



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

Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Bio Safety Lab Efforts

Project Number:

ARPA-23-340-331

Department Name:

Hidalgo County Health Dept.

ARPA Expenditure Category:

1: Public Health

ARPA Eligibility Category:

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

Project Description:

Hidalgo County has been on a continuous response mode for the COVID pandemic since March 2020. Due to the pandemic, Hidalgo County Health and Human Service Dept has been assessing and implementing appropriate COVID-19 mitigation and prevention measures. To address the public health response, Hidalgo County will engage in a broad range of services and programming needed to contain COVID-19 including but not limited to Bio Safety Lab contractual and professional services for testing, certification and performance verifications, Bio Safety personnel, Bio Safety Lab supplies and equipment, inspections for accreditation and other provisions and services to identify protective measures for Hidalgo County residents.

...The interim final rule provided an extensive list of enumerated eligible uses to prevent and mitigate COVID–19 and made clear that the public health response to the virus is expected to continue to evolve over time, necessitating different uses of funds.¹ Enumerated eligible uses of funds in this category include: other public health responses. 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 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

¹ Department of the Treasury (n.d.) Federal Register, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (p. 4452)

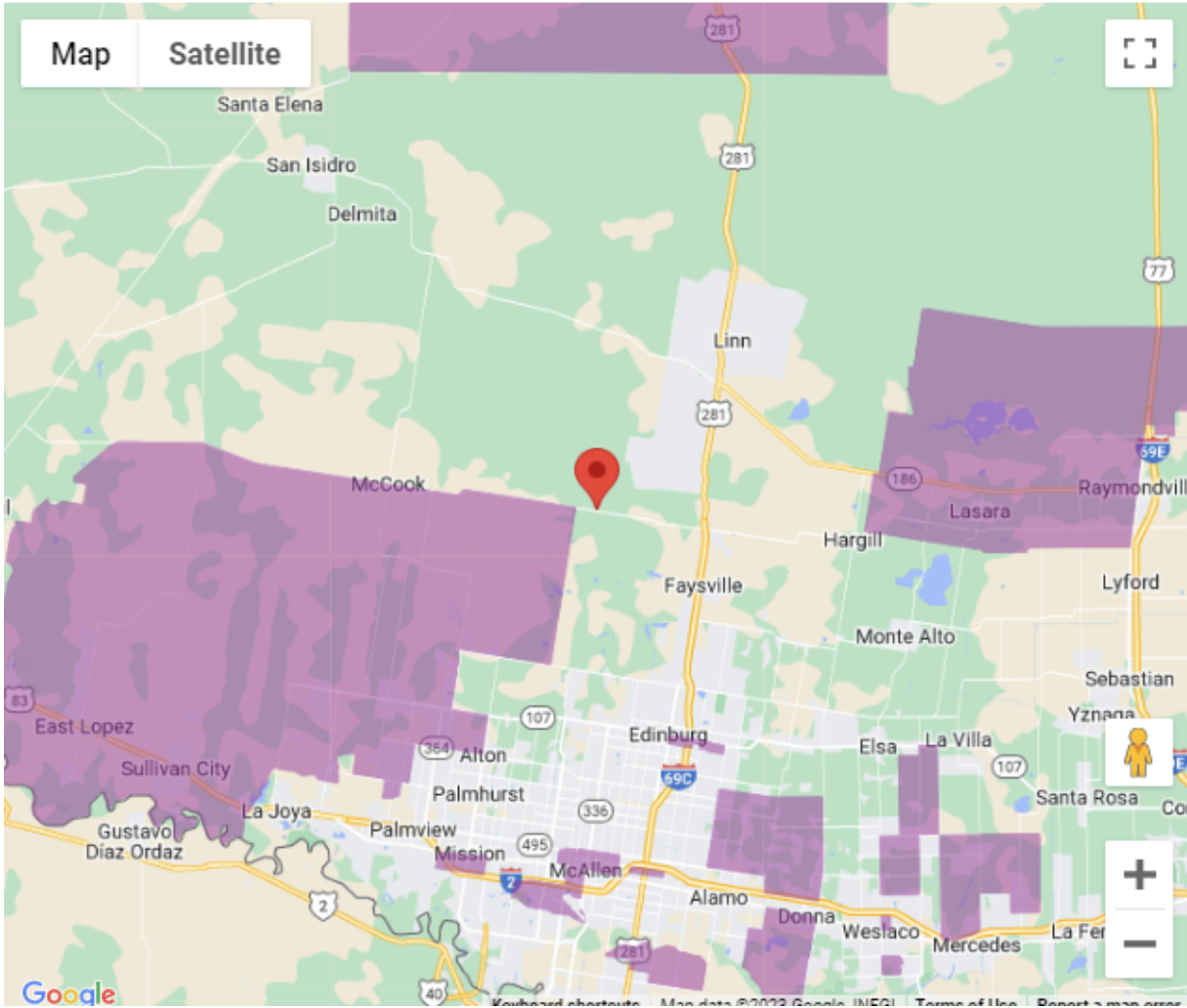
² Department of the Treasury (n.d.) Federal Register, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (p. 4453)

³ Department of the Treasury (n.d.) Federal Register, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (p. 4441)

Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget: \$1,802,156.14

^Below is the Qualified Census Tract (QCT) for Hidalgo County.



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