



**BROWNSVILLE**  
PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

# PUBCAP Meeting

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● ● ● Thursday, March 27, 2025



**BROWNSVILLE**  
PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

# Call Open Meeting To Order

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**BROWNSVILLE**  
PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

# Approval of Minutes

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**BROWNSVILLE**  
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# Old Business

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**BROWNSVILLE**  
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# New Business

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# **Integrated Resource Plan Portfolio Recommendation**

APRIL 2, 2025

# Recap of Workshop #3

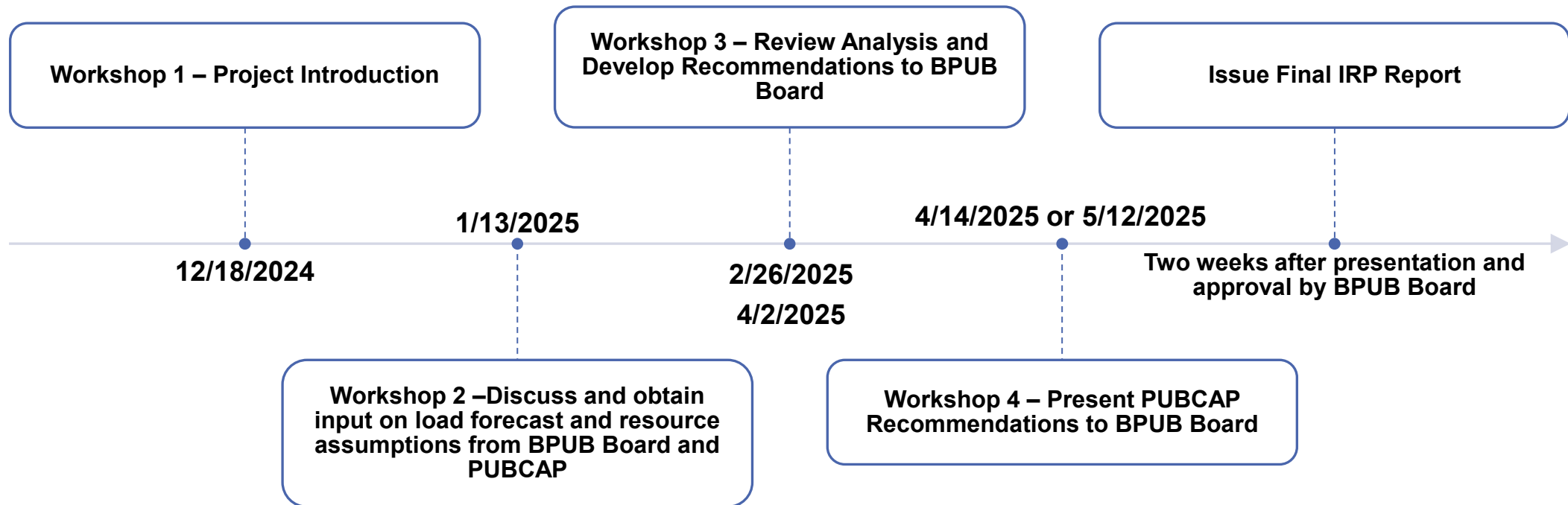
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- During Workshop #3, seven members of PUBCAP and two leaders from GBIC attended. However, some had to depart early due to previous engagements and Charro Day festivities.
- At the conclusion of the workshop, the following four members reached consensus that Portfolio #2, higher dispatchable gas generation, was the preferred option.
  - Patricia Cavazos
  - Daniela Soza
  - Carmen Nordyke
  - David Ramirez
- In February 26, 2025, PUBCAP did not meet quorum



# IRP Milestones

We're engaging stakeholders through four workshops





# Portfolio Options Reviewed in Workshop #3

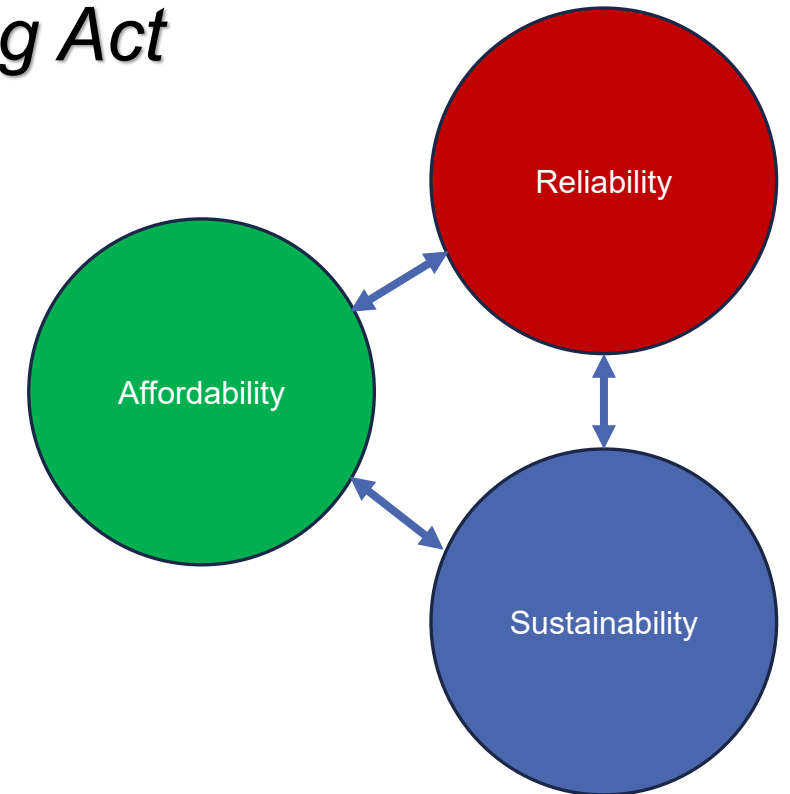
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## *Integrated Resource Planning is a Balancing Act*

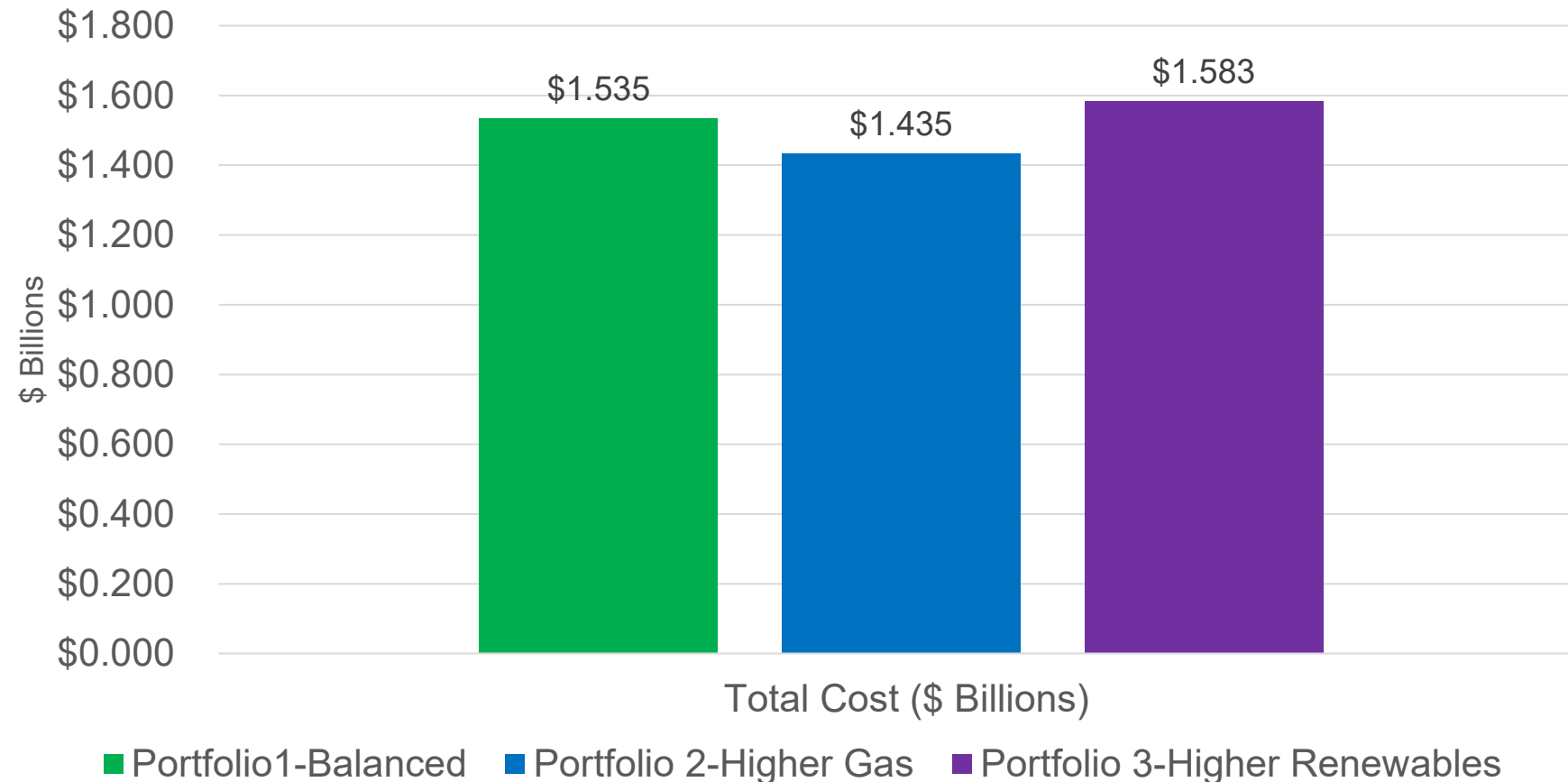
Portfolio #1: Balanced Plan

Portfolio #2: Higher Gas (Dispatchable) Energy Plan

Portfolio #3: Higher Renewables (Non-Dispatchable) Plan

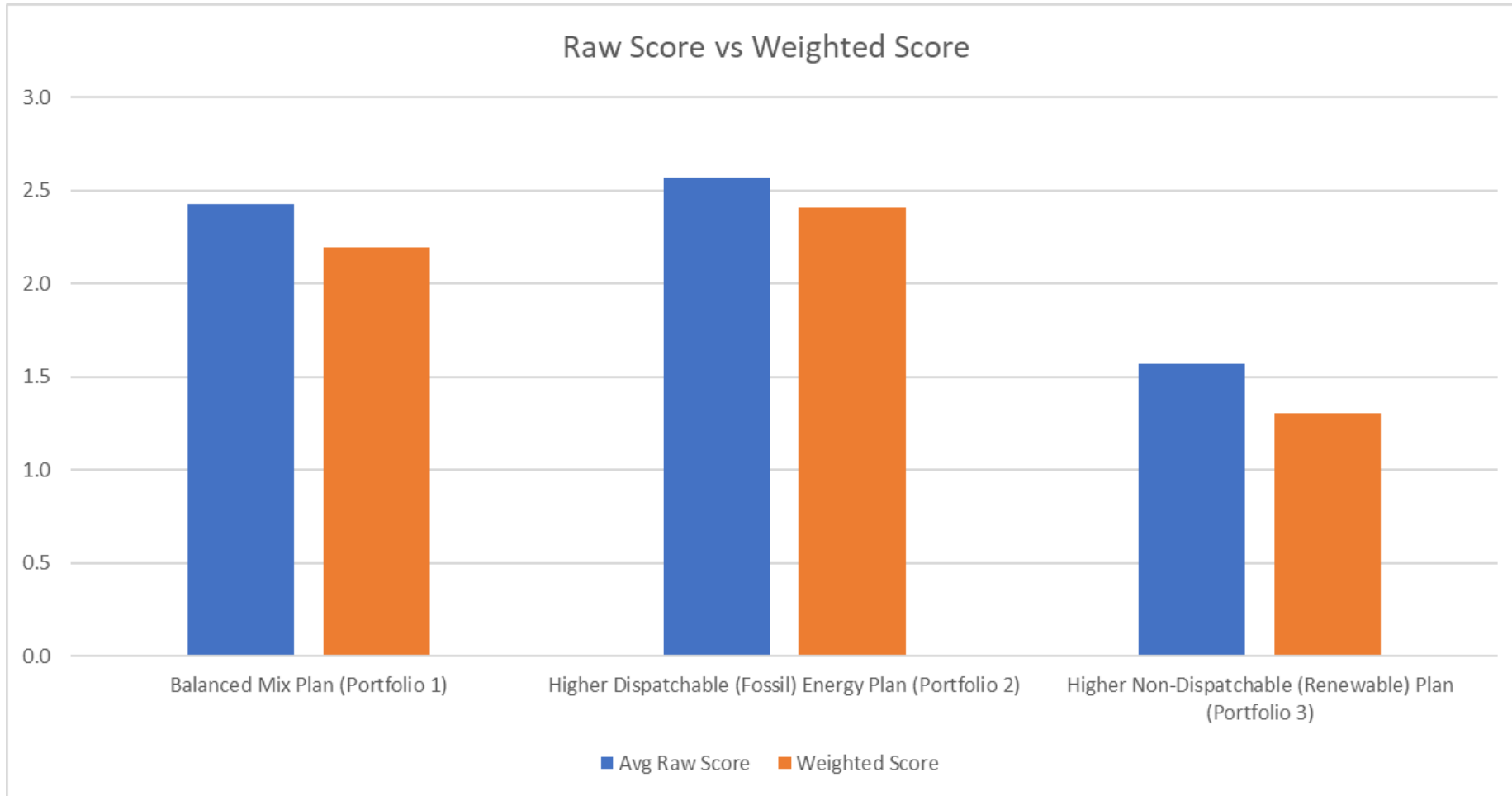


# Portfolio Costs



- Total Cost reflects capital cost + operating cost over twenty-five years.

# Portfolio Rankings



- The portfolios were ranked using both an unweighted and a weighted scoring approach
- **Portfolio 2** was the top choice using both methods.

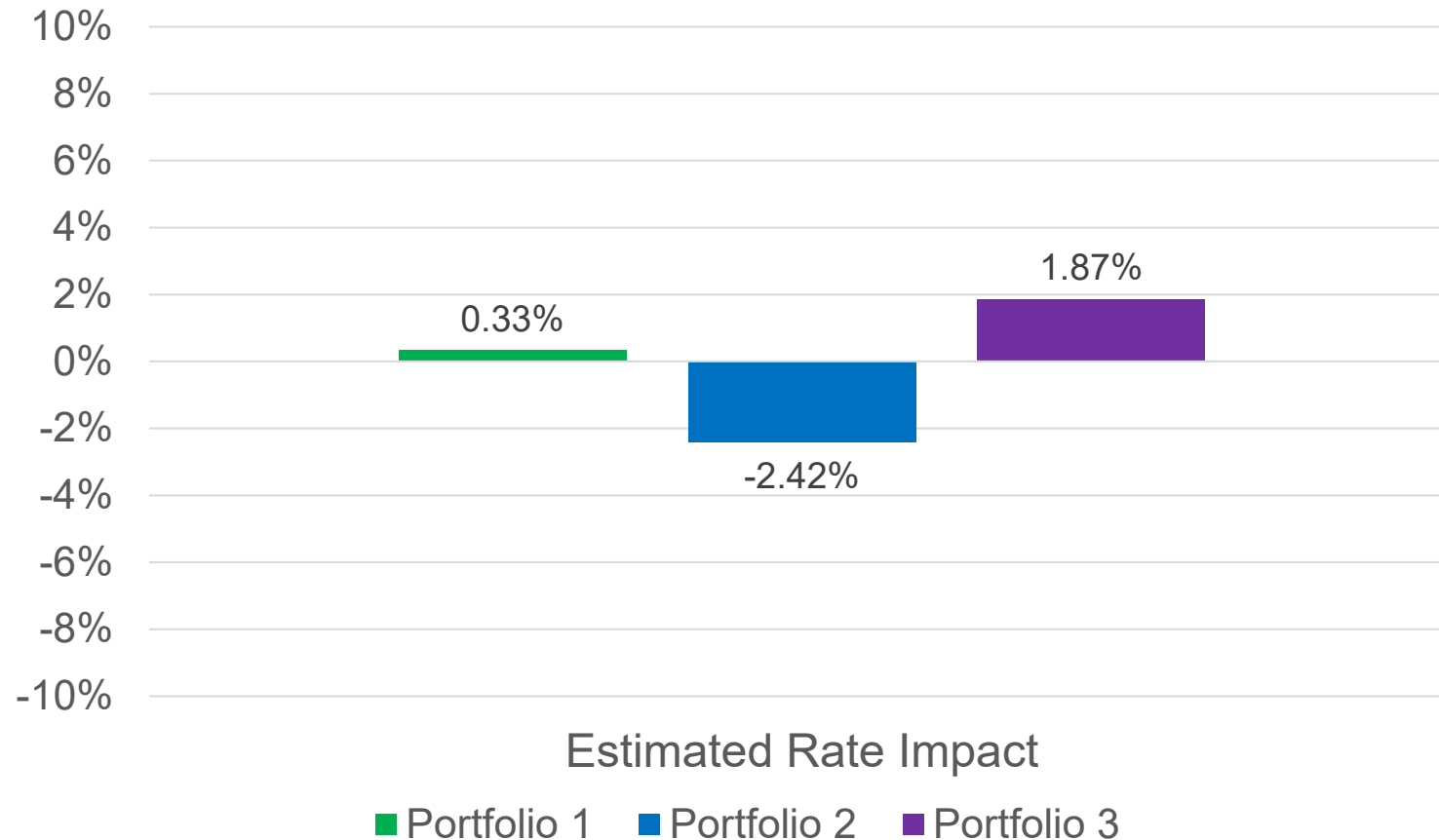
# Next Steps

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- Questions and answers
- Discussion
- Recommendations

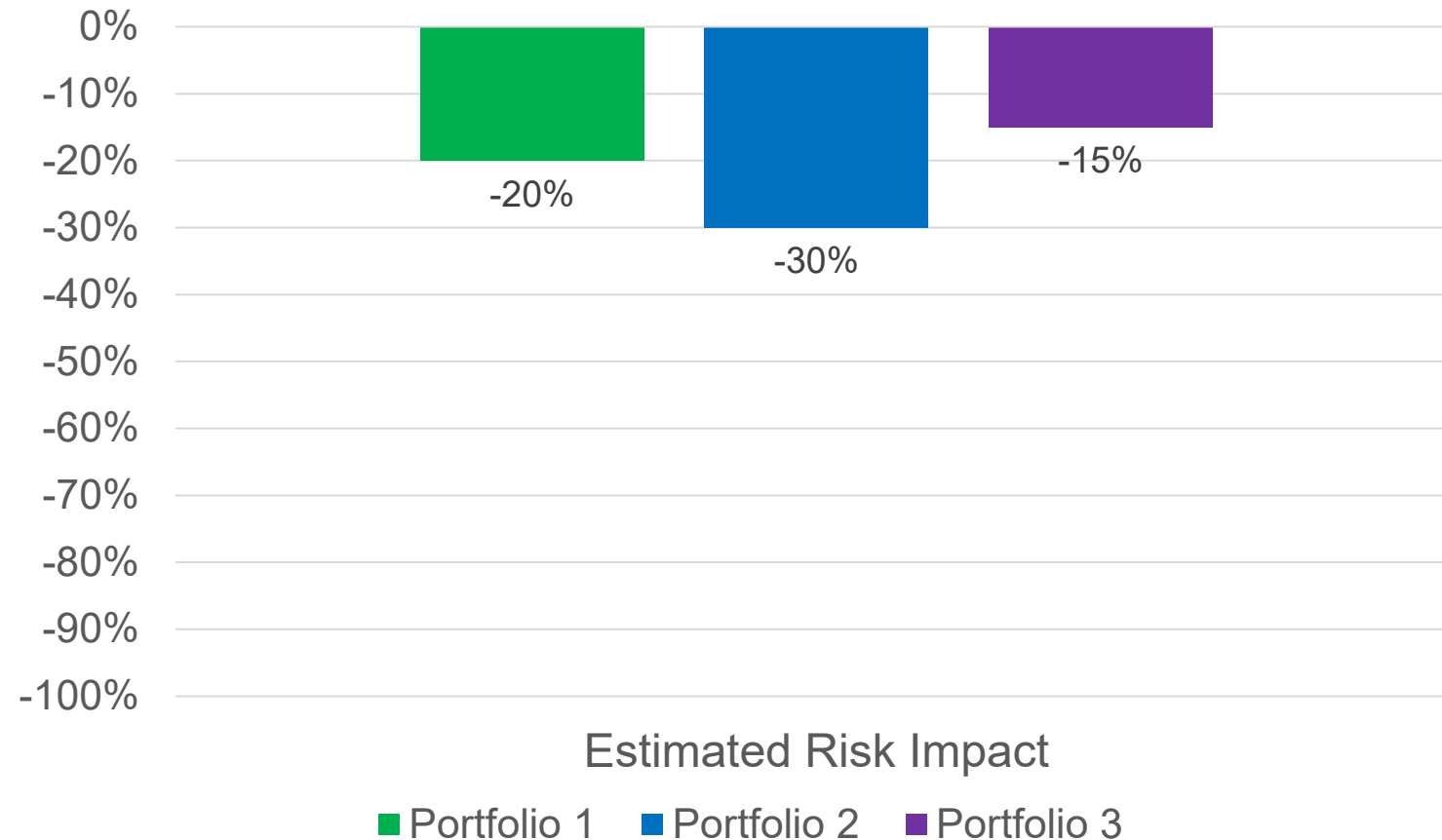
# Supplemental Information

# Customer Bill Impact (Illustrative)



- Values stated are compared to BPUB's existing portfolio with no future changes.

# Risk Impact (Illustrative)



- Values reflect relative customer bill volatility compared to BPUB's existing portfolio with no future changes.

# Portfolio # 1

Portfolio 1																		
Row Labels	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2036	2037	2040	2041	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	Grand Total
<b>BPUB IRP - Portfolio 1</b>	<b>95.60</b>	<b>75.60</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>135.00</b>	<b>-88.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>-78.00</b>		<b>25.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>550.20</b>
AEP Desert Sky Wind					-73.00													-73.00
AEP PPA					-50.00													-50.00
BPUB Commercial Energy Efficiency SOP	0.30	0.30																0.60
BPUB Distributed Solar																		0.00
BPUB Residential Energy Efficiency SOP	0.30	0.30																0.60
Constellation-Sendero PPA											-78.00							-78.00
Hidalgo CC1																		0.00
IRA New Battery_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX	10.00	10.00	10.00															30.00
IRA New Solar_ERCOT-South:1-Axis:TX	20.00																	20.00
IRA New Solar_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX	30.00	30.00	30.00															90.00
IRA New Wind_ERCOT-South: H25:C4:TX	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00											175.00
New Battery_ERCOT-South:Battery-Hybrid:TX															10.00			10.00
New Battery_ERCOT-South:Utility:Battery:TX	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00		10.00	10.00	10.00					10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	120.00
New Solar_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX															30.00			30.00
New Wind_ERCOT-South:H 25:C4:TX													25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	125.00
New AERO_ERCOT-South:TX				100.00						50.00								150.00
Silas Ray 10																		0.00
Silas Ray 6_9																		0.00



# Portfolio # 2

Portfolio 2																		
Row Labels	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2036	2037	2040	2041	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	Grand Total
<b>BPUB IRP - Portfolio 2</b>	<b>95.60</b>	<b>75.60</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>125.00</b>	<b>-48.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>			<b>50.00</b>	<b>-78.00</b>		<b>25.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>540.20</b>
AEP Desert Sky Wind					-73.00													-73.00
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BPUB Distributed Solar																		0.00
BPUB Residential Energy Efficiency SOP	0.30	0.30																0.60
Constellation-Sendero PPA											-78.00							-78.00
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IRA New Battery_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX	10.00	10.00	10.00															30.00
IRA New Solar_ERCOT-South:1-Axis:TX	20.00																	20.00
IRA New Solar_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX	30.00	30.00	30.00															90.00
IRA New Wind_ERCOT-South: H25:C4:TX	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00											175.00
New Battery_ERCOT-South:Battery-Hybrid:TX															10.00			10.00
New Battery_ERCOT-South:Utility:Battery:TX	10.00	10.00	10.00												10.00	10.00	10.00	60.00
New Solar_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX															30.00			30.00
New Wind_ERCOT-South:H 25:C4:TX													25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	125.00
New AERO_ERCOT-South:TX				100.00	50.00					50.00								200.00
Silas Ray 10																		0.00
Silas Ray 6_9																		0.00

# Portfolio # 3

Portfolio 3																		
Row Labels	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2036	2037	2040	2041	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	Grand Total
<b>BPUB IRP - Portfolio 3</b>	<b>95.60</b>	<b>110.30</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>85.00</b>	<b>-67.70</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>				<b>-78.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>510.20</b>
AEP Desert Sky Wind					-73.00													-73.00
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BPUB Commercial Energy Efficiency SOP	0.30	0.30																0.60
BPUB Distributed Solar																		0.00
BPUB Residential Energy Efficiency SOP	0.30				0.30													0.60
Constellation-Sendero PPA											-78.00							-78.00
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IRA New Battery_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX	10.00																	10.00
IRA New Solar_ERCOT-South:1-Axis:TX	20.00				20.00													40.00
IRA New Solar_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX	30.00																	30.00
IRA New Wind_ERCOT-South: H25:C4:TX	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00											175.00
New Battery_ERCOT-South:Battery-Hybrid:TX													10.00					10.00
New Battery_ERCOT-South:Utility:Battery:TX	10.00		10.00	10.00	10.00								10.00	10.00	10.00		10.00	80.00
New IC_ERCOT-South:TX		85.00																85.00
New Solar_ERCOT-South:Hybrid:TX													30.00					30.00
New Wind_ERCOT-South:H 25:C4:TX												25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	150.00
New AERO_ERCOT-South:TX				50.00		50.00												100.00
Silas Ray 10																		0.00
Silas Ray 6_9																		0.00



# Springtime Safety & Conservation

PUBCAP MEETING – MARCH 27, 2025

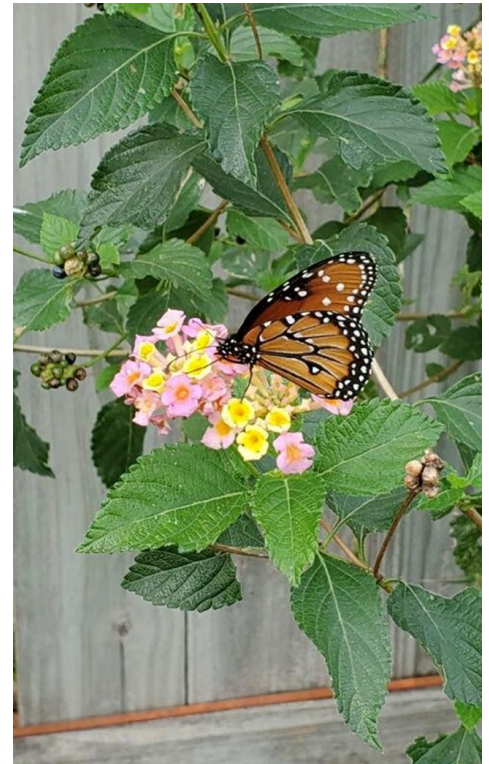
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• • • Thursday, March 27, 2025

# Spring Is Here

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- In the Northern Hemisphere, spring officially began this year on March 20
- More gardening activity due to plants waking up
- More people putting in new plants
- More concerns about water supply



# Dangers hidden below

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- Underground lines can be a hazard to gardeners who are out digging
- Hitting a line can result in service interruptions, a bill for damages, injuries, even death
- Every 9 minutes, an underground utility is damaged by someone who didn't use 811

# Why call 811?

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## LINE MARKER COLOR CODES

	ELECTRIC
	GAS, OIL OR STEAM
	TELEPHONE OR TELEVISION
	WATER
	SEWER
	TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS
	PROPOSED EXCAVATION

# When to call 811?

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Texas law requires homeowners to contact 811 two business days (excluding weekends and holidays) before digging, even if you're working in your own backyard.

Homeowners should contact 811 when:



Building or repairing a fence



Planting a tree



Installing a sprinkler system



Any chore or maintenance that requires digging

If you are hiring a contractor to do the work for you, it is the contractor's responsibility to contact 811 two business days prior to digging. You may want to make sure your contractor has notified 811 before the work begins by requesting the ticket or notification number.



# Call 811 before you dig

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- 811 is FREE
- Call 2 business days before digging
- For homeowners and businesses
- Used when building a fence, planting a tree, installing a sprinkler, performing any digging





# Digging safe in April

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# Dangers lurking above

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- **Trees waking up in spring will grow quickly**
- **Branches near lines can be a hazard and can cause service interruptions**



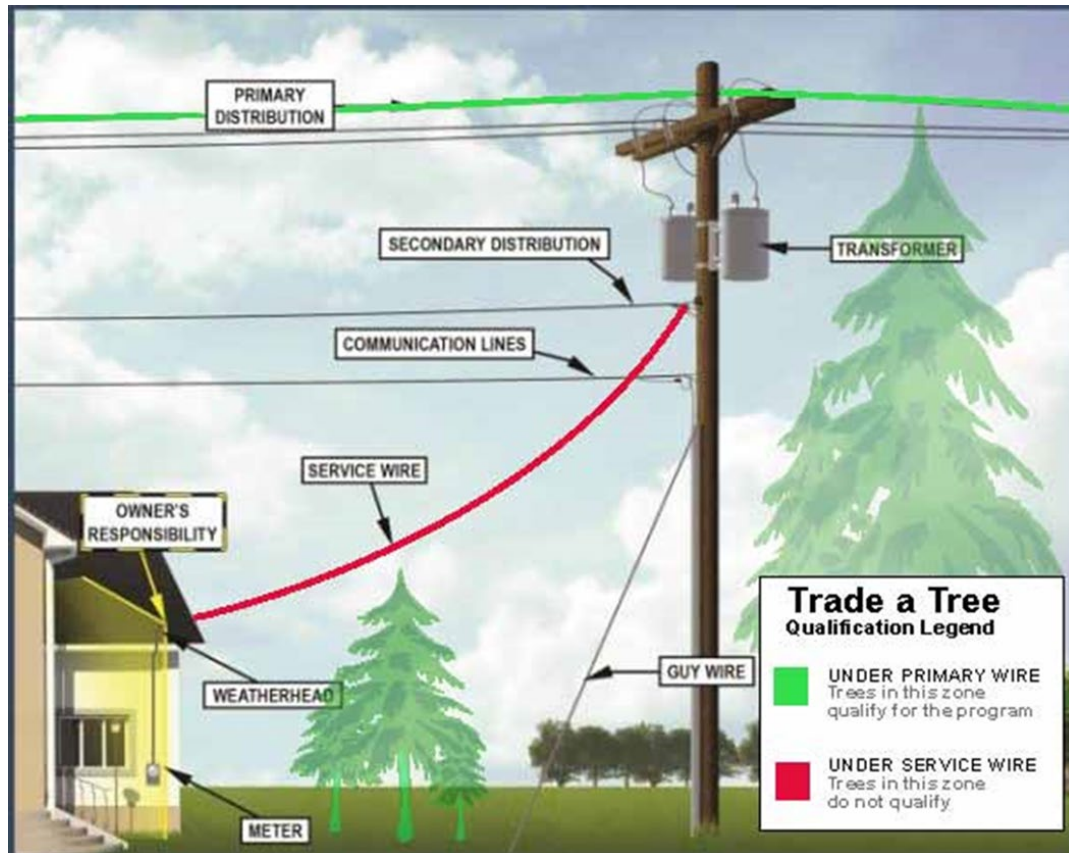
# Dangers lurking above

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- Trim branches before they become a problem
- Proactive tree trimming by BPUB in problem areas
- Trade-a-Tree Program



# Trade-a-Tree Program



- Swap a problem tree for a native tree
- Tree must be under primary service line
- BPUB, COB will remove, clean debris, provide replacement
- New tree must be appropriate distance

# Water conservation landscaping

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- Drought conditions persist
- In urban areas, about 25% of water supply used to water landscape and gardens
- In summer, as much as 60% of the water the average household uses may be for landscape maintenance





# Efficient watering

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- Limited to 2 watering days per week, midnight-7 a.m.; 7 p.m.-midnight
- Better to water early in morning or at end of day
- Water infrequently but deeply
- Avoid watering grass every day, even when not under restrictions

# Water to conserve

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- **Water down, not up**
- **Drip irrigation more efficient than sprinkler irrigation**
- **Get a water nozzle for the garden hose**
- **Use the right watering tool for the job**



# Plan your landscape

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- Place plants with similar water needs together
- Optimize sprinkler locations
- Reduce turf
- Improve soil
- Plant at the right time



# Plant smart; plant native

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- Better adapted to environment
- Better equipped to handle pests
- Act as “bait crop” to keep pest off other plants
- Attracts more pollinators
- St. Augustine not native, very resource intensive



# Xeriscape to save more

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- Extensive use of native plants
- Incorporates non-plant elements like rocks and mulch
- Greatly reduces need to water
- Low maintenance – less need for mowing, pruning
- Pest and disease resistant
- Right plant for right region



# Xeriscape in practice

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# Invest in conservation

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- **Add mulch wherever possible**
- **Permanent irrigation system**
- **Water timer**
- **Cameron County Master Gardeners program**
- **Consult with landscaping expert about xeriscape**



# Don't be afraid to ask for help

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- **Cameron County Extension Office –**  
**[Cameron.agrilife.com](http://Cameron.agrilife.com)**
- **RGV Chapter of Texas Master Naturalist –**  
**[rgvctmn.org/rgv-plants/](http://rgvctmn.org/rgv-plants/)**
- **Native Plant Society of Texas –**  
**[npsot.org/chapters/rio-grande-valley](http://npsot.org/chapters/rio-grande-valley)**

**Questions?**



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# Project SHARE Scholarship

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MIGUEL COLLIS, DIGITAL INFORMATION PLATFORMS MANAGER

# Mission

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BPUB's annual project share scholarship program aims to support deserving high school graduates in their pursuit of higher education. This directly reflects BPUB's commitment to the transformative power of education. Over the past 18 years, BPUB has awarded roughly \$183,500 in scholarships to 187 recipients.

**18**

Total Years

**187**

Recipients

**\$183,500**

Total Scholarships Awarded






# Scholarship

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10 \$2K

scholarships awarded each year to Brownsville-area high schools  
graduating students



# Application Requirements

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1. Fill out the online application
  2. Must reside in a household that receives service from BPUB
  3. Must be graduating from high school during the 2023 - 2024 school year
  4. Must attend an accredited university in the United States
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# Promotional Campaign

1. Regular social media posts promoting the scholarship
2. Outreach to local schools
  - Flyers, Promotional Posters
3. Billboards
4. Press Release



# Submission Requirements

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The application must be filled out online.

[www.bpubscholarship.com](http://www.bpubscholarship.com)

# Deadline:

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The scholarship application deadline was Monday, March 10


**53**

Qualifying Applications



# What's next?

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- Evaluate submissions
  - Send award letters
  - Winners will be announced in The Brownsville Herald
  - Award ceremony
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# Evaluators


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Responsible for evaluating and scoring scholarship applications

## PUBCAP

- Daniela Sosa
- Jose Medrano
- David Ramirez

## BPUB

- Joe Amaya
  - Sandra Garza
  - Jessica Perez
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# Thank you

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# Public Comments

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PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

# Next Meeting Date

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APRIL 16, 2025



**BROWNSVILLE**  
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# Adjournment

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