

## **COUNTY OF HIDALGO | PROGRESO INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE**

### **2023 EDA PROJECT INDUSTRIAL ROADWAY CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The project involves preparing and submitting a federal assistance application seeking funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the planning, acquisition and design services for Phase I of the proposed Progreso Port of Entry Industrial Roadway Improvement Project. The proposed project action involves the development of construction plans and technical specifications for a new industrial concrete type roadway that provides service to the existing industrial business development corridor located along Gonzalez Road and Toluca Road between US Highway 281 and the Progreso Bridge area in southeastern Hidalgo County. Additionally, the proposed project action will also consist of completing the necessary environmental studies needed for justifying construction of the future planned roadway improvements. The Environmental documents will be prepared in strict accordance with Federal National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) guidelines.

Presently, the existing caliche roadway is in non-compliance with industry standards as required for roadway construction servicing industrial/business development park areas. The existing roadway servicing the industrial park area is non-paved caliche, rural in nature and requires major roadway improvements. Originally, the existing roadway consisted of a mix of asphalt pavement and gravel caliche sections, but as industrial commercial development has emerged in the Gonzalez/Toluca area, heavy commercial traffic has gravely impacted the conditions of the roadway. A need exists to initiate planning activities for the design of an adequate and safe industrial roadway that will meet minimum rules and regulations as set forth by standards governed by design guidelines established for overweight traffic corridors by the Texas Department of Transportation.

Overweight commercial truck traffic and the lack of reasonable options of travel for the transit of commercial traffic servicing the industrial commercial area located along the planned project area raises concerns about traffic safety and how to continue maintaining the mobility of future commercial growth along the industrial road corridor and the Progreso Port of Entry. The existing conditions of the road infrastructure is a reflection of the strain created on the existing roadway

due to the increase in heavy commercial traffic and directly impacted by the economic growth being experienced. Road improvements are necessary to sustain economic growth of the industrial corridor area.

A funding opportunity has arisen which affords for the County of Hidalgo to apply to EDA for funding in the amount of \$1.795 million to conduct the necessary studies and develop the engineering and environmental documents needed to declare the proposed project "Shovel Ready". Once shovel ready, the project will be eligible for Phase II action consisting of funding the construction of the needed roadway improvements. The funding opportunity is being made available through the 2023 Disaster Funding Program being managed by EDA.

Project funding will come in the form of an 80% grant component (\$1,436,000.00) and a 20% local project match component (\$395,000.00). To meet the 20% local match component contribution, the commercial property owners located within the existing industrial road corridor are committed to contributing \$259,000.00. Additionally, the County of Hidalgo will be committing \$100,000.00 to the proposed project for a total local match component of \$359,000.00.

The proposed project activity meets the goal and mission of the U.S. Economic Development Administration's investment policy of designing and establishing a foundation for sustainable job growth and the building of durable regional economies throughout the United States.

Attachments:

1. Project Map
2. Project Budget
3. Landowners List
4. Letter of Project Support
5. Participation Acknowledgment Form
6. Application Resolution

**ATTACHMENT No. 1**  
**PROJECT MAP**

TO CANADA 1,846 MILES  
TO SAN ANTONIO, TX 257 MILES  
TO DALLAS, TX 535 MILES  
TO HOUSTON, TX 350 MILES

PROGRESO  
CITY LIMITS

US HWY 281

TO MCALLEN  
26 MILES

TO BROWNSVILLE  
35 MILES

PROGRESO LAKES  
CITY LIMITS

PROPOSED 40'  
INDUSTRIAL TYPE  
PAVING IMPROVEMENTS

GONZALEZ RD

TOLUCA RD

GONZALEZ RD

EDA PROJECT  
PLANNING MAP

**ATTACHMENT No. 2**  
**PROJECT BUDGET**

**COUNTY OF HIDALGO | PROGRESO INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE  
2023 EDA PROJECT INDUSTRIAL ROADWAY CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING | PROJECT COST ESTIMATE | 10/27/2023**

**Professional Design Services**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Total</b>
100	Preliminary Engineering Report Services	1	LS	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
101	Environmental Report Services	1	LS	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
102	Archeological Report Services	1	LS	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
103	Basic Engineering Services (70% of \$1,275,000.00)	1	%	\$892,000.00	\$892,000.00
104	Topographic Survey Services	1	%	\$475,000.00	\$475,000.00
105	Right-of-Way TXDOT Permit Services	1	LS	\$48,000.00	\$48,000.00
106	Geotechnical Laboratory Services	1	LS	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
107	Professional Grant Administrative Services	1	LS	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00

**Subtotal Professional Services: \$ 1,795,000.00**

**Estimated Total Construction: \$ 1,795,000.00**

**Estimated Funding Breakdown**

**EDA APPLICANT CONTRIBUTION COST COMPONENT \$ 1,436,000.00**

**EDA GRANT CONTRIBUTION COST COMPONENT \$ 359,000.00**

**ATTACHMENT No. 3  
LANDOWNERS  
LIST**

**2023 EDA PROJECT INDUSTRIAL ROADWAY CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
PROPERTY OWNERS ALONG CORRIDOR**

	<b>Property ID</b>	<b>Property Owner</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Contribution \$</b>
1	220002	Rufino & Ana Garza	18.10	\$ 13,358
2	220048	Rufino Garza	19.39	\$ 14,310
3	220055	Rufino Garza	9.24	\$ 6,819
4	220054	Lorena Alaniz Fernandez	9.84	\$ 7,262
5	220073	Brenda Leticia Valencia	9.78	\$ 7,218
6	1233435	Forshage Land Investments	10.76	\$ 7,941
7	712937	Fernando Vasquez	14.67	\$ 10,826
8	220083	Int'l Materials	5.11	\$ 3,771
9	220093	Int'l Materials	5.52	\$ 4,074
10	220094	Guadalupe Benavides	9.83	\$ 7,255
11	607787	Zully Marquez Ramirez	9.89	\$ 7,299
12	526992	Granos Properties Ltd	5.81	\$ 4,288
13	547066	Oscar Tadeo Buentello	6.58	\$ 4,856
14	622038	Jose de Jesus de Anda Romo	10.00	\$ 7,380
15	624556	Upper Valley Materials LLC	9.70	\$ 7,159
16	669602	Transportes de Anda SA de CV	19.70	\$ 14,539
17	220076	Forshage Land Investments	21.85	\$ 16,125
18	220077	Forshage Land Investments	7.00	\$ 5,166
19	683484	Luis Pecina Jr.	5.22	\$ 3,852
20	220053	D'Hemecourt Properties Inc	21.52	\$ 15,882
21	220049	RGV Brokers of South Texas LLC	6.03	\$ 4,450
22	220050	RGV Brokers of South Texas LLC	15.49	\$ 11,432
23	344090	Solo Hache II LLC	6.49	\$ 4,790
24	220105	D'Hemecourt Properties Inc	14.23	\$ 10,502
25	220104	Brady Guzman Hernandez	4.36	\$ 3,218
26	805126	Eagle Grain Trading Inc	10.00	\$ 7,380
27	815961	Puga Montoya Investments	6.53	\$ 4,819
28	198498	A C N Agriproducts LLC 31.26-10 Resaca	21.26	\$ 15,690
29	343515	2E RGV LLC	13.80	\$ 10,184
30	Multiple	Progreso Bridge	23.51	\$ 17,350
		<b>TOTAL Acreages Along Corridor</b>	<b>351.21</b>	<b>\$ 259,193</b>

**TOTAL PROJECT COST IS \$ 15,725,000**

8" Concrete Road along Corridor (see map attached)

\$738 per acre of Property Owners along Corridor

TOTAL PROPERTY OWNERS ALONG CORRIDOR	\$ 259,192.98
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HIDALGO COUNTY PARTICIPATION	\$ 100,000.00
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<b>LOCAL PARTICIPATION NEEDED FOR GRANT</b>	<b>\$ 359,192.98</b>
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**ATTACHMENT No. 4**  
**LETTER OF**  
**SUPPORT**



P.O. Box 130 Progreso, Texas 78579 • TEL: (956) 565-6361 • FAX: (956) 565-6362

October 27, 2023

Commissioner David Fuentes  
Hidalgo County Precinct #1  
1901 Joe Stephens Ave #101  
Weslaco TX 78596

Commissioner Fuentes:

As a business owner in Precinct #1, we would like to THANK YOU for all your efforts representing Precinct #1 for the betterment of our communities, we are truly thriving. Our International Port of Entry is one of the top for tourism crossing 2.5 million people annually by foot and vehicle. We are currently investing \$23 million in upgrading the commercial portion of our business. As you are aware, there are funding opportunities for infrastructure such as roads. County Road 1702, Gonzales Road and Rancho Toluca Road in your Precinct are lacking the proper infrastructure for heavy weight vehicles. There are 30+ property owners along this route and in order to grow the companies requires providing a more strength appropriate road.

Please let this letter serve as a letter of support for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant application which provides for professional design services of environmental, TOPO, TxDOT ROW permits, geotechnical, etc. The matching portion to be provided by Hidalgo County, property owners and the Progreso International Bridge combined pledge for the 20% match (\$359,000), will indicate our full support for this very worthwhile project. This Phase 1 will provide a basis for building an 8 inch fully concrete road especially designed for overweight traffic. All 30+ businesses will in turn be able to expand their facilities, provide hundreds of employment opportunities for Hidalgo County residents as well as provide aggregate used by other Cities within the County and even Cameron County.

Again, thank you for representing and supporting our growing region and we look forward to working together on many more projects.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Samuel R. Sparks Jr." in a cursive style.

Samuel R. Sparks, Jr.  
President  
Sam R. Sparks, LP  
DBA Progreso International Bridge

**ATTACHMENT No. 5  
PARTICIPATION  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ owner of \_\_\_\_\_ acres located at \_\_\_\_\_ Toluca Road and legally described as \_\_\_\_\_ Hidalgo County, Texas agree to pay my pro-rata share for the engineering design, surveying and environmental studies for the proposed paving of Toluca Road, County Road 1702 and Gonzalez Road by Hidalgo County Precinct 1. My participation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is voluntary and contingent upon Hidalgo County receiving a grant from U.S Economic Development Administration in the amount of \$1,436,000.00 for this particular project. My funds will not be due and deposited into an escrow until such time Hidalgo County has received official notification the project has been approved and funded by U.S. EDA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner/Officer of Corporation

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**STATE OF TEXAS**  
**COUNTY OF HIDALGO**

This instrument was acknowledged before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ of November, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Texas

Seal

**ATTACHMENT No. 6  
APPLICATION  
RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HIDALGO COUNTY OFFICIALS TO APPLY AND EXECUTE DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID APPLICATION ASSISTANCE UNDER THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA), UNDER THE DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING 2023 PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County deems it necessary and proper to apply for EDA in the amount of up to \$1,795,000.00 under the Rules and Regulation of the Economic Development Administration, an agency of the United States Department of Commerce.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the above-named Applicant:

1. Richard F. Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge, as the Signatory Agent of the application for this funding under EDA’s Disaster Supplemental Funding 2023 Program on behalf of Hidalgo County.
2. Richard F. Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge, is hereby authorized to act on behalf of Hidalgo County in all matters related to the application.
3. Hidalgo County, commits to the required 20% match.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023.**

ATTEST:

Hidalgo County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Title