



**Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management**  
American Rescue Plan Act 2021

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## **Project Description**

**Project Name:**

Emergency Response Ambulance Initiative

**Project Number:**

ARPA-22-110-126

**Program Name:**

Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program

**Department Name:**

Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management

**ARPA Expenditure Category:**

1: Public Health

**ARPA Eligibility Category:**

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

**Project Description:**

Pursuant to Section 381.004 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code, Hidalgo County established the Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program which was approved by the Commissioner's Court as Agenda Item 88792 on December 13, 2022. The Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program shall be focused on providing services and assisting residents and businesses in Hidalgo County.

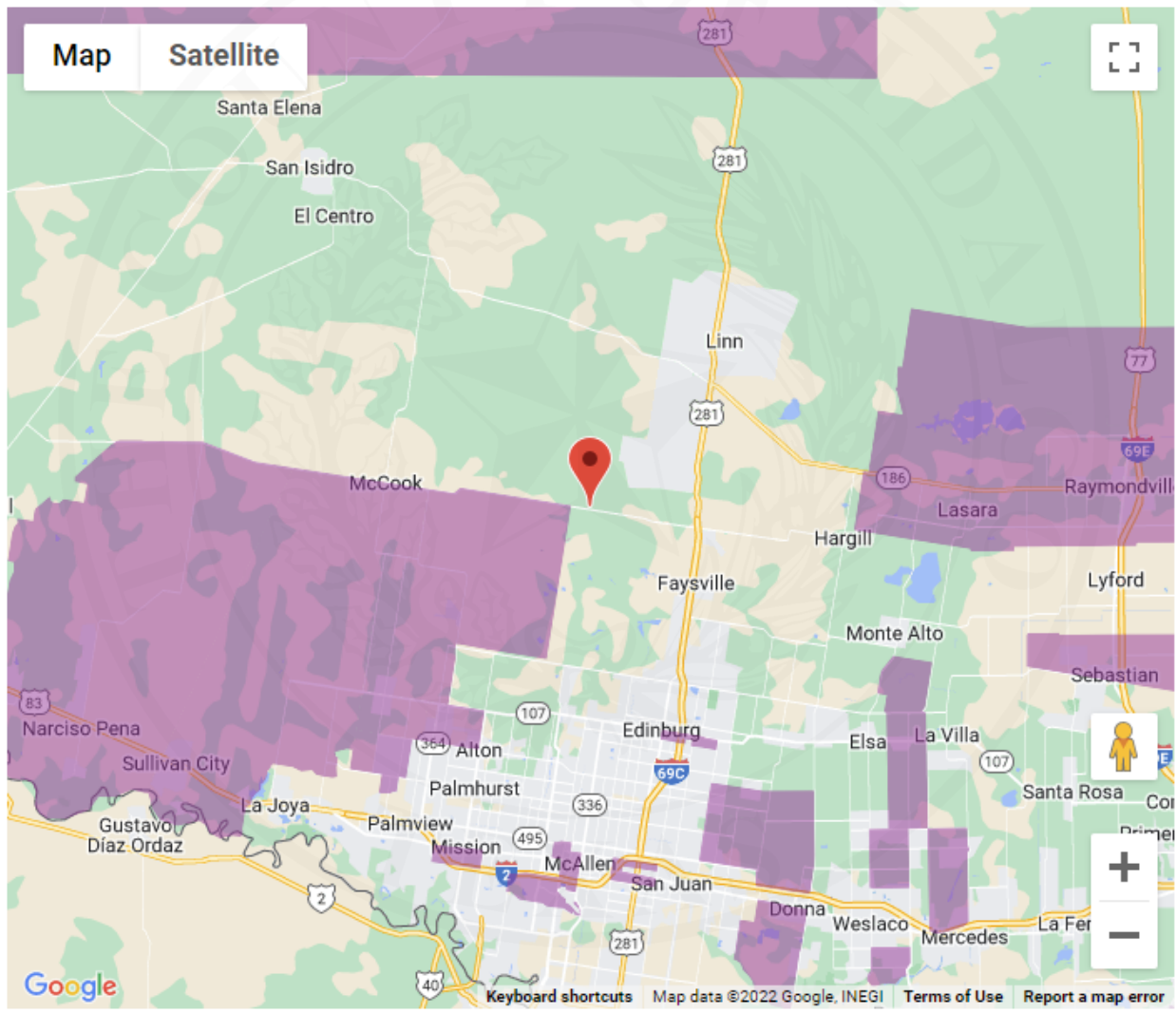
Hidalgo County has been experiencing a shortage in medical emergency response personnel and equipment. Consequently, emergency medical service providers and agencies are experiencing difficulty in responding to the overwhelming 911 emergency assistance requests. To support the increasing medical emergencies, Hidalgo County will initiate the Emergency Response Ambulance Initiative by purchasing 3 ambulances to be used as a collaboration within our community. This initiative will increase medical emergency response capabilities to properly and strategically respond to our vulnerable population. Ambulances will be housed at strategic locations in Hidalgo County and utilized in the direct response to the Covid-19 Pandemic Public Health Emergency. The use of this project in conjunction with our other current projects will be critical in order to reduce the effects of Covid-19 and increase our emergency medical response capabilities to our community.

The Treasury has addressed the eligibility standard for capital expenditures, or investments in property, facilities, or equipment...Acquisition of equipment for COVID–19 prevention and treatment, including ventilators, ambulances, and other medical or emergency services equipment.<sup>1</sup> This initiative in conjunction with our paramedic training program will be critical in maintaining emergency medical services to our community.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Estimated Budget: ~~\$814,000.00~~ \$887,097.00

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>1</sup> Department of the Treasury (n.d.) Federal Register, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (p. 4354)