

- Approval of Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
  - Annual Dues Discussion
- Old Business
- New Business

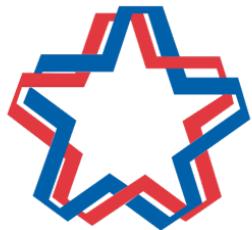
5:00 PM    Adjourn

*\*Meeting information subject to change\**

Please register to attend at: <https://forms.office.com/r/e66VB6wbHj>.

Please join us Thursday, February 5, 2026, for the Environmental Quality Committee Meeting from 9:00 am - 9:50 am at the Cambria Austin Downtown in Whiskey River.

Thursday,  
February 5, 2026



Texas Association of  
Regional Councils

## Environmental Quality Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2026

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Cambria Downtown Austin | Moon Tower A

### AGENDA

#### I. Call to Order, Introductions & Welcome

**Mary Beth Rudel**, Chair  
Executive Director  
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

#### II. Regional Roundtable: Emerging Energy Infrastructure Planning & Engagement

**Mary Beth Rudel**

#### III. Solid Waste Planners' Association Update

**Ken May**, Chair  
Capital Area Council of Governments

#### IV. Adjourn

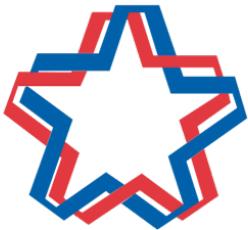


## Transportation Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2026  
9:00 AM – 9:50 AM  
Cambria Austin Downtown | Moon Tower A

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order & Introductions Jim Reed, Chair
- II. What's New in Regional Rural Transit Michael Ada  
Executive Director  
Golden Crescent Regional  
Planning Commission
- III. Update of Metropolitan Planning  
Organization Activities Jim Reed
- IV. Additional Business Jim Reed
- V. Adjourn



Texas Association of  
Regional Councils

## Public Safety Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2026

10:00 AM – 10:50 AM

Cambria Hotel Austin Downtown | Whiskey River

### AGENDA

#### I. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

**Manny Cruz**, Chair  
Lower Rio Grande Valley  
Development Council

#### II. Supporting Local Resilience: Texas Public Utility Commission (PUC) Energy Outreach Initiatives

**Shawn Hazard**  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
PUC

**Olivia Hemby**  
Critical Infrastructure Planner  
Critical Infrastructure Security and Risk Management  
PUC

#### III. Staff Association Updates

- TARC Homeland Security Association of Texas, Mike Claude, HSAT Chair
- TARC Criminal Justice Planners' Association, Kaylan Arendale, CJPA Chair

#### IV. New Business

**Manny Cruz**

- Consideration of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Community Preparedness Planning Project Resolution 1/1/2025 – 2/28/2026 (Action Item)
- Consideration of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Community Preparedness Planning Project Resolution 1/1/2026 – 12/31/2026 (Action Item)
- Consideration of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Community Preparedness Planning Project Resolution 1/1/2027 – 12/31/2027 (Action Item)

#### V. Adjourn



Texas Association of  
Regional Councils

## Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting

Thursday February 5, 2026  
10:00 AM – 10:50 AM  
Cambria Downton Austin | Moon Tower A

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order, Introductions & Welcome
- II. Community & Economic Development Updates from US Department of Agriculture: Rural Development
- III. Texas Rural Broadband Program Update
  - a. Consideration & Approval of Authorizing TARC Executive Director to Negotiate and Contract with Digital Opportunity Planning & Technical Assistance Consultant (Action Item)
- IV. Update on Community & Economic Development Staff Association Activities
- V. New Business
- VI. Adjourn

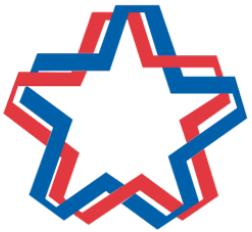
David Cleveland, Chair  
East Texas Council of  
Governments

James Redfield  
State Director, Texas  
USDA Rural Development

Alex Guerrero  
Director, Regional Initiatives  
TARC

Toni Lindsey, Chair  
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

David Cleveland



Texas Association of  
Regional Councils

## Health and Human Services Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2026

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Cambria Austin Downtown | Whiskey River

### AGENDA

#### I. Call to Order & Introductions

**Shanna Burke, Chair**  
South East Texas Regional Planning  
Commission

#### II. Federal Funding & Legislative Update

**Dana McGrath**  
Associate Commissioner  
Local Access & Support  
Texas Health and Human Services

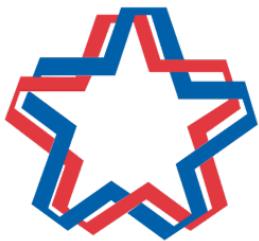
#### III. Update on T4A Activities

**Paula Johnson**  
T4A President  
Harris County Area Agency on Aging

#### IV. New Business

**Shanna Burke**

#### V. Adjourn



Texas Association of  
Regional Councils

## Emergency Communications Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2026  
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM  
Cambria Hotel Austin Downtown | Moon Tower A

### AGENDA

#### I. Call to Order and Introductions

**Russell Devovsky**, Chair  
Executive Director, Heart of Texas  
Council of Governments  
(HOTCOG)

#### II. Regional Emergency Communication District Updates

**Jim Reed**  
Executive Director, Central Texas  
Council of Governments (CTCOG)

#### III. Commission on State Emergency Communications Updates

**Andrew Friedrichs**  
Executive Director  
CSEC

#### IV. Update on 9-1-1 Coordinators' Association Activities

**Charlesetta Malone**, Chair  
9-1-1 Coordinators' Association

#### V. New Business

**Russell Devovsky**

#### VI. Adjourn