



2012 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Budget Discussion Item

Discussion Item: Aid to Non-Governmental & Governmental Agencies
Agenda Item No.: 27930 (18.D.)

Background / Description:

Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement (VIDA):

Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement (VIDA) is a community based, non-profit 501 (c) 3 agency. Created in 1995, VIDA was the result of a local effort led by community leaders of Valley Interfaith (VIF) and private industry business leaders. The impetus was the need to empower the underserved residents of the Region with the tools – education and training – to become self-sufficient and in tandem, fuel the growth of the existing employers and increase the recruitment of new investment to the area by developing a highly skilled workforce. Hidalgo County has made annual contributions to VIDA through a funding agreement for the years 2009 through 2011 in the amount of \$250,000.00 for each year.

Historical Museum:

Hidalgo County has made consecutive financial contributions through an annual funding agreement to the Hidalgo County Historical Museum for several years; specifically \$360,000.00 annually for the past five (5) years (from 2006 to 2010). The purpose of the Hidalgo County Historical Museum also known as the Museum of South Texas History is to preserve and present the borderland heritage of South Texas and Northeastern Mexico and to diffuse knowledge and appreciation of history by maintaining, in the City of Edinburg, a museum and reference library used to collect and preserve objects of historic interest, protect historic sites from needless destruction, provide facilities for research and publication, and offer popular instruction and opportunities for aesthetic enjoyment.

Donna Hooks Fletcher Museum:

The Donna Hooks Fletcher Museum is a Texas non-profit corporation and provides the services of a County historical museum. In 2006 Hidalgo County agreed to provide funding to the museum, and continued providing annual contributions through December 31, 2008. In return the Donna Hooks Fletcher Historical Museum agreed to use the funds for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, maintaining, and displaying to the public permanent exhibits of historical significance to the County. Although funding was not continued in fiscal year 2009, Commissioners Court resumed funding for fiscal year 2010.

The contributions, for the years 2006-2010 (5 years), by Hidalgo County to the Donna Hooks Fletcher Historical Museum are as follows:

FY 2006	\$ 12,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 50,000.00
FY 2008	\$ 50,000.00
FY 2009	\$ 0.00
FY 2010	\$ 40,000.00

International Museum of Arts & Sciences (IMAS):

The International Museum of Arts and Sciences (IMAS) was developed through the efforts of the McAllen Junior League to increase the quality of life for the citizens of the Rio Grande Valley, and to provide activities in the arts and sciences that are meaningful, educational, and available to the public. The museum’s purpose, as an educational institution is to preserve the past, record the present, and provide perspective for the future through the collection and care of objects of scientific and artistic value for research, publication, programs, and exhibition.

On May 13, 2008 Hidalgo County and IMAS entered into a funding agreement for the period of May 13, 2008 through December 31, 2008. In consideration of \$50,000 funding provided by Hidalgo County, IMAS agreed to use the funds for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, maintaining, and displaying to the public permanent exhibits of historical significance to the County. Although funding was not continued in fiscal year 2009, Commissioners Court entered into a funding agreement for the year 2010 and 2011 in the amount of \$250,000.00 for each year.

Budgetary Impact:

The Department of Budget & Management (DBM) recommends to Commissioners Court that funding should only be provided to the above governmental entities if the County is statutorily required to do so or if the entity providing the services is a sole source entity. Contributions to non-governmental agencies are not recommended for the year 2012, due to the projected budget shortfall.

Agency Name	2011 Adopted Budget	-50%
VIDA	250,000	(125,000.00)
HISTORICAL MUSEUM	360,000	(180,000.00)
DONNA MUSEUM	40,000	(20,000.00)
IMAS	50,000	(25,000.00)
TOTAL:	\$ 700,000	\$ (350,000)