

Rio Grande Valley Partnership
P.O. Box 1499
Weslaco, TX 78599

Invoice

Date	P.O. No.	Invoice #
3/30/2015		MTF1501

Bill To
Roberto Villarreal Hidalgo County Judge's Office 302 W. University Dr. Edinburg, TX 78539

Terms
Net 30

Description	Amount
2015 I-69 Annual Dues	8,620.00
<small>The Rio Grande Valley Chamber of Commerce, Inc. is a recognized 501(c)(6) organization. Payment of membership dues is deductible for most chamber members as an ordinary and necessary business expense. Contributions or gifts to the chamber are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.</small>	
Total	\$8,620.00

Please make checks payable to Rio Grande Valley Partnership.
If you have any questions concerning this invoice, please call
Sandra De Los Santos at (956) 968-3141.

5-1100-413-30-125-004-0-810
Reg. #

V #186791

cc 6/16/15



Alliance for I-69 Texas

2015 Interstate Highway Progress Report



I-69 Now A Reality in Nine Counties

- Interstate 69 in Texas is being developed as a series of incremental upgrades to existing highways - US 59, US 77, US 281 and US 84. Efforts are underway to make SH 44 a system connector in South Texas.
- 188 miles of the Interstate 69 system route in Texas have now been designated as part of the national Interstate Highway System and signed with red, white and blue interstate shields. The following segments have been designated:
 - 7.8 Miles (US 77/I-69E) - Nueces County (1.6 miles awaiting final FHWA approval)
 - 35 Miles (US 59/I-69) - Harris and Montgomery Counties
 - 28 Miles (US 59/I-69) - Harris and Fort Bend Counties
 - 3.5 Miles (US 59/I-369) - Texarkana south from I-30
 - 53.3 Miles (US 77/I-69E) - Raymondville to Rio Grande
 - 46.8 Miles (US 83/I-2 connector) - Harlingen to Palmview
 - 18 Miles (US 281/I-69C) - Edinburg to Pharr, Hidalgo County (4.5 miles awaiting final FHWA approval)
 - 1.4 Miles (US 59/I-69W) - Laredo, Webb County

More Interstate 69 On The Way

Additional miles of the I-69 route are already at or near interstate highway standard and the Alliance for I-69 Texas has urged that they be considered for addition to the Interstate Highway System. This includes 11.3 miles of US 59 between Loop 610 North and Loop 610 West in Houston which are under federal review and will receive interstate designation soon.

\$1.18 Billion in Funded Projects

In the past few years TxDOT has dedicated a total of more than \$1.18 billion to the I-69 projects funding program. Some of these projects are in environmental review while others are under construction or were recently completed. Others will be let to construction within a few years. More than a dozen upgrade projects are currently underway along the I-69 route. Many of these projects are focused on providing safety upgrades including elimination of busy crossovers and intersections.

The Alliance for I-69 Texas

Established in 1994, the Alliance for I-69 Texas has consistently been successful in advocating to advance the development of I-69 on a system route that stretches from Texarkana on the north to Houston and then south to Victoria, Corpus Christi and international border crossings in Cameron, Hidalgo and Webb Counties. The Alliance is a non-profit made up of local governments, economic development groups, port authorities and private sector associate members. More than one-third of the Texas population lives in the 35 counties along the I-69 route.

Congress established I-69 as a high priority corridor in 1991 and it remains a federal priority. Local and state support for I-69 development is at an all-time high as the pace of tangible progress quickens. Milestone federal legislation supported by the Alliance and passed in 2012 removed a requirement that completed highway segments must be connected to an existing interstate highway before they could be added to the Interstate Highway System. Initiatives supported by the Alliance have facilitated the development of I-69 through Prop. 12 and Prop. 14 bonds, Transportation Reinvestment Zones, expedited environmental review processes, Prop. 1 passed in 2014 and a grassroots process for helping TxDOT set upgrade project priorities.



I-69 Alliance State and Federal Work Program for 2015

In 2014 the Alliance for I-69 Texas joined other Texas transportation advocates in building support for the Prop 1 which will provide an estimated \$1.7 billion per year for highways starting in 2015. This new funding will make up about a quarter of the coming shortfall in the State Highway Fund due to declining buying power of existing revenue sources dedicated to highways and the end of borrowing programs that have sustained construction for a decade. Significant additional funding for highways will be needed.

Alliance 2015 State Objectives:

1. Ensure that I-69 projects remain a high priority for the Texas Transportation Commission and TxDOT leadership.
2. Work with the TxDOT planners, the I-69 Corridor Advisory Committee and I-69 Segment Committees to implement citizen planning priorities.
3. Work with the District Engineers to avoid roadblocks or delays to completion of I-69 projects that have received funding.
4. Work with TxDOT Director of Planning and District Offices to identify priority projects that are NOT funded and get them construction ready to go when TxDOT gains additional funding.
5. Work with transportation allies such as the Transportation Advocates of Texas (TAoT) to develop statewide support for passage of new sustainable transportation funding in the 2015 legislative session.



6. Monitor the work of the standing legislative transportation committees and assist lawmakers by showing Alliance support for initiatives that will contribute to I-69 development.
7. Support Alliance members as they work with local governments, TxDOT and private sector firms to plan, finance and construct projects along the I-69 system routes.

FEDERAL ADVOCACY

The Alliance has been actively working to advance I-69 at the federal level for two decades. The Alliance was instrumental in helping organize an eight-state Interstate 69 Congressional Caucus. Local leaders from five states along the I-69 corridor participated in an I-69 DC Fly-In in April.

Alliance 2015 Federal Objectives:

1. Work with members of the Texas congressional delegation and House and Senate transportation policy committees to gain approval for a new highway reauthorization bill that includes increased and sustainable funding.
2. Engage, energize and equip Texas' Congressional delegation to strongly advocate for I-69 in Congress.
3. Work to expand the I-69 Congressional Caucus to inform the members of Congress of the value of I-69 and the project's funding and policy.
4. Continue to work to encourage USDOT and the Congress to include I-69 in National Freight Network and Projects of National and Regional Significance designations and funding.
5. Work in coordination with TxDOT to protect issues of priority for the Alliance and protect policy gains achieved in MAP-21 extension including funding flexibility and the National Freight Program. It should seek to expand funding in passage of a 4 or 6 year bill.
6. Seek to include three new provisions in federal legislation:
 - Designation of SH 44 from Freer to Corpus Christi as future I-69;
 - Amendment allowing flexibility in interstate designations in rural areas;
 - Amendment to allow transition time for weight restrictions on highway upgrades to interstates and grandfather clauses where applicable.
7. Work with TxDOT, AASHTO and FHWA to expand mileage eligible for I-69 designation.

Alliance for I-69 Texas Board Members - 2015

NORTHEAST

James Carlow, * County Judge, Bowie County
 Charles Thomas, * Carthage Economic Improvement Corp.
 Hugh Taylor, County Judge, Harrison County
 Ed Smith, Mayor of Marshall
 David Anderson, Former County Judge, Panola County
 Linda Ryan Thomas, Chair, NET RMA

EAST

Wes Suiter, * County Judge, Angelina County
 Mike Perry, County Judge, Nacogdoches County
 Sydney Brown Murphy, County Judge, Polk County
 Jim Jeffers, Nacogdoches City Manager
 Allison Harbison, County Judge, Shelby County
 Thad Chambers, City of Lufkin Economic Development

NORTH CENTRAL

Janiece Longoria, * Chairman, Port of Houston Authority
Alliance Vice Chair
 Annise Parker, Mayor of Houston
 Jay Knight, County Judge, Liberty County
 Doug Pitcock, Williams Brothers Construction Co.
 Bob Harvey, President & CEO, Greater Houston Partnership

CENTRAL

Billie Jones, * Wharton Chamber of Commerce
 Marvin Holub, Mayor of East Bernard
 Domingo Montalvo, Mayor of Wharton
 Vincent Morales, Mayor of Rosenberg
 David Schroeder, Wharton Economic Development Council
 Jeff Wiley, Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council

COASTAL BEND

Loyd Neal, * County Judge, Nueces County
Alliance Board Chairman
 Judy Hawley, * Chairman, Port of Corpus Christi Authority
 Terry Simpson, County Judge, San Patricio County
 Nelda Martinez, Mayor of Corpus Christi
 Rudy Madrid, County Judge, Kleberg County
 Representative, Corpus Christi MPO

EAST SPUR – SOUTH TEXAS

David Garza, * County Commissioner, Cameron County
Alliance Secretary / Treasurer
 Julian Alvarez, * CEO, Rio Grande Valley Partnership
 Alan Johnson, Chairman, Port of Harlingen Authority
 Ramon Garcia, County Judge, Hidalgo County

Aurelio Guerra, County Judge, Willacy County
 Alex Meade, Mission Economic Development Corp.
 Tecló Garcia, City of McAllen
 Sergio Contreras, City of Pharr
WEST SPUR – SOUTH TEXAS

Gerry Schwebel, * International Bank of Commerce, Laredo
 Tano Tijerina, County Judge, Webb County
 Pat Calhoun, County Judge, Goliad County
 Pete Saenz, Mayor of Laredo
 David Silva, County Judge, Bee County
 Jennifer Stastny, Port of Victoria
Regional Mobility Authorities
 Pete Sepulveda, Executive Director, Cameron County RMA
 Pilar Rodriguez, Executive Director, Hidalgo County RMA

Ex-Officio Members

Louis Bronaugh, Helen Walker,
 Robert Eckels, John Thompson
(Former Alliance Board Chairs)
 Michael Behrens, Amadeo Saenz
(Former TxDOT Executive Directors)

* Executive Committee Member

**TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR
AFFIDAVIT FOR PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES
TO ASSOCIATIONS OTHER THAN THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO**

I, Ramon Garcia, do hereby state that membership in the RIO GRANDE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP, and dues to be paid to the association, serve to accomplish one or more of the following County purposes:

To obtain statutorily required continuing professional education.

To obtain continuing education necessary to maintain a license or certification.

To access the association or organization's programs, services, and activities in order to strengthen professional skills and keep up-to-date on developments related to the Department's primary business activities:

- Publications
- Periodicals
- Training
- Annual Conference
- Award Programs
- Representation
- Technical Inquiry Services

FOR STATEWIDE ASSOCIATIONS ONLY

I further state that _____ is a statewide association with a minimum membership of at least 25 percent of eligible political subdivisions.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

TITLE: County Judge

Before me Monica Badillo, a Notary Public, appeared Ramon Garcia, and on his/her oath deposed and stated that the facts as set forth in the above affidavit to be true and correct in every respect.

(S E A L)

NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR
THE STATE OF TEXAS

AUTHORITY TO OBTAIN AFFIDAVIT: LGC § 113.064(b)
AUTHORITY TO PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES: GC § 305.026

COUNTY AUDITOR'S FORM: RE-CA-041B
REVISED: 12-2012