



USIBWC CITIZENS FORUM

BACKGROUND

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) is seeking applications from individuals interested in serving on the Board for the USIBWC Citizens Forum (CF), a group established to promote the exchange of information regarding USIBWC activities in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. All CF meetings are open to the public and act as a focal point for the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the local community regarding ongoing and future USIBWC projects in the area. The CF is intended to bring together community members, enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the USIBWC and the general public, environmentalists, government agencies, municipalities, etc. It is expected that the CF Board will consist of about 10 volunteer members representing diverse interests. The Board will meet regularly in the Lower Rio Grande Valley at locations to be determined, approximately three times per year, to discuss plans and issues related to ongoing and future USIBWC projects.

HOW TO BECOME A USIBWC CITIZENS FORUM MEMBER

In order for Board selection to be completed before the next meeting application forms should be submitted by September 29, 2023

Board members to the CF will be selected by the USIBWC in consideration of the agency's interest in encouraging participation by diverse interests and individuals and organizations most likely to be directly affected by USIBWC activities. The first meeting of the new board is scheduled:

Date: November 2023 (TBD)

Location: TBD

Please return your completed application to:

Esther Cortez, USIBWC, 4191 N. Mesa Street, El Paso, TX 79902 or
esther.cortez@ibwc.gov

If you have any questions, please contact Esther Cortez at 915-317-5915 or
esther.cortez@ibwc.gov Additional information about the USIBWC is available at www.ibwc.gov.

APPLICATION FORM
USIBWC CITIZENS FORUM BOARD
INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES SECTION

Name

Occupation/Employer (if applicable)

Street/City/State/Zip

E-Mail

Telephone, Daytime

Telephone, Cell

Fax

PART I: INTERESTS AND CONCERNS

This portion of the form will give the USIBWC a more accurate idea of your interests and concerns regarding USIBWC activities in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. You may attach additional sheets.

1. Are you affiliated with any group? If so, please list the group(s) and any positions held.

2. Do you have any interests in or concerns about specific USIBWC activities? If so, please elaborate.

PART II: PARTICIPATION IN THE CITIZENS FORUM

Board members of the Citizens Forum are expected to serve a two-year term and to attend all meetings. Members who miss two or more consecutive meetings may be asked to resign. Duties and responsibilities may include reviewing and commenting on technical documents and materials associated with USIBWC activities in the project area. Board members will be expected to be available to the public to facilitate the exchange of information and/or concerns between the community and the Forum. Participation in the Citizens Forum is strictly on a volunteer basis and members will not be financially compensated. Board members will be chosen by a USIBWC selection panel and will be representative of the diverse interests of the community.

Those who do not serve directly on the Citizens Forum Board may still participate in activities. Interested members of the community will be included on the mailing list and will be invited to attend all Forum meetings, which are open to the public. The public will be able to comment at the Forum meetings during a time set aside for public comments and input.

NOTE: Priority for Citizens Forum Board membership will be given to local residents, groups or organizations which could be directly affected by USIBWC activities.

1. Please state why you would like to be considered for USIBWC Citizens Forum Board membership.

2. Describe your experience working as a member of a diverse group with common goals.

3. Members of the Forum Board will select a co-chairperson who will coordinate with the USIBWC Area Operations Manager. Please indicate if you are interested in being the co-chairperson by checking the box:

4. If you responded yes to question 3, please state why you would be interested in being the co-chairperson.

5. By submitting this signed application, you:

- are aware that being a Citizens Forum Board member will involve a time commitment;
- understand that being a Citizens Forum Board member entails a willingness to work cooperatively with other members to ensure the efficient and effective use of time;
- understand that serving on the Citizens Forum Board will be voluntary and that members will not receive compensation for this service; and,
- understand the following Privacy Act information regarding providing your name, address and telephone number for this survey:

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

Authority: 5 USC § 552a and 22 USC § 277

Principal Purpose: To identify members of the local community who are interested in participation in the USIBWC Citizens Forum Board.

Routine Uses: The requested information will be used to develop a list of interested persons from which the community members of the Citizens Forum Board will be selected. The information will also be used by the USIBWC to contact the individuals who are selected and to notify applicants of upcoming meetings and activities of the Citizens Forum. Disclosure of the requested information is voluntary. Failure to provide all the requested information may prevent selection to the Citizens Forum Board.

Applicant Signature

Date

Please return the completed and signed form to:

Esther Cortez

USIBWC

4191 N. Mesa Street,

El Paso, TX 79902

esther.cortez@ibwc.gov

Deadline is September 29, 2023

