



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

Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Weslaco Health Center Improvements Project

Project Number:

ARPA-23-340-326

Program Name:

Hidalgo County Health Unit Improvements 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:

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

Project Description:

The purpose of the Hidalgo County Health Unit Improvements Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations to the existing building. Furthermore, efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic through this clinic include, but are not limited to, vaccination programs, medical care, testing, and support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. The clinic will continue providing the residents of Hidalgo County access to resources that improve health outcomes. Hidalgo County Health Unit, located at 1901 Bridge Ave., Weslaco, TX, 78596.

The Final Rule states that In addition to programs and services, the final rule clarifies that recipients may use funds for capital expenditures that support an eligible COVID–19 public health or economic response.¹ Treasury enumerates that the following projects are examples of eligible capital expenditures...capital investments in public facilities to meet pandemic operational needs, such as physical plant improvements to public hospitals and health clinics or adaptations to public buildings to implement COVID–19 mitigation tactics. These enumerated uses are consistent with guidance from public health authorities, including the CDC.² 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 disproportionately

¹ Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4339

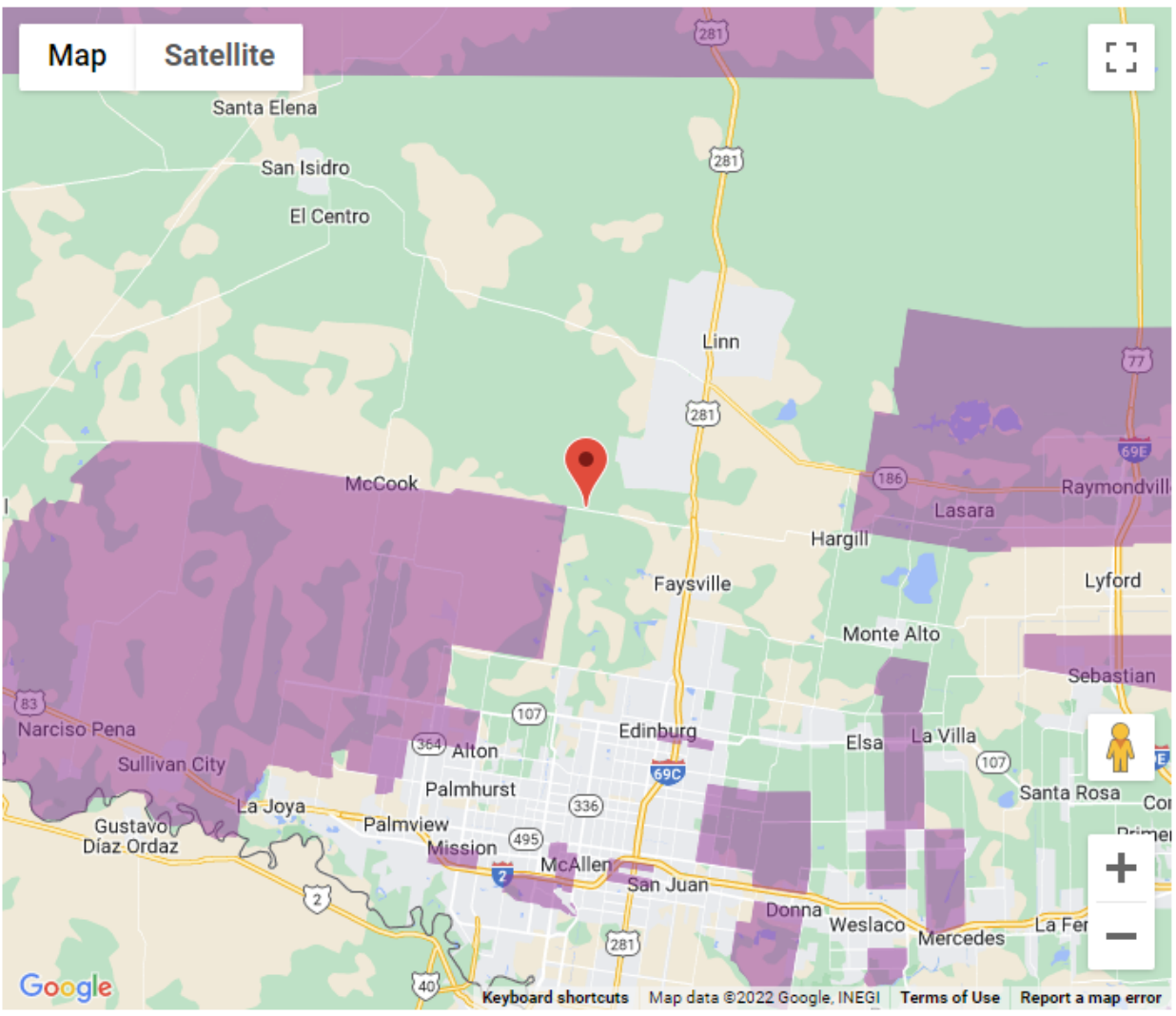
² Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4353

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.³

Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget: \$71,040.96

^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)

³ Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4441