

May 25, 2023

Re: Appeal for Application CDR17-1475-APP Decision
South Mercedes Lateral Improvements Project – Phase 1
2019 Disasters Infrastructure Competition CRM:0080000089

Dear Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.,

We write to respectfully appeal the decision of the Texas General Land Office (GLO) regarding Hidalgo County's application for the CDBG-DR 2019 Disasters Infrastructure competition. Our appeal is in reference to the South Mercedes Lateral Improvements Project - Phase 1.

The City of Mercedes was one of the most impacted areas by the June 24, 2019, storm event (2019 Flood Event).

For the 2019 Flood Event, HUD allocated \$170,193,000 to 7 counties and 1 Hidalgo County Zip Code: 78570, which corresponds to the City of Mercedes. See Exhibit 1. The fact that HUD allocated funding to the City of Mercedes highlights the magnitude of the flooding that the City of Mercedes suffered.

Attached as Exhibits 2 – 4 are additional newspaper articles and information that highlight the impact that the 2019 Flood Event had in the City of Mercedes. Attached as Exhibit 5 is a copy of the Disaster Declaration issued by Hidalgo County for the 2019 Flood Event.

The instructions for this particular grant requested a survey to determine that a low-to-moderate income population of 51% or more would be beneficially impacted by the proposed project.

The South Mercedes Lateral Improvements Project - Phase I proposed to create a regional flood-control project that will impact a large geographic area and a population of several thousand people. Please see Exhibit 6. Obtaining surveys for so many people was therefore not feasible. After using the alternative methodology authorized by GLO to use census-block data to derive

BUCKINGHAM

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LMI populations, it became clear that an LMI population of 51% or more would be benefited by the present project.

We respectfully request that the GLO reconsider its decision regarding this application. The South Mercedes Lateral Improvements Project – Phase I was developed to address flooding problems as a result of the 2019 Storm Event.

Please let us know if there is any additional information or data, we can supply.

Best Regards,

Richard F. Cortez
County Judge of Hidalgo County

Exhibit 1

I. Allocations

Two public laws have been enacted that provide supplemental CDBG-DR appropriations. The Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-254, approved October 5, 2018) (2018 Appropriations Act) made available \$1,680,000,000 in CDBG-DR funds for major disasters declared in 2018. The Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Pub. L. 116-20, approved June 6, 2019) (2019 Appropriations Act) made \$2,431,000,000 in CDBG-DR funds available for major disasters occurring in 2017, 2018, or 2019, of which \$431,000,000 is for grantees that received funds in response to disasters occurring in 2017. Based on the unmet needs allocation methodology outlined in Appendix A, this notice allocates \$3,400,428,000 in CDBG-DR funds in accordance with the 2018 Appropriations Act and the 2019 Appropriations Act (the "2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts"), to address unmet disaster recovery needs through activities authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 *et seq.*) (HCDA) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the "most impacted and distressed" areas resulting from a qualifying major disaster in 2018 and 2019, as well as \$431,000,000 for unmet infrastructure needs for 2017 disasters. Qualifying major disasters are those declared by the President pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.*) (Stafford Act) and identified in Table 1.

When additional data becomes available for other disasters occurring in

2019, the remaining \$272,072,000 from Public Law 116-20 will be allocated for those disasters in a subsequent notice. In **Federal Register** notices published on February 9, 2018 at 83 FR 5844, August 14, 2018 at 83 FR 40314, February 19, 2019 at 84 FR 4836, and June 20, 2019 at 84 FR 28848 (the "Prior Notices"), HUD described the applicable waivers and alternative requirements, relevant statutory and regulatory requirements, the grant award process, criteria for action plan approval, updates to duplication of benefits requirements, and eligible disaster recovery activities associated with grants for 2017 disasters. This notice imposes the requirements of the Prior Notices, as amended by provisions in this notice, on the grants announced in this notice.

In accordance with the 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts, \$2,500,000 of the amounts these acts made available will be transferred to the Department's Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD), Program Office Salaries and Expenses, for necessary costs of administering and overseeing CDBG-DR grants under the 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts. Additionally, in accordance with the 2019 Appropriations Act, \$5,000,000 is to be transferred to CPD to provide necessary capacity building and technical assistance to grantees that receive a CDBG-DR grant under the 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts or future acts. As mentioned above, the 2019 Appropriations Act requires HUD to allocate \$431,000,000 to address unmet infrastructure needs for grantees that received an allocation for a disaster that occurred in 2017, of which \$331,442,114 shall be allocated to those grantees affected by Hurricane Maria.

The 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts provide that grants shall be

awarded directly to a State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe at the discretion of the Secretary. Unless noted otherwise, the term "grantee" refers to the entity receiving a grant from HUD under this notice. To comply with statutory requirements that funds be used for disaster-related expenses in the most impacted and distressed areas, HUD allocates funds using the best available data that covers all the eligible affected areas.

Grantees receiving an allocation of funds under this notice are subject to the requirements of the Prior Notices, as amended by this notice or by subsequent notices. Pursuant to the Prior Notices, each grantee receiving an allocation for a 2018 or 2019 disaster is required to primarily consider and address its unmet housing recovery needs. These grantees may, however, propose the use of funds for unmet economic revitalization and infrastructure needs unrelated to the grantee's unmet housing needs if the grantee demonstrates in its needs assessment that there is no remaining unmet housing need or that the remaining unmet housing need will be addressed by other sources of funds. Grantees receiving funds under this notice for an additional allocation for unmet infrastructure needs arising from a 2017 disaster must use those funds for unmet infrastructure needs.

Table 1 (below) shows the major disasters that grants under this notice may address and the minimum amount of funds from the combined allocations under the 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts that must be expended in the HUD-identified most impacted and distressed areas. The information in this table is based on HUD's review of the impacts from the qualifying disasters and estimates of unmet need.

TABLE 1—ALLOCATIONS UNDER PUBLIC LAWS 115-254 AND 116-20

| Disaster year | Disaster No. | Grantee | Unmet needs allocation under Public Law 115-254 | Unmet needs allocation under Public Law 116-20 | Total allocation for unmet needs (Pub. L. 115-254 and Pub. L. 116-20) | Minimum amount that must be expended for recovery in the HUD-identified "most impacted and distressed" areas |
|---|--------------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| 2017 Disasters (Additional Unmet Infrastructure Needs). | 4344 & 4353 | State of California | \$0 | \$38,057,527 | \$38,057,527 | (No less than \$30,446,000) Sonoma and Ventura counties: 93108, 94558, 95422, 95470, and 95901 Zip Codes. |
| | 4337 & 4341 | State of Florida | 0 | 38,637,745 | 38,637,745 | (No less than \$30,910,000) Brevard, Broward, Clay, Collier, Duval, Hillsborough, Lee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Polk, St. Lucie, and Volusia counties; 32084, 32091, 32136, 32145, 33440, 33523, 33825, 33870, 33935, and 34266 Zip Codes. |
| | 4294, 4297, & 4338 | State of Georgia | 0 | 13,015,596 | 13,015,596 | (No less than \$10,412,000) 31520, 31548, and 31705 Zip Codes. |
| | 4317 | State of Missouri | 0 | 9,847,018 | 9,847,018 | (No less than \$7,878,000) 63935, 63965, 64850, 65616, and 65775 Zip Codes. |
| | 4336 & 4339 | Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. | 0 | 277,853,230 | 277,853,230 | (\$277,853,230) All Components of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. |
| | 4335 | U.S. Virgin Islands | 0 | 53,588,884 | 53,588,884 | (\$53,588,884) All components of the U.S. Virgin Islands. |
| 2018 Disasters | 4413 | State of Alaska | 0 | 35,856,000 | 35,856,000 | (No less than \$28,685,000) Anchorage Borough. |

TABLE 1—ALLOCATIONS UNDER PUBLIC LAWS 115–254 AND 116–20—Continued

| Disaster year | Disaster No. | Grantee | Unmet needs allocation under Public Law 115–254 | Unmet needs allocation under Public Law 116–20 | Total allocation for unmet needs (Pub. L. 115–254 and Pub. L. 116–20) | Minimum amount that must be expended for recovery in the HUD-identified “most impacted and distressed” areas |
|----------------|----------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| 2019 Disasters | 4357 | American Samoa | 16,539,000 | 6,500,000 | 23,039,000 | (\$23,039,000) All components of American Samoa. |
| | 4407 & 4382 | State of California | 491,816,000 | 525,583,000 | 1,017,399,000 | (No less than \$813,919,000) Butte Lake, Los Angeles, and Shasta Counties. |
| | 4399 | State of Florida | 448,023,000 | 287,530,000 | 735,553,000 | (No less than \$588,442,000) Bay, Calhoun, Gulf and Jackson Counties; 32321 (Liberty), 32327 (Wakulla), 32328 (Franklin), 32346 (Wakulla and Franklin), 32351 (Gadsden), and 32428 (Washington) Zip Codes. |
| | 4400 | State of Georgia | 34,884,000 | 6,953,000 | 41,837,000 | (No less than \$33,470,000) 39845 (Seminole) Zip Code. |
| | 4366 | Hawaii County, HI | 66,890,000 | 16,951,000 | 83,841,000 | (\$83,841,000) Hawaii County. |
| | 4365 | Kauai County, HI | 0 | 9,176,000 | 9,176,000 | (No less than \$7,341,000) 96714 (Kauai) Zip Code. |
| | 4393 | State of North Carolina | 336,521,000 | 206,123,000 | 542,644,000 | (No less than \$434,115,000) Brunswick, Carteret, Columbus, Craven, Duplin, Jones, New Hanover, Onslow, Pender, and Robeson Counties; 28352 (Scotland), 28390 (Cumberland), 28433 (Bladen), and 28571 (Pamlico) Zip Codes. |
| | 4396 & 4404 | The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. | 188,652,000 | 55,294,000 | 243,946,000 | (No less than \$195,157,000) Saipan and Tinian Municipalities. |
| | 4394 | State of South Carolina ... | 47,775,000 | 24,300,000 | 72,075,000 | (No less than \$57,660,000) Horry and Marion counties; 29536 (Dillon) Zip Code. |
| | 4377 | State of Texas | 46,400,000 | 26,513,000 | 72,913,000 | (No less than \$58,330,000) Hidalgo County. |
| | 4402 | State of Wisconsin | 0 | 14,355,000 | 13,355,000 | (No less than \$12,284,000) 53560 (Dane) Zip Code. |
| | 4441 | State of Arkansas | 0 | 8,940,000 | 8,940,000 | (No less than \$7152,000) 71602 (Jefferson) and 72016 (Perry) Zip Codes. |
| | 4421 | State of Iowa | 0 | 96,741,000 | 96,741,000 | (No less than \$77,393,000) Mills County; 51640 (Fremont) Zip Code. |
| | 4451 | State of Missouri | 0 | 30,776,000 | 30,776,000 | (No less than \$24,621,000) St. Charles County; 64437 (Holt) and 65101 (Cole) Zip Codes. |
| | 4420 | State of Nebraska | 0 | 108,938,000 | 108,938,000 | (No less than \$87,150,000) Sarpy County; 68025 (Dodge), 68064 (Douglas) and 68069 (Douglas) Zip Codes. |
| | 4447 | State of Ohio | 0 | 12,305,000 | 12,305,000 | (No less than \$9,844,000) 45426 (Montgomery) Zip Code. |
| | 4438 | State of Oklahoma | 0 | 36,353,000 | 36,353,000 | (No less than \$29,082,000) Muskogee and Tulsa Counties; 74946 (Sequoyah) Zip Code. |
| 4454 & 4466 | State of Texas | 0 | 212,741,000 | 212,741,000 | (No less than \$170,193,000) Cameron, Chambers, Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, Montgomery, and Orange Counties; 78570 (Hidalgo) Zip Code. | |
| Total | | | 1,677,500,000 | 2,153,928,000 | 3,831,428,000 | |

Pursuant to the 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts, HUD has identified the most impacted and distressed areas based on the best available data for all eligible affected areas. A detailed explanation of HUD’s allocation methodology is provided in Appendix A of this notice.

In some instances, HUD identified the entire jurisdiction of a grantee as the most impacted and distressed area. For all other grantees, at least 80 percent of the total funds provided to a grantee under this notice must address unmet disaster needs within the HUD-identified most impacted and distressed areas, as identified in the last column in Table 1. Note that if HUD designates a ZIP Code for 2018 and 2019 disasters as a most impacted and distressed area for purposes of allocating funds, the grantee may expand program operations to the whole county (county is indicated in parentheses next to the ZIP Code as a most impacted and distressed area. The grantee should indicate the decision to

expand eligibility to the whole county in its action plan.

A grantee may determine where to use the remaining 20 percent of the allocation, but that portion of the allocation may only be used to address unmet disaster needs in those areas that the grantee determines are “most impacted and distressed” and received a presidential major disaster declaration pursuant to the disaster numbers listed in Table 1. A grantee may use up to 5 percent of the total grant award for grant administration and no more than 15 percent of the total grant award for planning activities. Therefore, HUD will include 80 percent of a grantee’s expenditures for grant administration in its determination that 80 percent of the total award has been expended in the most impacted and distressed areas identified in Table 1. Additionally, expenditures for planning activities may be counted towards a grantee’s 80 percent expenditure requirement, provided that the grantee describes in

its action plan how those planning activities benefit the HUD-identified most impacted and distressed areas.

II. Use of Funds

Funds allocated under this notice are subject to the requirements of the Prior Notices, as amended by this notice or subsequent notices. This notice outlines additional requirements imposed by the 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts that apply to funds allocated under this notice.

The 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts require that prior to the obligation of CDBG–DR funds a grantee shall submit a plan detailing the proposed use of all funds. The plan must include criteria for eligibility, and how the use of these funds will address long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the most impacted and distressed areas. Therefore, the action plan submitted in response to this notice must describe

Exhibit 2

Photo Gallery: Mercedes Still Under W

Dina Arévalo - June 27, 2019

Several days following the torrential downfalls in the area, water continues to stand in Mercedes w cleaning up their homes.



In this June 2019 file photo, Israel Coronado spent the day Wednesday, June 26, 2019 delivering food and water to residents stranded by Monday's torrential storm. (Dina Arévalo | darevalo@mvtcnews.com)

Dina Arévalo

Dina Arévalo is the editor of the Mid-Valley Town Crier and covers Weslaco, Donna, Mercedes, Pt The Monitor. She can be reached at darevalo@mvtcnews.com or (956) 683-4441.

Exhibit 3



Mercedes residents spearhead flood relief efforts; Elsa makes disaster declaration

Dina Arévalo - June 27, 2019

MERCEDES — Still reeling from a powerful storm system that pounded the Mid-Valley and Delta area, Mercedes residents have taken it upon themselves to initiate relief efforts. Also, the Elsa City Council approved a disaster declaration meeting Wednesday afternoon.

Two days after the storm clouds cleared, the water they unleashed remained stagnant in many of the areas which were inundated almost exactly one year ago.



The floodway flows with water from recent heavy rainfall on Wednesday, June 26, 2019, in Mercedes.

With residents unable to leave their homes, a small group of residents met Wednesday to purchase supplies — food, water and cleaning supplies — until the waters recede.

“We’re coming together to give some food and some water to the people that are stranded in their homes,” said Israel Coronado, who founded the social media groups “Make Weslaco Drive Again.”

Wednesday afternoon found Coronado and another resident

(Joel Martinez | jmartinez@themonitor.com)

piling cases of water, canned soup and tuna, crackers, and carts at the Mercedes H-E-B.

As they wheeled the carts toward the parking lot, a woman approached with her hand outstretched in support of the relief efforts.

With the help of Gutierrez's son, Caleb, and another resident, Velda Garcia, the group quickly assembled before heading toward a north Mercedes neighborhood off Mile 8 North Road.

There, at the entrance of a subdivision whose streets are named after breeds of cattle, stood a pulley system for a pump that was slowly pulling water away from homes.

The streets, particularly Hereford Street, remained nonetheless inundated as the impromptu relief effort was underway. A 71 pickup truck with 4-wheel drive and a lift kit capable of cruising above the brown, pungent floodwaters was the only vehicle that could reach the homes.

Arsenia Gonzalez, 63, was one of several residents who received a care package. She was thankful for the help, which kept her from being able to leave. "*Tenemos miedo que los carros tambien se nos hechen a perder, tambien se podrian dañar.*"

She spoke of how the neighborhood has flooded several times before, including last year, and how difficult it is to deal with. "*Es muy poca la salida que tiene el drenaje,*" she said. "*Por eso se inunda de volada,*" she said.

"The drain outlet is very small. That's why it floods so quickly," she said of a drainage canal located near the homes.

Gutierrez and Coronado were especially concerned about one of the neighborhood's elderly residents who lives alone in a small wood frame house.

The pair assembled a special care package for Morales, with bottles of electrolyte drinks and Ensui.

Morales could be seen sitting on his front porch Wednesday afternoon. The water, which has receded, had reached the second porch step. Out in the yard, the remains of a cat that had succumbed to the storm floodwaters were visible.

Despite the situation, Morales was upbeat, expressing his thanks for the generosity of the care package. "Qué bueno que protejan a toda la familia. Es muy bonito. Pero, se sacan la lotería."

"It's good that they protect their entire family (community). It's very beautiful. That's like winning the lottery."

"*Hay gente muy presumida. Yo no ... yo soy feliz,*" he said.

"There are some who are presumptuous. I'm not. I'm happy," he said.

For Coronado, helping his neighbors is a social responsibility that must be borne by everyone. "I have been allocated to go helping the community in this manner," Coronado said of distributing food and water. "We have to come together as a community to do something about each other."

Just over a dozen miles away — in Elsa — city leaders were turning that responsibility into action.

The city council called an emergency meeting early Wednesday afternoon where they approved a flood relief plan for Monday night's storms. Mayor Alonzo Perez also signed a letter addressed to Gov. Greg Abbott requesting assistance in the storm's aftermath.

Though much of the floodwaters had receded in Elsa by Wednesday, several neighborhoods were still in need of help as canals had crested and were continuing to spill water.

To help resolve the issue, city leaders enlisted the help of six vacuum trucks — two from the county and four from the city itself.

"Those ditches? I've never seen those ditches crest before," the mayor said.

Dina Arévalo

Dina Arévalo is the editor of the Mid-Valley Town Crier and covers Weslaco, Donna, Mercedes, and Pharr. She can be reached at darevalo@mvtcnews.com or (956) 683-4441.

Exhibit 4



Great June Flood, The Sequel (June 24, 2019)

Weather.gov > [Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley, TX](#) > Great June Flood, The Sequel (June 24, 2019)

Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley, TX

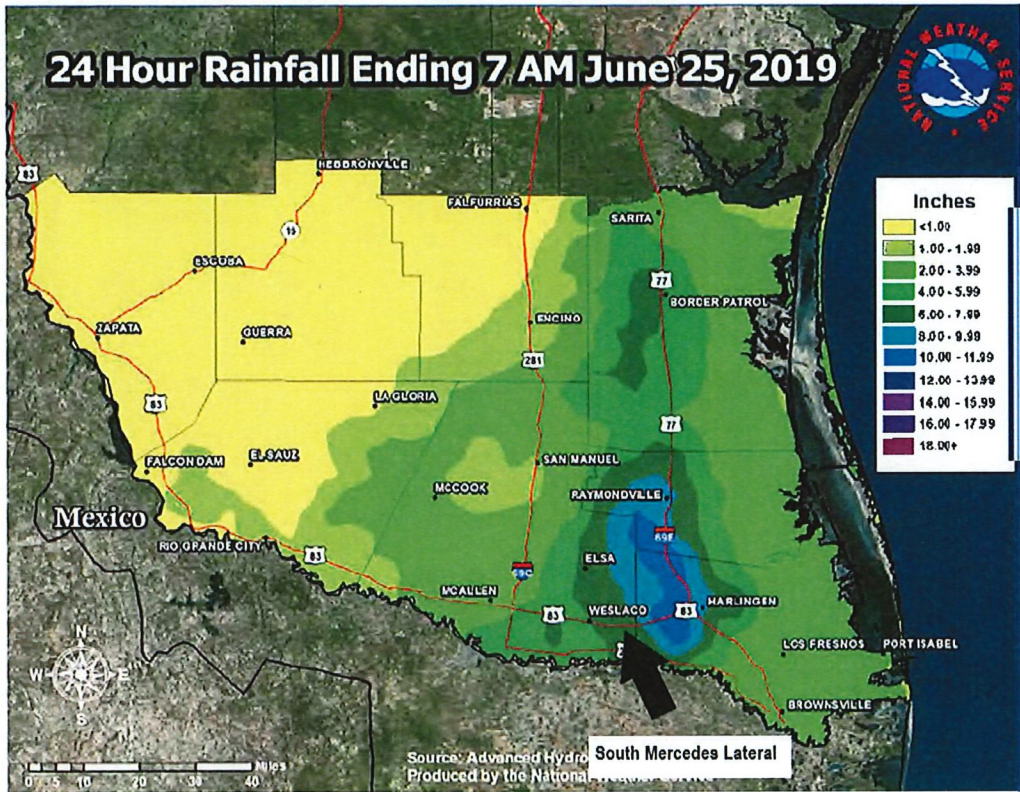
Weather Forecast Office

[Current Hazards](#) [Current Conditions](#) [Radar](#) [Forecasts](#) [Rivers and Lakes](#) [Climate and Past Weather](#) [Local Programs](#)

Monday Night Madness: "Great June Flood II" in 2019 Strikes Willacy, Eastern Hidalgo, and Northwest Cameron on June 24th

[Overview](#) [Rainfall](#) [Wind Damage](#) [Photos](#) [Radar](#) [Satellite](#) [Hydrographs](#)

It was déjà vu all over again. Just 367 days after the last of the Great June Flood of 2018 had left its memorable mark on nearly all of the populated Rio Grande Valley, a confluence of atmospheric events came together during the late afternoon and evening of June 24th, 2019, to produce another memorable - and unfortunate - situation for parts of the Rio Grande Valley. This time, the impacted area was smaller and less populated but the results the same. For most of Willacy County's population, the western third of Cameron, and a corner of eastern Hidalgo, the following occurred:



- Over a foot of rain fell in about six hours, including a peak total of more than 15 inches near Santa Rosa (Cameron/Hidalgo line)
- Hundreds of streets flooded, including 30 Texas-managed highways.
- 1,188 homes were considered "destroyed" or incurring "major" damage requiring significant repairs. An additional 182 homes sustained "minor" damage or were mildly affected (as of July 10)
- Individual Assistance (IA) costs were estimated at \$27.6 million. Public Assistance (PA) costs had not yet been factored in (July, 2019)
- Total damage is likely to range from \$50 to \$100 million or more when all estimates have been received. Final estimated may not be known until late 2019.
- More than 100 persons were evacuated to safe high ground from dozens of homes threatened by 2 or more feet of water in several locations in each county
- At least 45,000 private and public utility power customers were without power at the peak of the storm
- Estimated 65 to 75 mph winds caused at least five poorly built mobile homes to be rolled or demolished in eastern Hidalgo County
- Lightning struck a wind turbine and set it ablaze in Willacy County

New daily rainfall records were set at most available Rio Grande Valley climate recording locations. These included:

- Raymondville, with 9.7 inches* (prior: 1.83 inches in 1922; new June daily record - prior: 6.23 inches on 6/21/1993)
- Weslaco, with 6.95 inches* (prior: 3.72 inches in 1951)
- Harlingen, with 6.29 inches* (prior: 2.23 in 1926; new June daily record - prior: 5.89 inches on 6/20 2018)
- McAllen, with 3.30 inches (prior: 1.83 inches in 1973)
- Edinburg, with 2.49 inches* (prior: 1.36 inches in 2014)
- Brownsville, with 2.06 inches (prior: 2 inches in 1920)

*Based on 7 AM to 7 AM records

These single day rainfall totals, except for Brownsville and Edinburg, were above the monthly averages for June. For Harlingen, and Weslaco, these values were around three times the monthly average, and more than four times the monthly average for Raymondville.

Cities and towns with the most impact included:

- **Raymondville** (Willacy Co) - The entire north half of the city's streets were flooded, with dozens if not more than 100 homes and business taking on inches to feet of water
- **Sebastian** (Willacy Co) - All neighborhood streets were flooded due to rainfall and drainage issues through the 25th and beyond
- **Harlingen/Primera** (Cameron Co) - Frontage roads, businesses along them, and neighborhoods - all north of Interstate 2 - had multiple flood issues due to rainfall and overwhelmed drainage systems
- **La Feria through Mercedes** (Cameron/Hidalgo Line) - Same situation as portions of northwest Harlingen. This was the primary area of overlapping impacts similar to the June 2018 event, just one year later.
- **Elsa through Monte Alto** colonias, occurred (see Wind Damage tab for more). At least five residences were demolished, one rusting grain silo tower collapsed, and dozens of trees were uprooted and numerous tree limbs blown down. Flooding rains and poor drainage left at least 4 feet of water in at least one neighborhood, requiring evacuations.

In addition to the neighborhood flooding, the location and intensity of the rainfall poured into Arroyo Colorado, with quite a bit of outflow into the Rio Grande as well.

- The Arroyo Colorado crested at 22.67 feet, the highest level since June 2018 and the fourth highest on record. It was the second time in two years that only runoff from rainfall caused the rises. The high water flooded parks and other activities inside the levee.
- The Rio Grande near San Benito was forecast to crest near 44 feet and near Brownsville, up to 14 feet, as of this writing.

Different Situation, Similar Result

Unlike the Great June Flood of 2018, the atmospheric setup couldn't have been any more different. This time, the situation - one that had been a persistent feature since April - was setup by yet another energy wave that moved through north central and east Texas, and spawned another round of severe weather (wind/hail) on Sunday, June 23rd. This was the initial feature that set the table to trigger the crazy...and scary...events of June 24th:

- **Ingredient 1: A thunderstorm "system" in southeast Texas.** This system, moving to the right of the mean atmospheric flow, rolled through southeast Texas, including Houston/Galveston, on its way to the Gulf by daybreak Monday. It would propagate on its own momentum into the western Gulf, still hugging the Texas coast, with a slow but steady movement toward the Coastal Bend.
- **Ingredient 2: Southeast to east "inflow" and daytime heating = Supercell.** Incredibly persistent heat and humidity across south Texas combined with colliding southeasterly flow with the northerly winds along the boundary began new thunderstorm develop near Kingsville a little after noon on the 24th. That cell would continue to feed on moisture inflow and the turning winds to produce a high-precipitation supercell thunderstorm in Kenedy County.
- **Ingredient 3: Multiple colliding boundaries and supercell slowdown.** Between 5 and 6 PM, as the supercell storm was still producing strong to destructive winds and pockets of large hail, outflow boundaries propagating west and southwest fed on the near record heat and oppressive humidity to produce expansive clusters of storms that spread quickly into Hidalgo and Starr County. Other boundaries from the old main line in the Gulf, and new storms in northern Mexico, fed the beast. At the same time, the entire system slowed before reaching the Rio Grande as evening approached and the earlier boundaries ran out of momentum.
- **Ingredient 4: Coalescence and Upper Level Assistance.** The development of mesoscale high and low pressure couplets along with favorable upper level winds allowed for a broad circulation to form, centered near the triple county lines of Hidalgo, Willacy, and Cameron, by mid evening of the 24th. Pulsing storms within the circulation maintained intense rainfall, up to the rate of 3 inches per hour, from 8 PM to midnight - which completed the transition from a mixed severe weather and flood event to a predominant flood event that spread into all of western Cameron County while continuing over western Willacy and far eastern Hidalgo County.

Additional details will be added to this report into July as more data are received from emergency management and other partners following damage assessments.

Exhibit 5



FILED
 AT 10:50 O'CLOCK A: M
 JUN 26 2019
 ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR. COUNTY CLERK
 HIDALGO COUNTY TEXAS
 BY [Signature] DEPUTY

DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER

WHEREAS, the County of Hidalgo on the 24th day of June, 2019 has suffered widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property (or there is imminent threat of same) resulting from the current or recent torrential rains;

WHEREAS, the Judge of the County of Hidalgo has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety and general wellbeing of County citizens, in order to alleviate the suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property; and

WHEREAS, Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code provides that the presiding officer of the governing body of a political subdivision may declare a state of local disaster;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAMIED BY THE JUDGE OF THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO:

1. that a state of disaster is declared for the County of Hidalgo, Texas;
2. that the County's Emergency Management Plan has been activated;
3. that this State of Disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date hereof, unless the same is continued by consent of the Commissioners Court of the County of Hidalgo, Texas; and
4. that this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

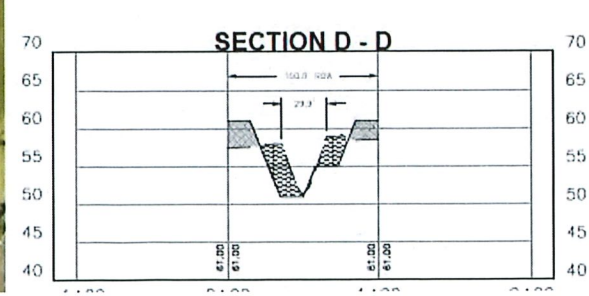
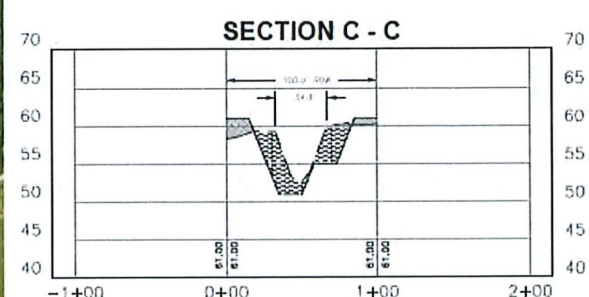
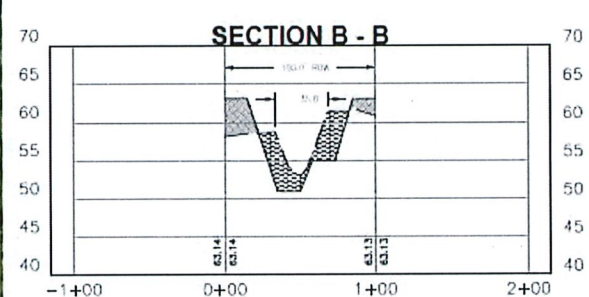
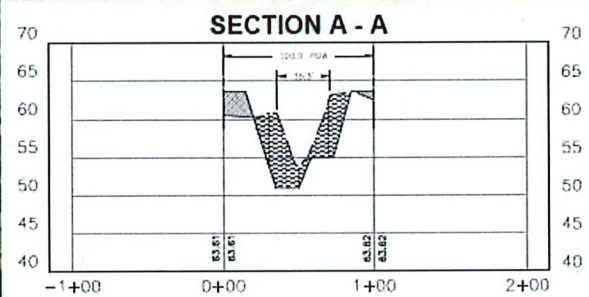
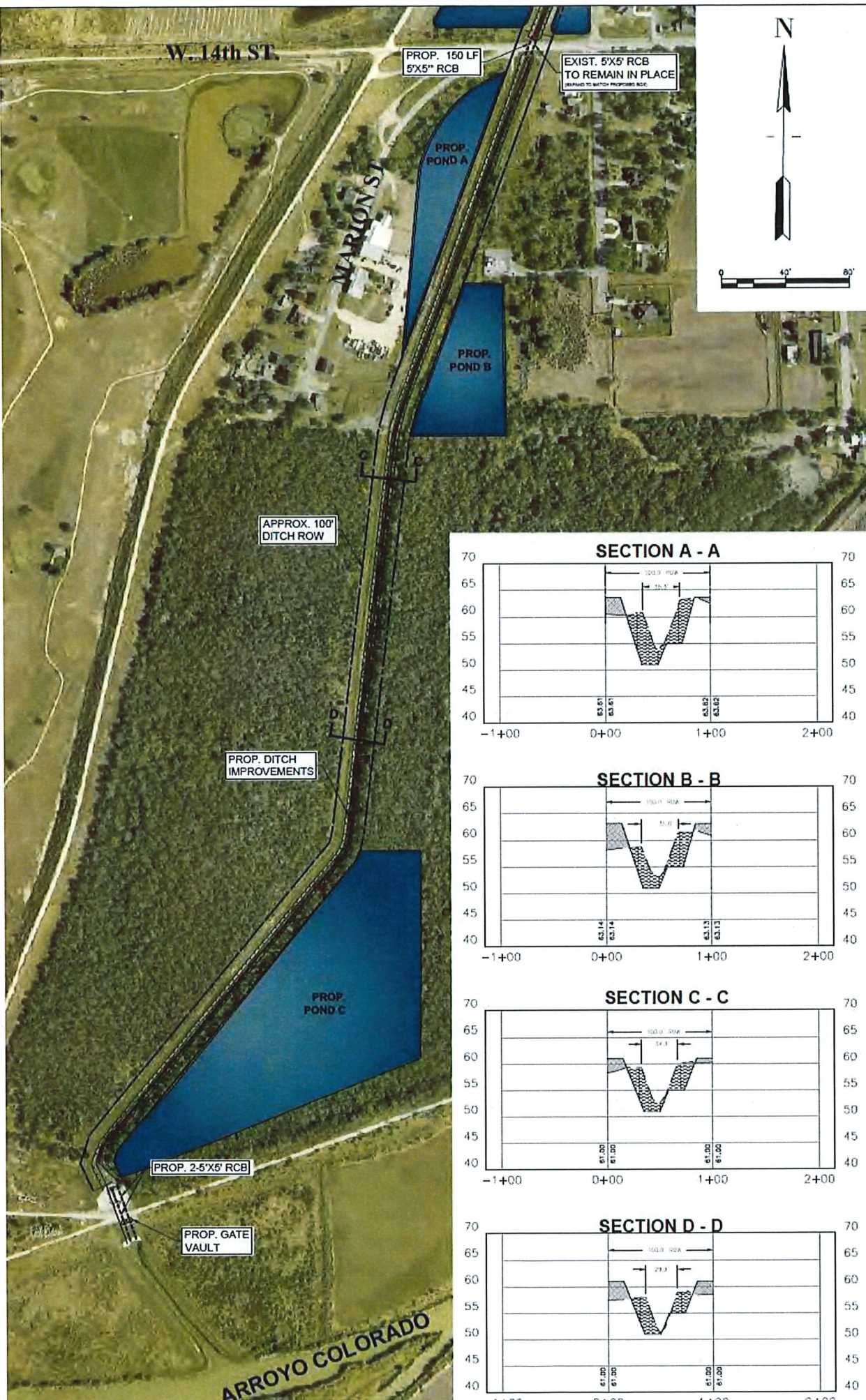
ORDERED this the 26 day of June, 2019.

ATTEST

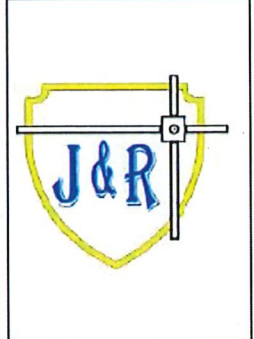
[Signature]
 Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

[Signature]
 Richard F. Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge

Exhibit 6



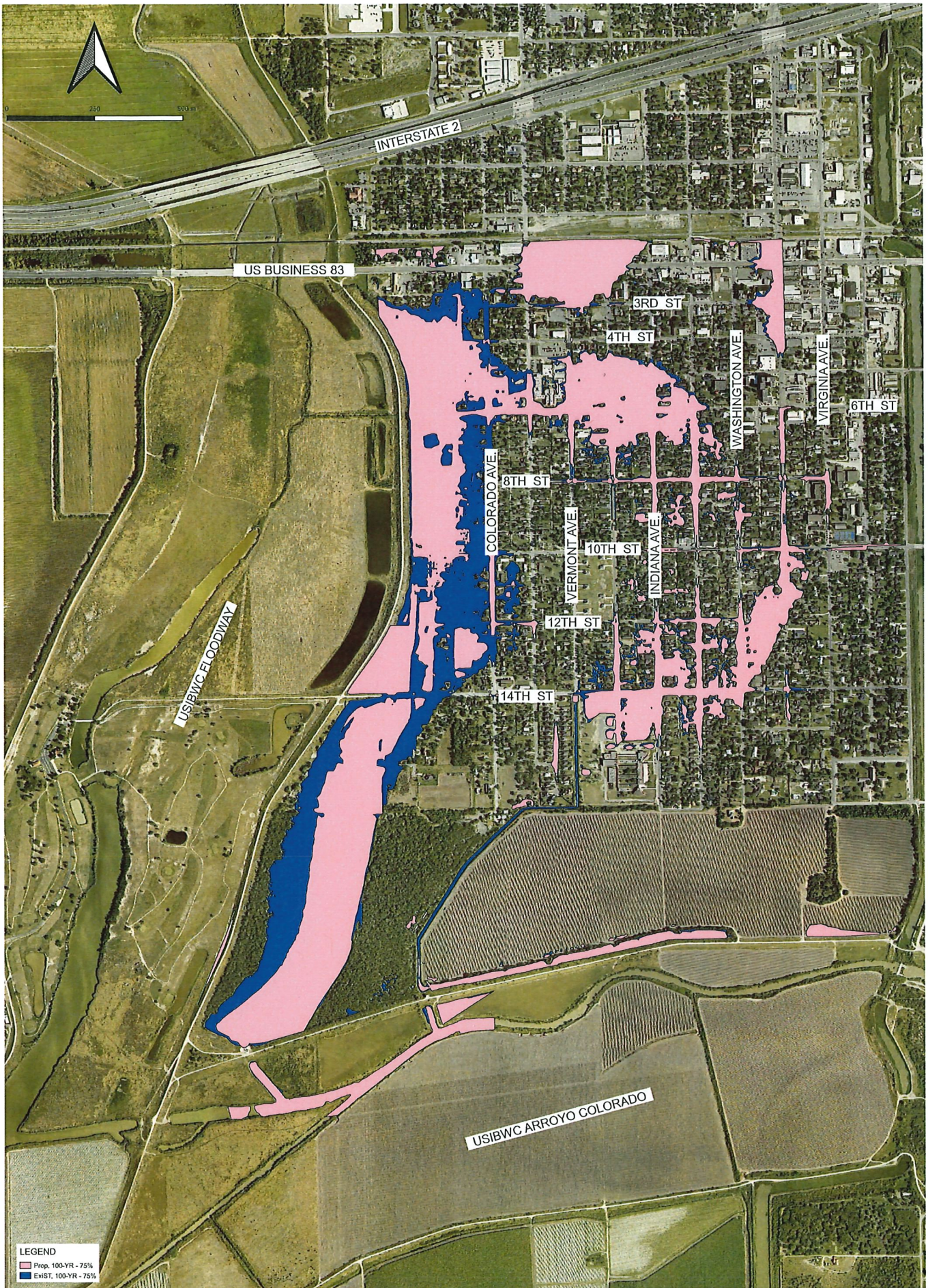
J&R ENGINEERING
 1209 S. 10TH ST. STE. 539
 MCALLEN, TX 78501
 PH: (956) 432-5851



| PROJECT No. ## | REVISIONS: | DATE | APPROVED BY: |
|----------------|------------|------|--------------|
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PREPARED FOR:
 HIDALGO COUNTY
 PRECINCT No. 1
 1902 JOE STEPHEN AVE.
 WESLACO, TX 78596

**GATE 3 PROJECT
 DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**



LEGEND
 ■ Prop. 100-YR - 75%
 ■ Exist. 100-YR - 75%

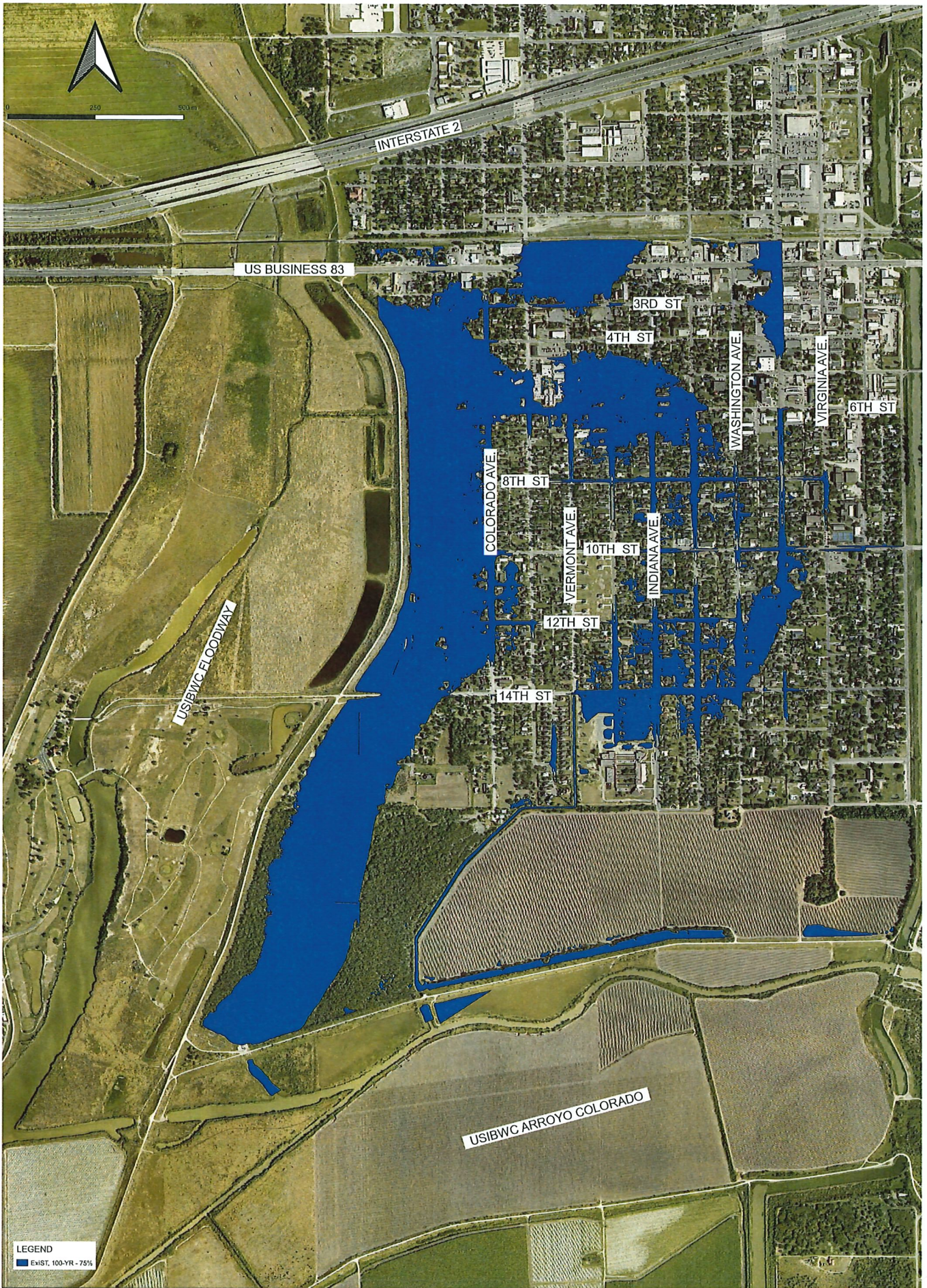


ROBERT SALINAS, P.E.
 J&R ENGINEERING, LLC
 1209 S. 10TH ST STE. 539
 MCALLEN, TX 78501

GATE 3 PROJECT
 COMPARISON - (100 YR STORM)



COMMISSIONER DAVID L. FUENTES
 HIDALGO COUNTY PRECINCT No. 1
 1902 JOE STEPHENS AVE.
 WESLACO, TX 78596



LEGEND
 ■ EXIST. 100-YR - 75%

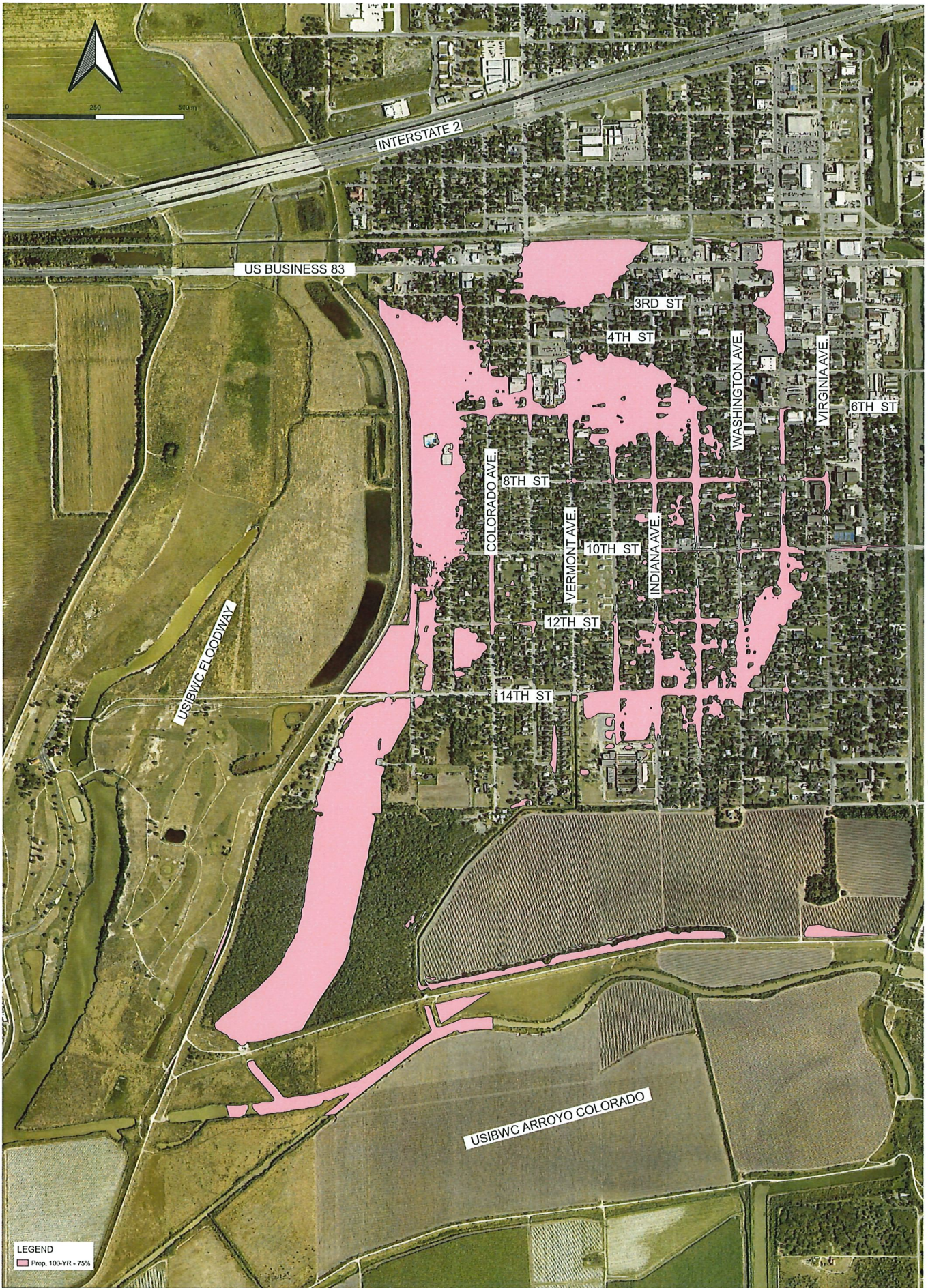


ROBERT SALINAS, P.E.
 J&R ENGINEERING, LLC
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 MCALLEN, TX 78501

GATE 3 PROJECT
 EXISTING CONDITIONS - (100 YR STORM)



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LEGEND
 ■ Prop. 100-YR - 75%



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GATE 3 PROJECT
 PROPOSED CONDITIONS - (100 YR STORM)



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