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COUNTY JUDGE

P.O. BOX 1929



McALLEN, TX 78505-1929

February 14, 2020

Via Electronic mail

Honorable Hidalgo County Commissioner Eddie Cantu  
District 2

Re: Letter of Inquiry - McAllen Heritage Center Inc. (MHC) – museum of history & culture

Dear Commissioner Cantu:

Our city history museum was founded in 2006 and we opened our doors to the public in June 2008. We are housed in the original downtown McAllen post office which was built in 1935 and now designated a historic landmark by the State of Texas.

Over the past eleven years, we have managed to develop a full range of museum exhibits, programs and services while on a very tight budget and with minimal staffing. At this time, we find that many key components must be addressed in order to expand our services. Among our priorities we need to expand our staffing and hours of operation, manage expansion of programs and exhibit development, maintain our collection accession back log and related maintenance required, expand our outreach program and develop internships and volunteers.

We estimate that we should be able to make progress towards achieving our goals with additional annual funding of \$50,000.00. Therefore, at this time, we are requesting funding consideration that will allow our operating budget to include the various goals outlined above and ask that the funding be recurring so as to allow our museum to grow and provide more services to our community and our Region.

Enclosed, I have provided an addendum which will serve as a historical overview of our museum to provide you more background and financial information about our mission and our beginnings.

We believe that our part in preserving McAllen's history is a true honor and we are making every effort to perform our responsibilities with the utmost integrity. On behalf of the MHC Board of Directors, we thank you sincerely for your kind consideration.

Please feel free to call me at (956) 681-2861 or via email: [ccerda@mcallenheritagecenter.com](mailto:ccerda@mcallenheritagecenter.com) if you have questions or require any further clarification.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elva M. Cerda', written over a horizontal line.

Elva M. Cerda  
MHC Managing Director  
Board Treasurer

Attachment