



Letter of Commitment

Between

Hidalgo County

And

The Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization



This Letter of Commitment sets for the terms and understanding between Hidalgo County and the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization to define their participation in the Safe Streets for All Action Plan.

Background

The Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization is submitting an application for an Action Plan Grant under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Safe Streets for All program. This allows the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization to develop the first region wide comprehensive safety action plan with the goal to increase safety for all roadway users and to get the Rio Grande Valley one step closer to the Texas statewide vision zero goal of zero roadway fatalities by 2050.

Using innovate practices and technology, the RGVMPO plans to assemble an Infrastructure Bill Grants Subcommittee which will consist of the RGVMPO's planning partners to assist in the development of the action plan. This Subcommittee will, in conjunction with the comprehensive safety action plan, assist in the development of the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program Business 83 Corridor plan. Both plans will go hand in hand with ensuring the safety of travelers while providing safer transportation alternatives.

Purpose and Tasks

This letter of commitment is directed to assure the participation of Hidalgo County included as one of two sources of the Twenty percent (20%) local match required for the RGVMPO to submit their application. With the assistance from Hidalgo County, the RGVMPO will:

- Invite city or county staff which will comprise members of the Infrastructure Bill Grant's Subcommittee
- Develop a comprehensive safety action plan that covers the Metropolitan Area Boundary over both Hidalgo and Starr Counties.
- Share the completed plan with Hidalgo County
- Utilize this comprehensive safety action plan to apply for an implementation grant in a future funding round of the IJA or Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill.

Funding

The RGVMPO is applying for \$250,000 and the application requires a Twenty percent (20%) local match. The RGVMPO divided the local match between Hidalgo and Starr Counties by population. An amendment for the notice of funding opportunity made in August of 2022 requires the applicants to use 2019 American Community Survey Five-year estimates for population figures. Per this request, the RGVMPO has tallied the total of the combined population of Hidalgo and Starr Counties as 918,142 with Hidalgo County comprising Ninety-three percent (93%) or 855,176 and Starr County comprising Seven percent (7%) or 62,966. For that reason, the RGVMPO is asking from Hidalgo County Ninety-three percent (93%) of the Twenty percent (20%) local match, which would be \$46,500; if awarded the \$250,000 Action Plan Grant.

Honorable Judge Richard Cortez
The County of Hidalgo Texas

Andrew A. Canon
RGVMPO Executive Director