



## Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management

American Rescue Plan Act 2021

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### Project Description

**Project Name:**

Hidalgo County Health Clinic Improvement Project

**Project Number:**

ARPA-22-340-088

**Program Name:**

Hidalgo County Health Clinic Improvement Project will be a part of the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Expanding Access to Healthcare Program.

**Department Name:**

Hidalgo County Health Department

**ARPA Expenditure Category:**

1: Public Health

**ARPA Eligibility Category:**

1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^

**Project Description:**

The purpose of the Hidalgo County Health Clinic Improvement Project is to expand healthcare capacity and meet the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts with COVID 19 and continued risks. The Hidalgo County Health Clinic will provide critical services to Hidalgo County residents which include but are not limited to vaccinations, testing, preventative care and referrals, as needed, to underserved and disproportionately impacted populations for healthcare relief and to improve health outcomes. The Hidalgo County Health Clinic will be located at 702 E. Ramon Ayala Dr., Hidalgo, TX, 78557.

Treasury received a few comments from recipients seeking to use SLFRF funds to build new medical facilities, such as hospitals or public health clinics, to serve disproportionately impacted communities. Given the central role of access to high-quality medical care in reducing health disparities and addressing the root causes that led to disproportionate impact COVID-19 health impacts in certain communities, the final rule recognizes that medical equipment and facilities designed to address disparities in public health outcomes are eligible capital expenditures. This includes primary care clinics, hospitals, or integrations of health services into other settings.<sup>1</sup> In the final rule, to further decrease administrative burden and enhance recipient flexibility, Treasury is allowing recipients to also presume that low-income households were

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<sup>1</sup> Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4372

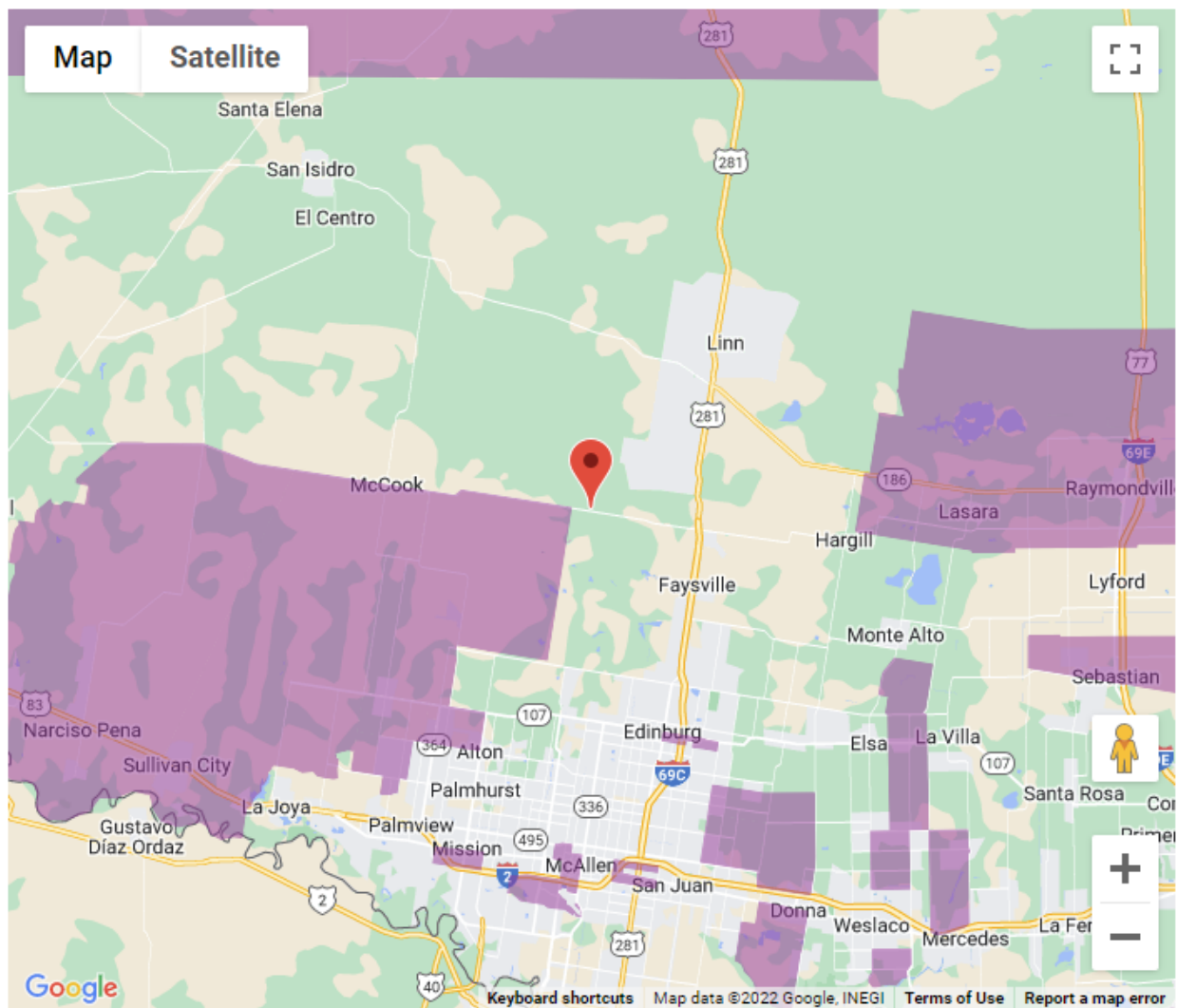
disproportionately impacted. Treasury anticipates that adding low-income households as a presumed eligible population will maintain targeting of funds to populations and communities most likely to have experienced severe pandemic impacts, while providing a more flexible approach for recipients.<sup>2</sup>

**Fiscal Impact:**

Estimated Budget: \$3,000,000.00

Background: AI-83496

Below is the Qualified Census Tract Analysis for Hidalgo County.



Source: Office of Policy Development and Research 2021 and 2022 Small Difficult Development Areas (DDAs) and Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs)

<sup>2</sup> Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4441