

*Resolution in support of funding request from President Joe Biden's
American Jobs Plan (Infrastructure Bill) by Hidalgo County for upgrades to the Hidalgo
County Master Drainage System*

- Whereas* chronic flooding in Hidalgo County has affected the economy, health and safety of citizens of Hidalgo County, the State of Texas, and the United States; and
- Whereas* Hidalgo County is the seventh largest county by population in the State of Texas, with a population of approximately one million citizens; and
- Whereas* Hidalgo County provides a critical component in the economic wellbeing of the United States due to its multiple international bridges and transportation infrastructure which directly and indirectly support millions of jobs in both the State of Texas and the United States; and
- Whereas* over the last five years, Hidalgo County has suffered significant catastrophic flood events that have resulted in six major disaster declarations (FEMA-4223-DR, FEMA-4245-DR, FEMA-4272-DR, FEMA-4377- DR, FEMA-4454-DR, and FEMA-3530-EM); and
- Whereas* Hidalgo County is seeking funding from President Joe Biden's American Jobs Plan to fund upgrades to the Hidalgo County Master Drainage System; and
- Whereas* during flood events, the transportation of billions of dollars in goods and produce in Hidalgo County come to a complete halt, affecting the jobs and economy of the United States; and
- Whereas* the proposed expansion project will help bring the Hidalgo County Master Drainage System up to date in order to prevent flooding and foster economic growth on a yearly basis; and
- Whereas* drainage infrastructure projects are critical in providing community and economic resilience as well as in safeguarding the health and safety of citizens; and
- Whereas* President Joe Biden's American Jobs Plan will appropriate funding for critical infrastructure with the end goal of making the infrastructure in our country more resilient; and
- Whereas* one of the American Jobs Plan's intent is to safeguard critical infrastructure and services, and to defend vulnerable communities much like Hidalgo County, one of the poorest and most vulnerable counties in the United States; and
- Whereas* the funding for the updates to Hidalgo County Master Drainage System will have an immediate and measurable effect in reducing flooding and creating economic opportunities for generations to come in both Hidalgo County and the United States.

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court supports the allocation of funding from President Biden's American Jobs Plan for the expansion of the Hidalgo County Master Drainage System.

Approved this 13th day of April, 2021.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk