

City of Weslaco

"The City on the Grow"



David Suarez, Mayor
John F. Cuellar, Mayor Pro-Tem, District 2
David R. Fox, Commissioner, District 1
Olga M. Noriega, Commissioner, District 3
Gerardo "Jerry" Tafolla, Commissioner, District 4
Lupe V. Rivera, Commissioner, District 5
Fidel L. Pena, III, Commissioner, District 6

Leonardo Olivares, City Manager

Press Release

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S&P Raises Weslaco's Bond Rating to Highest Level

WESLACO, TX – Standard & Poor's Ratings Services (S&P) has raised the City of Weslaco's bond rating to its highest level ever, lifting its long-term and underlying rating on the City's General Obligation (GO) debt to A+, up from A-.

In a little over a year, Standard & Poor's Rating Service has upgraded Weslaco's GO rating two times. In November 2012, S&P raised the City's rating to A- from BBB+. Prior to the November 2012 upgrade, it had been almost ten (10) years since the City had received an upgrade from S&P.

"The Commission started turning the City around in 2010 with a new management team and the goal of having a 25% General Fund balance," said John F. Cuellar, Mayor Pro Tem. "I am very pleased to see during the past year Weslaco surpassing our 25% goal and reaching its highest bond rating. We had to deal with a lot of financial challenges over the past four years, and we are excited to see S&P, an independent party, acknowledge our effort."

Over the past few months, S&P has applied a new rating methodology and assumptions for assigning issuer credit ratings (ICRs). The new methodology put a higher weight on the economy. This has limited the upward availability of ratings for most border cities.

Mayor David Suarez said, "This is a tremendous accomplishment. I am very proud of our team and the presentation that we made to S&P earlier this month. This will not only decrease our cost of debt but it will demonstrate to businesses that Weslaco is the place to be. I see Weslaco continuing to grow and look forward to even higher ratings in the future."

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- [Standard & Poor's Rating Services Summary: Weslaco, Texas; General Obligation](#)
- [Commission Minutes for FY 2011 Budget](#)
- [Commission Minutes for FY 2012 Budget](#)
- [Commission Minutes for FY 2013 Budget](#)
- [Commission Minutes for FY 2014 Budget](#)