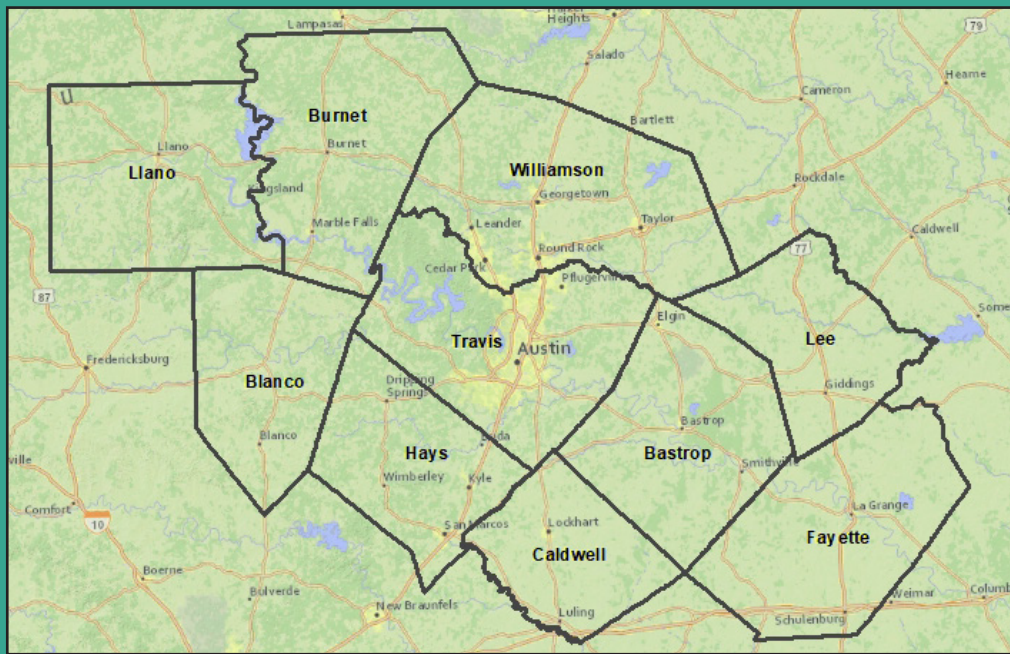


# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



**50 Years Dedicated  
to Regionalism**



Formed in 1970, CAPCOG serves a ten-county region spanning more than 8,400 square miles that consists of Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis and Williamson counties. As a regional partner directed by local governments, it assists jurisdictions with regional planning in the areas of emergency communications, aging resources, law enforcement education, criminal justice, solid waste management, air pollution reduction, homeland security, transportation, economic and community development, GIS data and usage and more. In 1970, the then Capital Area Planning Council had 37 member organizations. Today, CAPCOG has 98 member organizations and serves an estimated population of 2.3 million.

## **CAPCOG's Mission Statement**

*“CAPCOG will continue to strengthen the Capital of Texas ten-county region by supporting urban and rural local governments through coordination, collaboration, and sharing of ideas and resources.”*



# Executive Committee Chair .....

We celebrated our 50th Year Anniversary in 2020. It's been an honor to chair this group of city and county elected officials who support projects to benefit our ten-county region.

This year experienced more than its fair share of challenges mainly stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, but those challenges just reinforced what regionalism can overcome when solutions are shared. CAPCOG with support of its leadership worked during the early stages of the pandemic to help coordinate coronavirus information and resources with local public safety personnel and elected officials. It also ensured entities around the region had the opportunity to apply for response and recovery funding at the state and federal level. Through CAPCOG's assistance, the region was awarded more state funding than originally allocated and submitted numerous projects for federal economic aid. The Aging Services staff expanded assistance to seniors including meal deliveries and income support.

It is hard to narrow down accomplishment, but working with my fellow elected officials, we increased the number of residents who can be reached through the emergency alerts from WarnCentralTexas to 70 percent, oversaw early implementation of Next Generation 9-1-1 to enhance the region's 9-1-1 capabilities for every jurisdiction, and increased funding for GIS mapping for more accurate location data from 9-1-1 cellphone callers.

It is cooperative actions such as those that will keep the region and our residents progressing into the next 50 years.

**San Marcos Mayor  
Jane Hughson**



# Executive Director .....



The year 2020 will be memorable. This was CAPCOG's 50th anniversary and our staff began planning in January how we would recognize the many years of service to the region — a significant milestone to celebrate as many COGs before us have in recent years.

As we know, March introduced a new set of circumstances with the coronavirus spreading; our commemoration to service has been a virtual presentation on the history of our organization, and I have continued to present these throughout the year.

The important story though is how our programs and services became critical to the region's communities with this pandemic. The Homeland Security staff's job was always to plan and provide support during regional crises. Coordinating a pandemic response as well as necessary resources among our communities was done with many hours of overtime. Our Emergency Communications staff began working immediately with the 9-1-1 call centers to ensure protocols were in place to keep emergency telecommunicators safe. The Aging Services Division doubled the services and funding available for income assistance and meal deliveries, and assisted living visits by our ombudsman staff were handled by phone which included conversations with worried families. Demand for law enforcement training increased; we have been running night and daytime basic peace officer courses as well as continuing education with many courses moving to online platforms which we plan to continue. Because of expanded funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration for resiliency planning and recovery, our Community and Economic Development staff assisted more than 25 local governments with applications; several projects were funded, and we are managing those grants. With so many people working from home, our Air Quality staff began responding to questions about whether teleworking solved the region's air quality problems. After completing a brief study, we're sorry to report teleworking is not a silver bullet. CAPCOG staff seamlessly transitioned into teleworking using an operational continuity plan we developed in 2018; we were prepared.

Every year, I am asked about my tenure at CAPCOG — now over 20 years — and I always answer, "I never get bored. Every year is different with new challenges and opportunities."

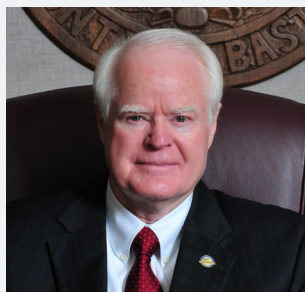
**Betty Voights**



# Executive Committee



**Chair**  
Mayor  
Jane Hughson  
City of San Marcos



**First Vice Chair**  
Judge  
Paul Pape  
Bastrop County



**Second Vice Chair**  
Mayor  
Brandt Rydell  
City of Taylor



**Secretary**  
Judge  
James Oakley  
Burnet County



**Immediate Past  
Chair**  
Commissioner  
Gerald Daugherty



**Parliamentarian**  
Judge  
Ron Cunningham  
Llano County

Council Member Matt Baker  
City of Round Rock

Commissioner Russ Boles  
Williamson County

Judge Brett Bray  
Blanco County

Mayor Sandy Cox  
City of Lakeway

Commissioner Joe Don Dockery  
Burnet County

Council Member Jimmy Flannigan  
City of Austin

Council Member William Gordon  
City of Smithville

Council Member Michael Guevara  
City of Cedar Park

Judge Hoppy Haden  
Caldwell County

Council Member Mike Heath  
City of Pflugerville

Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe  
Hays County

Commissioner Cynthia Long  
Williamson County

Mayor Pro Tem Lyle Nelson  
City of Bastrop

Commissioner Maurice Pitts  
Lee County

Council Member Christine Sederquist  
City of Leander

Commissioner Brigid Shea  
Travis County

Judge Joe Weber  
Fayette County

Mayor Lew White  
City of Lockhart

Council Member Andrea Willott  
City of Bee Cave

## State Representatives

John Bucy III  
John Cyrier  
Celia Israel  
Terry Wilson



# .....Administration.....

The Administrative Services staff oversee all agency functions related to finances, contracts, compliance, records management, human resources, and information technology – basically the routine, behind the scenes activities.



*Members of the CAPCOG Administration staff test Zoom for the first time before deciding to use the software to host the COG's regional meetings.*

The new fiscal year started in October 2019 as a new budget commenced and audit prep began for the year that just closed, but 2020 was the Administration Division's busiest year as it pulled out its Business Continuity Plan in February, updated it for a pandemic, and began the transition to a remote management system.

Teleworking protocols were established in early March and laptops were ordered for any employee not already using one. All non-essential employees began teleworking, and at the same time, the offices were closed to non-employees. The IT staff began testing multiple web-based meeting tools so internal meetings, committee meetings, and board meetings could continue. After a few hiccups, CAPCOG managed all meetings virtually including one of its largest meetings — the annual four-day criminal justice grant review — which ensured more than 50 grant applicants still got to make presentations to the 19-person committee.

The transition was almost seamless until CAPCOG's cloud-based accounting software provider was hacked and the finance staff reverted back to manually handling all transactions including payroll. At the same time, CAPCOG staff got busier as several programs received additional funding through the CARES Act, the Aging staff's small transactions for income support were many and urgent, and the IT staff began supporting teleworking staff as well as all internal functions.

In June, the staff returned to the offices on a staggered schedule to ensure social distancing and continued as this annual report was being printed. The work accomplished by CAPCOG administrative and program staff was uninterrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, a testament to the resiliency the agency has shown for its 50 years of operation.



# Homeland Security .....

The Homeland Security Division works with communities and emergency management stakeholders across the region to support operational coordination, situational awareness, and training for natural and man-made disasters.



*A wildfire response instructor explains how fire spreads during the 2020 regional exercise.*

## Training and Exercises

Annually, the Homeland Security Division coordinates a mass training exercise which brings together response agencies from throughout the region and provides a window into how plans operate in real world situations. The 2019-2020 exercise connected fire departments with law enforcement agencies and the regional intelligence center to combat a series of wildfires. The training tested the region's ability to quickly deploy multiple emergency operations centers and pass communications between the centers and responders in the field.

Cyberterrorism threats have increased on the national, state and local level, and a few CAPCOG area communities have been targets of such attacks. To prepare governments for preventing and combating cybersecurity attacks, the division held a week-long, hands-on seminar for IT professionals and emergency management staff.

The division also coordinated training and best-use practices for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or drones. Through a Homeland Security Task Force workgroup, the division prepared a Public Safety UAV Program Guide which contains details for agencies to create a drone program.

## Response Tools

WarnCentralTexas.org remains a valuable tool to ensure public safety officials can contact residents in an emergency. This year CAPCOG added nearly a million cellphone numbers to the system with a curated and managed list from CAPCOG's RNS vendor increasing cellphone contacts from about 8 percent to almost 70 percent of the region's population. In 2020, the RNS sent millions of calls, text message and emails for disaster response including the distribution of stay-at-home orders caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The division purchased more than 1,000 Stop the Bleed kits to help school districts and charter schools throughout the region meet a new state mandate requiring all campuses to have kits. The kits contain items such as tourniquets and compression gauze that can be administered by anyone and help control a victim's bleeding. By purchasing the kits in bulk, CAPCOG saved school district funds and ensured that each kit met the Texas Education Code's requirements.



The Homeland Security Division also assisted Blanco County in securing a Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure grant for installing communications equipment in the area where gaps currently exist. Once completed, first responders will be able to better connect to each other during emergencies increasing the region's ability to communicate along its southwestern border.

## Pandemic Response

At the beginning of the pandemic, the Homeland Security Division coordinated communications between local response agencies to allow public safety, emergency management and health officials to directly share information with one another about actions being taken throughout the region. It also assisted multiple jurisdictions with WebEOC operations, a virtual emergency command center that allows jurisdictions to track all aspects of an emergency and share information. CAPCOG expanded WebEOC access to specialized response teams so information could be disseminated to multiple jurisdictions. It also used the platform to create and track specific pandemic incidents.

With assistance from CAPCOG's Regional Planning and Services staff, the Homeland Security Division developed virtual regional action and impact dashboards, which visualized pandemic related data from every jurisdiction in the region, for planning and response purposes. The boards allow emergency managers, response teams, and policy makers to see at a glance what is happening in neighboring communities. They have allowed for the sharing of testing resources and review of responses strategies. The division also helped multiple entities distribute COVID-19 information through the RNS to residents who specifically wanted routine pandemic updates.

After the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office announced an allocation of about \$2.8 million for the CAPCOG region as part of its Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program, the Homeland Security and Community and Economic Development divisions assisted local governments with data for making applications and directed others how to apply. Sixteen CAPCOG area governments received \$3.1 million from the program for projects and purchases that included overtime, equipment, supplies, training, travel expenses, and medical treatment of inmates related to the pandemic.



*Matt Zimmerman, CAPCOG Crisis Information Systems Coordinator, checks Stop the Bleed kits that were distributed to schools.*



**1,000**  
**Stop the Bleed Kits**  
**Purchased for Schools**

**Percentage Increase**  
**of WarnCentralTexas**  
**Cell Numbers**

**70%**

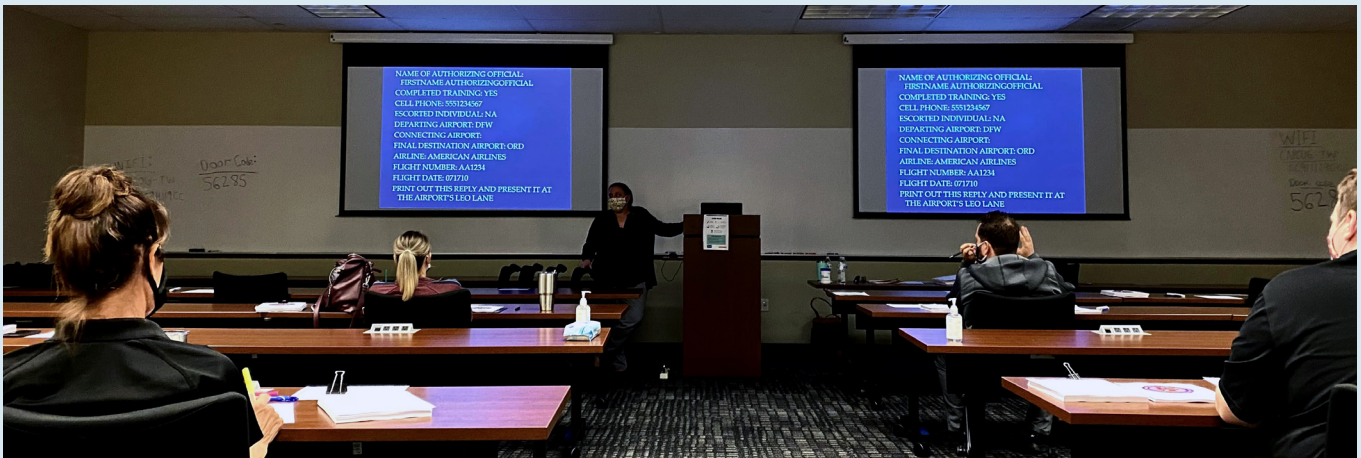
**8%**



**13 SHSP Projects**  
**Awarded**  
**\$1.15 Million**

# ..Emergency Communications .....

The Emergency Communications Division plans and implements infrastructure improvements as well as provides equipment and training to support the region's 31 public safety answering points (PSAPs) that continually answer 9-1-1 calls and dispatch the appropriate public safety response. It also provides public education about 9-1-1 related issues.

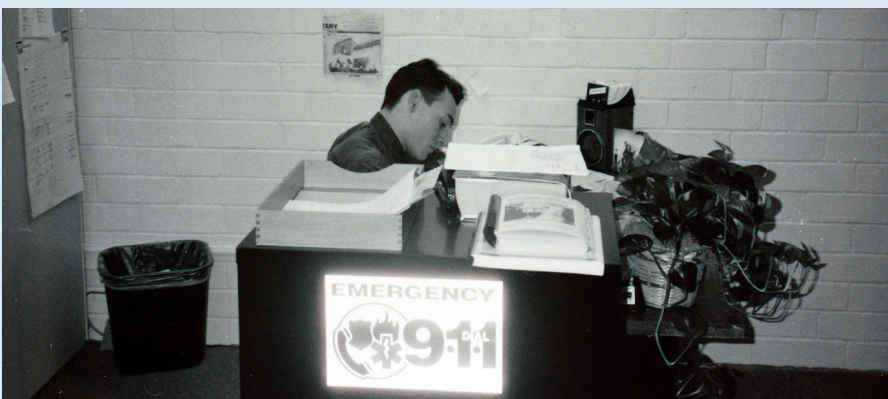


*Emergency Telecommunicators participate in a course at CAPCOG. CAPCOG held the majority its telecommunicator courses online, but some courses had to be conducted in person due to security protocols. CAPCOG reduced class sizes, so emergency telecommunicators could practice social distancing measures.*

## Infrastructure and Next-Gen 9-1-1

The Emergency Communications Division, which operates the Capital Area Emergency Communications District, initiated technology upgrades to the region's infrastructure that established its digital pace for incorporating Next-Generation 9-1-1 (NextGen 9-1-1) protocols ahead of other 9-1-1 entities in Texas. NextGen 9-1-1 enables the 9-1-1 network to transfer additional and advanced forms of digital data, such as multimedia and better location information, to and from PSAPs. Networking cabling was improved in 12 of the 31 PSAPs — additional PSAPs will see the improvements in 2021 — establishing Emergency Services Internet Protocol Networks (ESInets), which provide information transfer redundancy and resiliency. The division also completed implementing RapidSOS datalinks that enhances a PSAP's ability to get more accurate wireless caller location information.

The division worked on a PSAP consolidation with Hays County as four PSAPs moved into a single facility providing a diverse municipal, county and collegiate public safety services and allowing for cross functional public safety awareness for the geographical area and depth in personnel experience and staffing. CAPCOG completed new consoles and radio enhancements for the Regional Back Up Center, which provides a secondary emergency



*At left: A photo taken in the '90s shows 9-1-1 promotion materials at a desk inside CAPCOG's old offices.*

*In 2013, CAPCOG became the first COG-managed emergency communications district when the Texas Legislature established the Capital Area Emergency Communications District. This gave CAPCOG the ability to better allocate funding to support the PSAPs and 9-1-1 infrastructure in the region. The CAPCOG Executive Committee also serves at the district's board of managers.*





*Public safety answering point managers from around the state participate in a Nation Emergency Number Association (NENA) Leadership Course held at CAPCOG in early February. CAPCOG has hosted the course for several years. -Photo provided by (NENA)*

operations location for all PSAPs in the region. These endeavors allowed the division to identify additional resiliency needs to be incorporated in back-end equipment and network routes that will improve seamless contingency paths for disrupted 9-1-1 service, uninterrupted maintenance windows and progression to NextGen 9-1-1 services.

## Training

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the division launched an online training system which supplies virtual courses that complement CAPCOG's traditional classroom training catalog. The system features a suite of 1- to 4-hour courses that offer TCOLE continuing education credits and enhance emergency telecommunicators skills and professional knowledge. It also allows a PSAP's staff to complete training on its own schedule. As stay-at-home orders and social distancing measures started to be implemented, the division immediately began instructing courses as webinars so emergency telecommunicators could continue to learn best practices from national and state-wide subject matter experts in a safe environment. A few in-person courses, which couldn't be taught online, were reinstated in September.



CAPCOG launched Text-to-9-1-1 in 2017; this year PSAPs around the region responded to 11,408 emergencies via text.

**45 Courses Held**  
**539 Emergency Telecommunicators Taught**



**> 1.8 Million 9-1-1 Calls Answered**

**46 Public Outreach Events Supported**  
**72,420 Reached**



# .. Regional Law Enforcement Academy .....

The Regional Law Enforcement Academy (RLEA) delivers professional law enforcement training that serves the region's police departments and sheriff's offices. The academy plays a critical role in providing mandated in-service training, offering new training based on current trends, and recruiting and educating new peace officers.



*CAPCOG Regional Law Enforcement Academy Director, Mike Jennings, and Chief Instructor, Roger Sprott, talk to cadets enrolled in a basic peace officer course. The course teaches more than 800 hours of various police topics.*

## New Training Opportunities

RLEA developed and conducted specialized training for the investigation and enforcement of credit card skimmer crimes occurring at gas pumps after receiving funds from the Texas Department of Agriculture in 2020. A series of courses instructed peace officers about identifying card skimmers and possible criminal suspects as well as how to collect evidence from gas pumps to prosecute the crimes. RLEA taught these courses in-person to give officers hand-on experience with actual gas pumps and card skimming devices and online to let officers take the course at their convenience. More than 150 officers participated in one or both versions of the courses.

RLEA purchased a new mobile de-escalation training simulator so peace officers could enhance their abilities to resolve conflicts while avoiding the use of force. The portable simulator immerses officers in mock scenarios that can dynamically shift outcomes to either escalate or pacify the situation based on an officer's actions. The training tool has more than 1,000 preprogrammed scenarios; each with numerous decision points and outcomes. RLEA trained several departments on the simulator in 2020 and will continue to offer this training and the equipment for departments to use.



*At left: A photo taken in the '90s shows CAPCOG Regional Law Enforcement Academy instructors teaching cadets how to conduct a hold.*

*CAPCOG has operated its law enforcement academy since 1977. It has graduated thousands of officers during its nearly 100 courses.*



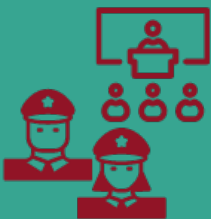


*A training officer practices using CAPCOG's mobile de-escalation training simulator. The simulator can be deployed around the region to teach officers how to resolve conflict while avoiding the use of force.*

## Basic Peace Officer Training

RLEA focused on recruiting cadets for its basic peace officer courses (BPOCs) in 2020, doubling its enrollment. During the year, it graduated two classes and started two more, which included day and night classes. To ensure the safety of cadets during the COVID-19 pandemic, RLEA moved a majority of its training online and followed social distancing measures when courses required cadets to receive in-person training. The BPOCs led to 37 peace officers earning their Texas Commission on Law Enforcements certificates in 2020 while more than 50 will graduate in early 2021. Cadet entrance exam testing continued year-round allowing the academy to schedule additional BPOCs for early 2021.

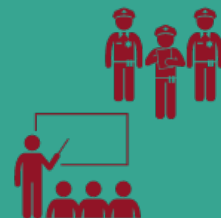
Graduating officers started jobs with Austin Independent School District, Elgin, Horseshoe Bay, Lakeway, Lockhart, and San Marcos police departments, as well as Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Llano, Hays, and Travis county sheriff's offices. Graduates are also working for fire departments as investigators and at other agencies in and outside the region.



**34 In-Person Courses  
Offered**

**815 Officers Trained\***

**37 Cadets Earned a  
Basic Peace Officer  
License**



**> 10,300 Training  
Hours Issued**

\*Some officers trained through online and sponsored courses.

# Community & Economic Development

The Community and Economic Development (CED) Division provides support to communities and regional partners to conduct planning, identify funding, and analyze issues involving a broad range of community development issues. It uses data collection and technical analysis to support planning efforts and assists local jurisdictions with their economic and community growth.



*CAPCOG joined Marble Falls and Burnet County in September to accept a \$2.5 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration for the city to engineer a new wastewater treatment plant that will move treatment capacity away from the flood plain. The project requested funding from a disaster recovery grant.*

## Economic Development

The year began with the Capital Area Economic Development District (CAEDD), CAPCOG's economic development committee, developing the region's 2020-2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) — a data informed, strategy driven plan for regional economic growth. The CEDS development process examined a variety of metrics across the ten counties including housing, wages and affordability, employment, population growth, educational attainment and industry growth. Just months into the project, the COVID-19 pandemic triggered a look at the region's economy as impacted regularly by many types of disasters such as flooding, hurricanes and now a pandemic, and focused the CEDS on strengthening economic resiliency. The themes and objectives address workforce development, entrepreneurship and innovation, infrastructure, and resiliency.

The division also mobilized economic data at the start of the pandemic creating a regional economic dashboard so local government officials and industry leaders could see how stay-at-home safety measures and the pandemic were affecting the region's economy. Local decision makers could use the dashboard to plan local recovery options for business sectors hit hardest and to support request for state and federal economic assistance. The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) commissioned CAPCOG to solicit and provide technical assistance for its CARES Act Recovery Assistance Program — a nation-wide \$1.5 billion pandemic grant program. CAPCOG was one of the first COGs to distribute application guidance for the grant program and assisted about 30 communities during its application process. The division also assisted the state in encouraging local jurisdictions to apply for Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program and the region received more funding than originally allocated pulling funds from areas which undersubscribed to the grant program.

CAPCOG assisted with other EDA grant applications related to previous years' disaster declarations, which included an award of \$2.5 million to Marble Falls for designing and engineering a waste-water treatment that will keep businesses open during and after flood events and allow for future growth.

## Transportation

During 2020, CAPCOG completed the Blanco County Economic Development and Transportation Plan, in coordination with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), which guides the county's economic growth in



conjunction with transportation infrastructure projects. CAPCOG compiled data for the plan and worked with elected officials and community leaders to gather residential, business and local government input that shaped the plan.

CAPCOG began administrating the Regional Transit Coordination Committee to jointly support the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization with planning related to the mobility of older adults and individuals with disabilities and assisted communities with seeking grants from several TxDOT programs including Safe Routes to School and Non-Urban/Small Urban Transportation Alternative Set-Aside. Six sidewalk projects received \$5.2 million in funding from these programs that had not been available to rural communities in years after CAPCOG increased the program's solicitation efforts and provided technical assistance to maximize the region's applications.

## Solid Waste

The Solid Waste Program funded nine projects to complete tasks related to waste collection and landfill diversion in 2020 for the 2020-2021 biennium. They included three household hazardous waste (HHW) collection events, three community collection events, three permanent HHW facilities, and region-wide hazardous waste operations and emergency response training course. While CAPCOG assisted the communities in analyzing the impacts of the projects throughout the year which will continue into 2021, the training course was postponed to 2021 because of the pandemic.

The program began updating the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, which uses demographic, economic and solid waste data to address issues related to municipal and commercial waste in the region. The current plan was adopted in 2007.

Support for the Regional Environmental Task Force, a coalition of law enforcement officials who focus on prosecuting environmental crimes, continued by facilitating meetings and training opportunities, operating the 1-877-NO-DUMPS illegal dumping hotline, and coordinating illegal dumping sign placement.



## Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice Program supported the state's criminal justice programs by coordinating regional funding recommendations for five Office of the Governor (OOG) Criminal Justice Division programs and assisted with funding recommendations for the Truancy Prevention Program for the first time in 2020. The traditional three-day process for reviewing and scoring applications by the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee held in March, including project presentations, was all done on a virtual platform, a major undertaking as CAPCOG began moving all meetings away from in-person settings.

To assist organizations in applying for the OOG funds and to help maximize project awards, the Criminal Justice Program compiled and maintained regional criminal justice data in the areas of public safety, crime reduction, juvenile delinquency and truancy prevention, school violence prevention, support for victims of crime, and responding to violent crimes against women. The program also provided ongoing technical assistance as a regional advocate for planning, analysis, and technical support to advance regional initiatives that leverage other resources and reduce the burden on criminal justice agencies.

**6 Projects Awarded**  
**\$5.2 Million**  
**12 Applications Submitted**



**TxDOT Sidewalk Grants**

**CJD Grants**



**55 Applications Reviewed**

**37 Projects Recommended**

*\*EDA is still awarding projects.*

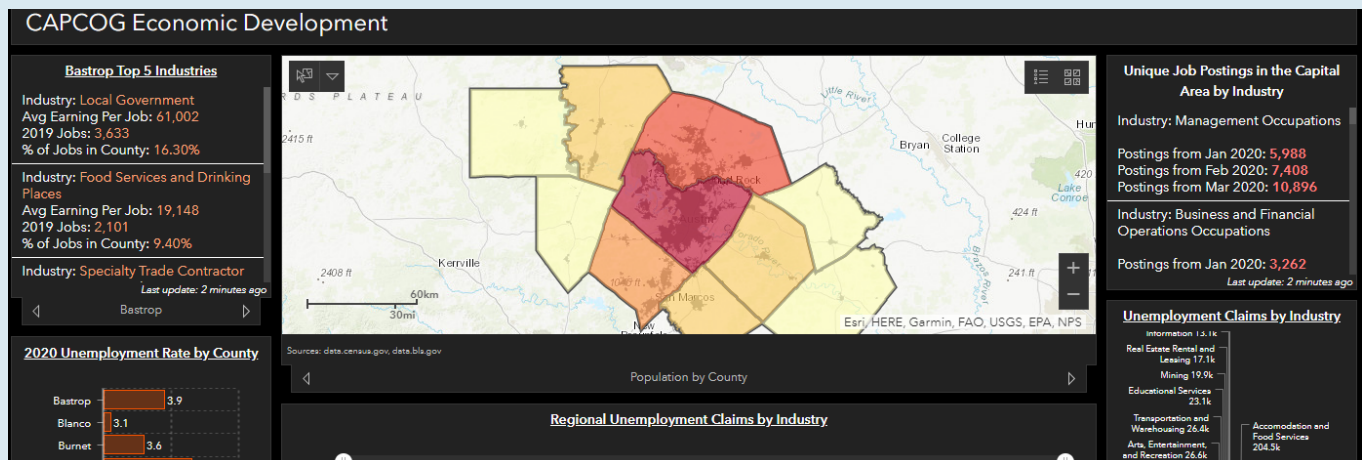
**4 Projects Awarded\***  
**\$9 Million\***  
**27 Applications Submitted**



**EDA CARES Act Grants**

# Regional Planning & Services .....

The Regional Planning and Services Division manages a variety of programs benefiting the region including regional air quality planning and monitoring and GIS services. The division takes the lead on new initiatives identified which include water planning, flood mitigation, and broadband.



*The GIS Program assisted with developing economic development and emergency management COVID-19 dashboards that let community leaders and stakeholders see a variety of coronavirus related information at once.*

## Air Quality

The Air Quality Program conducted and participated in several research projects in 2020. CAPCOG partnered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to analyze the impacts of various strategies to reduce vehicle emissions and air pollution after being selected since it is the largest metro area in the U.S. meeting the national ozone standards and has a population predicted to double in the next 20 years. A 2019 monitoring data analysis and a particulate matter air pollution analysis led CAPCOG's Clean Air Coalition to participate in EPA's Particulate Matter Advance Program, which seeks to reduce particulate levels in the air. CAPCOG also conducted a brief analysis about how changes in commuter behavior related to the COVID-19 pandemic may have impacted the region's air quality; the staff is working with the city of Austin to conduct a more comprehensive study over the next year.

The Air Quality Program continued to coordinate the region's efforts to improve air quality and ensure compliance with federal air quality standards. CAPCOG operated eight regional air quality monitors throughout the region, redeploying one monitor from southwest Austin to east Austin. It also began reporting data from these sites to the EPA's AirNow system to provide residents with more localized data when using the AirNow app or website, AirNow.gov. The program continued its regional air quality outreach efforts through the Air Central Texas initiative, which includes social media, e-newsletters, advertising, and in-person outreach at events.

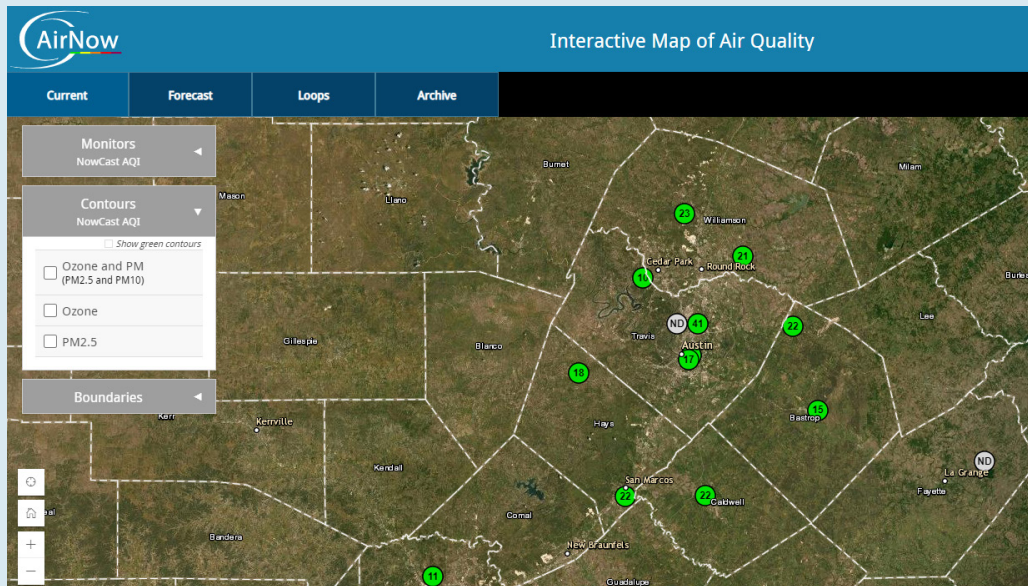
## GIS

During 2020, the GIS Program revamped its partnerships with local governments to develop and update 9-1-1 GIS data to incorporate the use of new quality control tools and prepare the region for Next Generation 9-1-1 (NextGen 9-1-1). The system will use new GIS software to bring the region's 9-1-1 data into compliance with national NextGen 9-1-1 standards and to expedite more accurate call-routing to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) instead of relying on cellphone tower location data to route calls. The system also will improve data quality for computer-aided dispatch systems used for making emergency response decisions.



AIR CENTRAL TEXAS





*The Air Quality Program started sharing data from its air quality monitors with AirNow.gov, so residents throughout the region could see more local information.*

The GIS Program supported other CAPCOG programs by developing and maintaining regional COVID-19 dashboards, which let users see several coronavirus datasets on a single map. It also provided mapping support for air quality, criminal justice, transportation, and senior housing projects.

## Other Projects

The division tracked and provided information about the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) ongoing 2021 Regional Water Planning process. It developed an online tool to assist local governments in identifying priority areas for flood planning and mitigation based on TWDB's new flood funding programs. It also participated in planning efforts to expand broadband access throughout the region; this included helping to organize an effort by Connected Nation to survey and develop an action plan for Blanco, Burnet, and Llano counties. The division continued to provide support for the Commute Solutions program in partnership with the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.



**4.5 Million Air Quality  
Advocacy Messages  
Delivered to People**

**>30,500 New Addresses  
Mapped**  
**>2,450 New Roads Mapped**



# Area Agency on Aging .....

The Area Agency on Aging of the Capital Area (AAACAP) supports the region's older adults, people with disabilities and their caregivers through a variety of services from benefits counseling to long-term care advocacy to meal delivery. It works alongside the region's local governments and nonprofits to ensure the best quality of life for the people it serves.



*A Matter of Balance Fall Prevention master trainer holds up a photo that demonstrates how flexible and stable older adults can be. While the Matter of Balance programs didn't run this year because of COVID-19, other health and wellness programs were offered virtually to older adults. CAPCOG anticipates A Matter of Balance will be offered online in early 2021.*

The Aging Services Division experienced a significant shift in operations in the initial stages of the pandemic. Food insecurity was the number one issue for information and referral callers. With funding support, CAPCOG's nutrition subcontractors quickly pivoted, moving all congregate meal participants to home delivered, shelf-stable meals. Requests for assistance also increased exponentially from many first-time clients. Along with regular meals, providers connected clients to other resources necessary to meet their increased needs during the pandemic.

## Benefits Counseling

AAACAP Benefits Counselors implemented virtual presentations for outreach and education related to Medicare and other public benefits and continued to augment key community referral partnerships. With the onset of the pandemic, they established an ongoing connection with the Medicare insurance agents affiliated with Bankers Life Insurance which connected newly eligible Medicare beneficiaries by screening them for possible cost saving programs based on AAACAP outreach materials.

## Care Coordination and Caregiver Support

The Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Program, which provides in-home services and support to older adults and family caregivers, also experienced increased demand. Respite care and short-term mental health counseling rose by 70 and 100 percent respectively. Respite care gives much needed short-term relief services to family caregivers, while the counseling services address problem solving and family dynamics. This year the counseling also was available to grandparents raising grandchildren.

Despite stay-at-home orders, AAACAP's dedicated pool of in-home service providers took on additional clients working longer hours and more complex cases. Working on location, each provider complied with the CDC and local public health entities' safety recommendations. This meant clients could rely on the needed personal care assistance and the exceedingly important social connections.

This year's Striking-A-Balance Caregiver Conference went virtual, so AAACAP and its longtime partner, AGE of Central Texas, could continue to provide the educational family caregiver conference while protecting the health of its attendees. The conference featured eight well-attended sessions, virtual exhibit halls and panel discussions for more than 190 attendees who gave high marks to the content and the new format. AAACAP expects to continue the virtual conference after the pandemic to reach more older adults and caregivers from all ten counties.



## Health and Wellness

The Health and Wellness Program moved its disease self-management workshops from in-person to online making AAACAP one of the few Area Agency on Aging organizations to offer the courses virtually. Eight workshops took place from April to October. AAACAP's coordinator was instrumental in presenting service delivery processes and lessons learned to the broader aging network in partnership with Texas Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Texas Healthy at Home. AAACAP also was invited to speak at Texas State's Coalition of Researchers in Aging about cutting-edge approaches to leading workshops. AAACAP played a key role in 2020 statewide falls prevention virtual education events, and an online version of A Matter of Balance Falls Prevention will be available in January 2021.

## Ombudsman

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ombudsman Program which advocates for assisted living residents was able to continue to recruit and train volunteers increasing the number of certified volunteer ombudsman in the region from four to 13. The Ombudsman Program developed a better relationship with Texas Health and Human Services' Long-Term Care Regulatory, which expanded its capabilities for problem solving and providing timely assistance to residents, families and care facilities. Although facilities throughout the pandemic were mostly closed to the public, the ombudsman's 1-800 phone line had an eight percent call increase during the year; all calls were addressed timely and according to regulation.

## Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

The ADRC was designated as an Austin Energy Plus1 Financial Support Partner for a second year to provide timely access for utility bill financial help. Due to its ability to quickly serve older adults, persons with disabilities, and caregivers, the ADRC received additional funding from March to the end of the year for utility assistance to alleviate the hardships caused by COVID-19. Ninety vulnerable consumers in Travis and Williamson counties received about \$42,000 in utility bill assistance.

As part of its response to assist with communities' needs, the ADRC expanded its Lifespan Respite program for caregiver assistance to serve parents of children with special needs during COVID-19 school closures allowing them to take time for themselves.

The ADRC supported new community efforts to link older adults and persons with disabilities with access to the Internet and technology through partnerships with the Aging Services Council Social Inclusion Task Force, the Bastrop Cares Broadband Access Project and the Texas Technology Access Project at the Center for Disability Studies at the University of Texas Austin. Through these partnerships, ADRC consumers provided input on their technology needs and participated in pilot projects that granted them Internet access and technology training.

## Solid Partnerships for COVID-19 response

The St. David's Foundation allowed AAACAP to use grant funds allocated for other projects to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding flexibility was critical to AAACAP and gave it the ability to address older adult's immediate needs at a rapid pace. The St. David's Foundation funds assisted with the purchase of shelf-stable meals; the transportation of food from the Bastrop County Food Pantry to residences; the purchase and distribution of gift cards as a means of income support across the St. David's Foundation service area — Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson counties; and the expansion of projects and programs that combated social isolation caused by stay-at-home orders.



**14,409**  
Respite Care Hours  
Provided

**150 non-Duplicated**  
Facility Visits  
**1,538 Phone Calls to**  
Advocate for Older Adults  
in Facilities



**202 Households Assisted**  
with Utility Payments &  
Income Support

# General Assembly

## BASTROP COUNTY

Bastrop County — Judge Paul Pape  
Bastrop County — Commissioner Mel Hamner  
City of Bastrop — Mayor Pro Tem Lyle Nelson  
City of Elgin — Mayor Chris Cannon  
City of Smithville — Council Member William Gordon

## BLANCO COUNTY

Blanco County — Judge Brett Bray  
City of Blanco — Mayor Pro Tem Martin Saucedo  
City of Johnson City — Mayor Ronda Stell  
City of Round Mountain — Vacant

## BURNET COUNTY

Burnet County — Judge James Oakley  
Burnet County — Commissioner Joe Don Dockery  
City of Bertram — Georgina Hernandez  
City of Burnet — Council Member Tres Clinton  
City of Cottonwood Shores — Karrie Cummings  
City of Double Horn — Alderman John Osborne  
City of Granite Shoals — Council Member Steve Hougen  
City of Highland Haven — Mayor Olan Kelley  
City of Marble Falls — Council Member William Haddock  
City of Meadowlakes — Mayor Mary Ann Raesener

## CALDWELL COUNTY

Caldwell County — Judge Hoppy Haden  
Caldwell County — Commissioner Joe Roland  
City of Lockhart — Council Member Jeffry Michelson  
City of Lockhart — Mayor Lew White  
City of Luling — Mayor Mike Hendricks  
City of Martindale — Council Member Jan Bunker

## FAYETTE COUNTY

Fayette County — Judge Joe Weber  
Fayette County — Vacant  
City of Carmine — Mayor Wade Eilers  
City of Fayetteville — Mayor Carl Marino  
City of Flatonia — Sarah Novo  
City of La Grange — Mayor Janet Moerbe  
Town of Round Top — Mayor Barry Bone  
City of Schulenburg — Roger Moellenberndt

## HAYS COUNTY

Hays County — Commissioner Lon A. Shell  
Hays County — Commissioner Debbie Gonzales Ingalsbe  
Hays County — Judge Ruben Becerra  
City of Buda — Mayor Pro Tem Lee Urbanovksy  
City of Buda — Kenneth Williams  
City of Dripping Springs — Council Taline Manassian  
City of Hays — Mayor Larry Odom  
City of Kyle — Council Member Robert Rizo  
City of Kyle — Council Member Tracy Scheel  
City of Mountain City — Vacant  
City of San Marcos — Mayor Jane Hughson  
City of San Marcos — Council Member Melissa Derrick  
City of San Marcos — Chase Stapp  
City of Uhland — Vacant  
City of Wimberley — Council Member Christine Bryne  
City of Woodcreek — Mayor Gloria Whitehead

## LEE COUNTY

Lee County — Commissioner Maurice Pitts, Jr.  
City of Giddings — Mayor John Dowell  
City of Lexington — Mayor Allen Retzlaff

*Cars gather downtown on Main Street in Buda in the 1930s in the photo below. Buda has transformed into the scene to the right and has kept a thriving downtown. — Photos provided by the City of Buda.*





## LLANO COUNTY

Llano County — Commissioner Jerry Don Moss  
Llano County — Judge Ron Cunningham  
City of Llano — Mayor Gail Lang  
City of Horseshoe Bay — Council Member Reagan Lambert  
City of Sunrise Beach Village — Council Member Dan Gower

## TRAVIS COUNTY

Travis County — Commissioner Brigid Shea  
Travis County — Commissioner Gerald Daugherty  
Travis County — Commissioner Jeff Travillion  
City of Austin — Council Member Jimmy Flannigan  
City of Austin — Council Member Sabino Renteria  
City of Austin — DeWayne Lofton  
City of Austin — Mayor Steve Adler  
City of Bee Cave — Council Member Andrea Willott  
City of Jonestown — Alderman Dave Nelsen  
City of Lago Vista — Mayor Ed Tidwell  
City of Lakeway — Mayor Sandy Cox  
City of Lakeway — Mayor Pro Tem Laurie Higginbotham  
City of Manor — Mayor Dr. Larry Wallace Jr.  
City of Mustang Ridge — Alfred Vallejo II  
City of Pflugerville — Council Member Omar Peña  
City of Pflugerville — Mayor Victor Gonzales  
City of Pflugerville — Council Member Mike Heath  
City of Rollingwood — Mayor Mike Dyson  
City of Sunset Valley — Mayor Rose Cardona  
City of West Lake Hills — Dave Claunch  
Village of the Hills — Mayor Eric Ovlen  
Village of Point Venture — Vacant  
Village of San Leanna — Mayor Molly Quirk  
Village of Volente — Ken Beck

## WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Williamson County — Commissioner Russ Boles  
Williamson County — Commissioner Cynthia Long  
Williamson County — Vacant  
City of Bartlett — Norris Ivy  
City of Cedar Park — Council Member Mike Guevara  
City of Cedar Park — Council Member Rodney Robinson  
City of Cedar Park — Council Member Mel Kirkland  
City of Florence — Mayor Mary Condon  
City of Georgetown — City Manager David Morgan

City of Georgetown — Council Member Rachael Jonrowe  
City of Georgetown — Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Pitts  
City of Granger — Alderwoman Monica Stojanik  
City of Hutto — Council Member Patti Martinez  
City of Hutto — Council Member Tom Hines  
City of Jarrell — Vanessa Shrauner  
City of Leander — Council Member Christine Sederquist  
City of Leander — Council Member Marci Cannon  
City of Leander — Vacant  
City of Liberty Hill — Council Member Steve McIntosh  
City of Round Rock — Council Member Will Peckham  
City of Round Rock — Council Member Matthew Baker  
City of Round Rock — Council Member Rene Flores  
City of Round Rock — Vacant  
City of Taylor — Council Member Robert Garcia  
City of Taylor — Mayor Brandt Rydell  
City of Thrall — Mayor Troy Marx  
City of Weir — Mayor Mervin Walker

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Austin ISD — Joey Crumley  
Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer  
Conservation District — Vanessa Escobar  
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Inc. — Johnny Sanders  
Buda EDC — Traci Anderson  
CAMPO — Ashby Johnson  
Central Health — Cynthia Valadez  
Del Valle ISD — Darla Wegner  
Dripping Springs ISD — Ron Jones  
Eanes ISD — Vacant  
Fayette County Appraisal District. — Richard Moring  
Georgetown Chamber of Commerce — Jim Johnson  
Giddings ISD — Roger Dees  
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority — Teresa Van Booven  
Hays County Appraisal District — Lauren Raven  
Hutto ISD — Chief William Edwards  
La Grange ISD — William Wagner  
Lockhart ISD — Mark Estrada  
Lower Colorado River Authority — Phil Wilson  
Movability Inc. — Anton Cox  
Pedernales Electric Co-Op — Shannon Johnson  
Round Rock Chamber of Commerce — Lora Weber  
Travis County ESD No. 2 — Chief Ron Moellenberg



# Committees

## Capital Area Economic Development District

Council Member Jimmy Flannigan, City of Austin, Chair  
Bill Hamilton, Bill Hamilton Associates, Vice Chair  
Ed Latson, Austin Regional Manufacturers Association  
Charisse Bodisch, Austin Chamber of Commerce  
Donald Tracy, Austin Community College  
Adena Lewis, Bastrop County  
Owen Rock, Elgin EDC  
Jason Giluiette, Greater San Marcos Partnership  
Fred Terry, Hart Properties  
Randy Rivers, City of Horseshoe Bay  
Diana Blank-Torres, City of Kyle  
Mayor Sandy Cox, City of Lakeway  
Mick Normington, Lee College  
Commissioner Maurice Pitts, Lee County  
Council Member Christine Sederquist, City of Leander  
Mark Willis, Lower Colorado River Authority  
Christian Fletcher, Marble Falls EDC  
Tessa Doehrman-Schmidtzy, Pedernales Electric Coop  
Mayor Michael Dyson, City of Rollingwood  
Mayor Jane Hughson, City of San Marcos  
Diana Ramirez, Travis County  
Lissa Adams, Texas State Technical College  
Tamara Atkinson, Workforce Solutions Capital Area  
Paul Fletcher, Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area  
Will Conley, Conley Enterprises  
Tracy Anderson, Buda EDC  
Dr. Victor H.P. Villarreal, Citizen  
Lora Weber, Round Rock Chamber of Commerce

## Clean Air Coalition

Mayor Jane Hughson, City of San Marcos, Chair  
Council Member Matt Baker, City of Round Rock, Vice Chair  
Council Member Paige Ellis, City of Austin, 2nd Vice Chair  
Mayor Pro-Tem Lyle Nelson, City of Bastrop  
Commissioner Mel Hamner, Bastrop County  
Council Member Andrea Willott, City of Bee Cave  
Council Member Evan Ture, City of Buda  
Commissioner B.J. Westmoreland, Caldwell County  
Council Member Mel Kirkland, City of Cedar Park  
Mayor Pro-Tem Jessica Bega, City of Elgin  
Council Member Mike Snyder, City of Hutto  
Commissioner Walt Smith, Hays County  
Council Member Robert Rizo, City of Kyle  
Mayor Pro-Tem Laurie Higginbotham, City of Lakeway  
Council Member Kathryn Pantalioun-Parker, City of Leander  
Mayor Lew White, City of Lockhart  
Council Member Mike Heath, City of Pflugerville  
Judge Sam Biscoe, Travis County  
Commissioner Terry Cook, Williamson County

## Capital Area Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Mayor Lew White, City of Lockhart, Chair  
Mayor John Dowell, City of Giddings, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Clara Beckett, Bastrop County  
Mayor Pro Tem Lyle Nelson, City of Bastrop  
Mayor Scott Saunders, Jr, City of Smithville  
Commissioner Emil Uecker, Blanco County  
Mayor Martha Herden, City of Blanco  
Commissioner Thomas Weir, Blanco County  
Judge James Oakley, Burnet County  
Commissioner Joe Don Dockery, Burnet County  
Judge Hoppy Haden, Caldwell County  
Mayor Mike Hendricks, City of Luling  
Commissioner Tom Muras, Fayette County  
Commissioner Mark Jones, Hays County  
Commissioner Lon Shell, Hays County  
Mayor Jane Hughson, City of San Marcos  
Commissioner Maurice Pitts, Lee County  
Commissioner Richard Wagner, Lee County  
Judge Ron Cunningham, Llano County  
Commissioner Linda Raschke, Llano County  
Commissioner Jeff Travillion, Travis County  
Ricardo E. Rendon, Del Valle Board Trustee, Travis County  
Mayor Dr. Larry Wallace Jr., City of Manor  
Commissioner Terry Cook, Williamson County  
Commissioner Cynthia Long, Williamson County  
Mayor Larry Bush, City of Jarrell  
Tucker Ferguson, P.E., TxDOT, Ex officio member  
Ashby Johnson, CAMPO, Ex officio member

## Homeland Security Task Force

EMC Dorothy Miller, City of Round Rock, Chair  
Police Chief Mark Whitacre, Marble Falls PD, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Joe Don Dockery, Burnet County, EC Liaison  
Division Chief Brandon Wade, Austin Fire Department  
Director Juan Ortiz, Austin HSEM  
Division Chief Adam Johnson, Austin-Travis County EMS  
Chief Epidemiologist Janet Pichette, Austin Public Health  
EMC Christine Files, Bastrop County  
Commissioner Chris Liesmann, Blanco County  
EMC Jim Barho, Burnet County  
Chief EMC Hector Rangel, Caldwell County  
Chief Randy Jenkins, Lockhart Fire Rescue  
EMC Alex Villalobos, Hays County  
Chief Scott Kerwood, Hutto Fire Rescue  
EMC Delynn Peschke, Lee County  
EMC Gilbert Bennett, Llano County  
Executive Director Johnny Campbell, Marble Falls Area EMS  
Chief Russell Sander, Marble Falls Fire Rescue  
Dr. Craig Spinn, Region 13 Education Service Center  
District Coordinator Robbie Barrera, TDEM  
Chief EMC Eric Carter, Travis County  
Capt. William Poole, Travis County Sheriff's Office  
EMC Michael Shoe, Williamson County



## **Aging Advisory Council**

Dr. Tracie Harrison, City of Austin, Chair  
Mary Moody, Bastrop County, Vice Chair  
Jay Scheumack, Williamson County, Secretary  
Tabitha Taylor, City of Austin  
Megan Cermak, City of Austin  
Sophie Johnson, Blanco County  
Kathy Nicholl, Burnet County  
Commissioner Barbara Shelton, Caldwell County  
Kelly Franke, Fayette County  
Lindsay McClune, Hays County  
Margie Rodriguez, Hays County  
Commissioner Mike Sandoval, Llano County  
Rob Faubion, Travis County  
Fred Lugo, Travis County  
Joe Morganti, Travis County  
Linda Parrish, Texas Silver Haired Legislator

## **Capital Area Emergency Communications District Strategic Advisory Committee**

Chief David Smith, Hays County, Chair  
Dawn Moore, Fayette County, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Cynthia Long, Williamson County, BoM Liaison  
Asst. Chief Richard Guajardo, City of Austin  
Julie Sommerfeld, Bastrop County  
Commissioner Chris Liesmann, Blanco County  
Commissioner Joe Don Dockery, Burnet County  
Commissioner Edward Theriot, Caldwell County  
Delynn Peschke, Lee County  
Lt. Rick Snitkin, Llano County  
Brad Bearden, Travis County  
Leigh Carrico, Williamson County  
Terry Purvis, Williamson County  
Richard Semple, Williamson County

## **Criminal Justice Advisory Committee**

Judge Michael York, Lee County, Chair  
Chief Deputy Mike Lane, Caldwell County, Vice Chair  
Council Member Mike Heath, City of Pflugerville, EC Liaison  
Darlene Lanham, City of Austin  
Laura Sovine, City of Austin  
Tarik Shakir, City of Austin  
Jerome Reese, Bastrop County  
Lt. Robert Woodring, Blanco County  
Capt. Christopher Jett, Burnet County  
Erwin Sladek, Fayette County  
Chief Bob Klett, San Marcos  
Matthew Grantham, Hays County  
Officer James Brown, Llano County  
Commander Andy McKinney, City of Round Rock  
Major Craig Smith, Travis County  
Laura Slocum, Travis County  
Sergeant David (T.A.) Lowthorp, Williamson County  
Kathy Pierce, Williamson County  
Gloria Terry, At-Large Representation

## **Law Enforcement Education Committee**

Chief Chase Stapp, San Marcos Public Safety, Chair  
Chief Todd Radford, Lakeway PD, Vice Chair  
Judge Ron Cunningham, Llano County, EC Liaison  
Chief Clint Nagy, Bastrop PD  
Randy Brodbeck, Blanco/Burnet/ Llano County, Citizen Rep.  
Chief Mike Lane, Caldwell County  
Chief Mark Whitacre, Marble Falls PD  
Chief David Gilbreath, La Grange PD  
Chief Deputy James Crockett, Lee County Sheriff's Office  
George Vanderhule, Hays County, Citizen Rep.  
Bill May, Travis County, Citizen Rep.  
Chief Greg Minton, Leander PD  
Rachel Arnold, Williamson County, Citizen Rep.

## **GIS Planning Council**

Ross Clark, City of Austin, Chair  
Steve Floyd, Hays County, Vice Chair  
Mayor Jane Hughson, City of San Marcos, EC Liaison  
Cathy Winfrey, City of Austin  
Julie Sommerfeld, Bastrop County  
Kathy Strickland, Blanco County  
Virginia Castillo, Burnet County  
Jaclyn Archer, Caldwell County  
Dawn Moore, Fayette County  
Joe Sepulveda, City of Georgetown  
Katherine Weiss, Hays County  
Delynn Peschke, Lee County  
D'Anna Swindle, Llano County  
Nathan Smith, City of Round Rock  
Katie Steele, City of San Marcos  
David Shore, Travis County  
Sara Dilbert, Travis County  
Teresa Baker, Williamson County  
George Strebel, Williamson County

## **Solid Waste Advisory Committee**

Commissioner Linda Raschke, Llano County, Chair  
Commissioner Bill Wall, Burnet County, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Hoppy Haden, Caldwell County, EC Liaison  
Gerry Acuna, City of Austin  
Richard McHale, City of Austin  
Kevin Berry, Bastrop County  
Commissioner Paul Granberg, Blanco County  
Commissioner Joe Roland, Caldwell County  
Commissioner Tom Muras, Fayette County  
Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe, Hays County  
Tammy Crumley, Hays County  
Emily Ackland, Travis County  
Jon White, Travis County  
Michael Cooper, Williamson County  
R. Lynn Lantrip, Williamson County  
Rachel Hering, Cooperative Teamwork & Recycling Assistance, Citizen/Environmental Rep.  
Joey Crumley, Educational Rep.  
Steve Jacobs, Waste Management, Private Industry Rep.  
Adam Gregory, Texas Disposal Systems, Private Industry Rep.  
Michael Mnoian, Central Waste & Recycling, Private Industry Rep.  
Matthew Smith, Hill Country Recycling, Private Industry Rep.  
Elizabeth Slone, TCEQ, Ex officio member  
Cheryl Untermeyer, TCEQ, Ex officio member



# Unaudited Financial Report

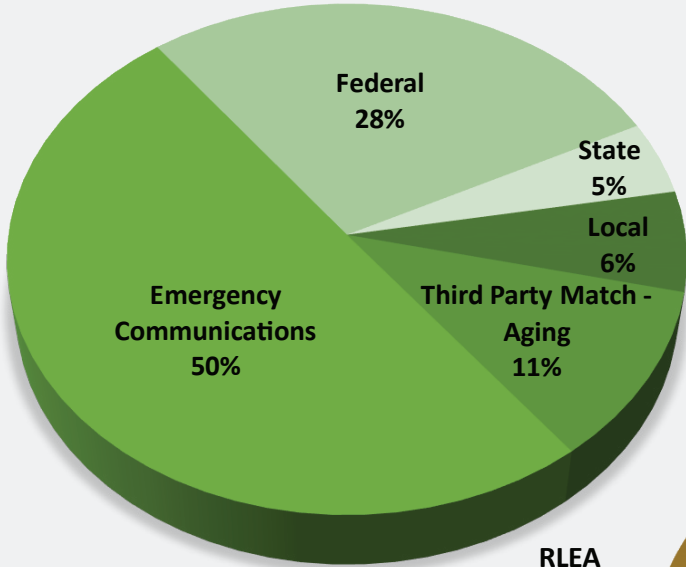
## Revenue by Source

Local	
Membership Dues.....	\$287,220.00
Contract Revenue .....	\$995,955.20
Tuition.....	\$251,084.06
Interest.....	\$232,628.67
Other .....	\$36,844.08
Subtotal.....	<u>\$1,803,732.01</u>
Third Party Match - Aging .....	\$3,109,868.00
Emergency Communications.....	\$14,283,652.48
Federal.....	\$7,935,986.06
State.....	\$1,317,387.58
Total Revenue by Source .....	<u><u>\$28,450,626.13</u></u>

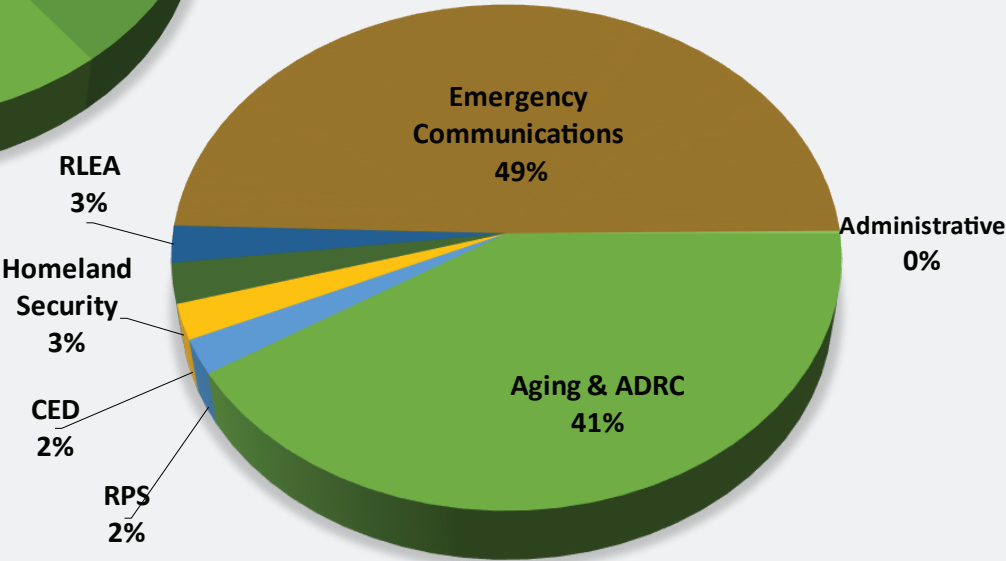
## Expenditures by Division

Aging and ADRC.....	\$10,961,027.97
Regional Planning & Services .....	\$587,744.76
Community & Economic Dev. ....	\$605,196.67
Homeland Security .....	\$684,901.29
RLEA .....	\$629,419.42
Emergency Communications.....	\$13,156,755.06
Administrative - Other .....	\$44,326.90
Total Expenditures by Division...	<u><u>\$26,669,372.07</u></u>

Revenue by Source



Expenditures by Division









**capcog.org**  
**512-916-6000**  
**6800 Burleson Road**  
**Building 310 Suite 165**  
**Austin, TX 78744**