



Regional Council of Governments & Economic Development District serving Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy County

RESOLUTION 2023-02

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REAPPROPRIATING CDBG-DR 2018 AND 2019 FUNDS FOR REGIONAL DRAINAGE IN SOUTH TEXAS

WHEREAS, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council as the state designated regional council of governments serving Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties; and

WHEREAS, the LRGVDC recognizes its role to support bi-national water conservation measures and improve awareness and understanding of water quality and water quantity issues, and how these issues collectively relate to flood management, drainage infrastructure, water quality standards, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the LRGVDC is tasked to address flood management and drainage infrastructure strategies as a region by emphasizing collaboration and partnerships, especially when creating new and future projects; and

WHEREAS, chronic flooding has had a devastating impact on the residents and economy of the Lower Rio Grande Valley causing extensive property damage and posing a serious threat to public safety and housing; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County and Cameron County suffered devastating floods in 2018 and 2019 which resulted in Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocations of CDBG-DR funds; and

WHEREAS, the allocation of CDBG-DR funds in response to the 2018 and 2019 floods presents a unique opportunity to address these issues and invest in the long-term health and prosperity of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Texas General Land Office (GLO) is the legal entity responsible for managing such CDBG-DR funds; and

WHEREAS, the GLO has served as a leader in the creation of flood-control infrastructure in South Texas; and

WHEREAS, the GLO prepared an Action Plan for the CDBG-DR 2018 and 2019 funds, which was approved by HUD, allocating these monies for categories such as infrastructure, housing, and planning; and

WHEREAS, there is a far greater need for regional flood-control infrastructure and investing in regional flood-control infrastructure will be a direct investment in housing in Hidalgo County, Cameron County, and South Texas; and

WHEREAS, investing in regional flood-control infrastructure has been shown to provide numerous benefits, including increased safety, improved property values, enhanced community resilience, and potential economic growth opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County is the seventh (7th) largest county by population in the State of Texas with a population of approximately one million citizens; and

WHEREAS, Cameron County is the thirteenth (13th) largest county by population in the State of Texas with a population of approximately half a million citizens, and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County and Cameron County advocate the equitable distribution of the CDBG-DR funds for flood-control infrastructure throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County and Cameron County and pertinent stakeholders respectfully request GLO to reallocate CDBG-DR 2018 and 2019 funds from other categories toward the development of regional flood-control infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, drainage infrastructure projects are critical in providing community resilience and economic growth as well as in safeguarding the health and safety of citizens and ultimately investments in flood-control infrastructure directly and permanently benefit housing; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the LRGVDC Board of Directors supports the reallocation of CDGB-DR 2018 and 2019 funds to regional flood-control infrastructure in Hidalgo County and Cameron County, which will permanently safeguard housing in the State of Texas and the Rio Grande Valley. This will involve investing in a range of infrastructure projects designed to improve drainage and reduce the risk of flooding. By taking these steps we can help safeguard the health and safety of our residents, support economic growth in our communities, and provide a brighter future for all who call the State of Texas home.

ADOPTED this 26th day of April 2023.



Jim Darling
LRGVDC Board Secretary