



Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management

American Rescue Plan Act

Exhibit B - Budget Amendments

#	ARPA Project No.	ARPA Project Name	Prior Budget	New Budget
1	21-125-015	McCull Building Retrofits	\$2,715,000.00	\$1,365,000.00
2	21-340-019	El Paraiso Health Clinic Improvement Project	\$4,375,071.00	\$5,283,116.78
3	22-121-044	Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Mercedes Gate Structure Stormwater Project	\$2,000,000.00	\$1,840,322.77
4	22-121-046	Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Delta Region Stormwater Project	\$8,500,000.00	\$5,687,000.00
5	22-200-076	Hidalgo County Wi-Fi Project	\$2,078,798.83	\$2,260,548.83
6	22-200-083	Hidalgo County Gmail Service Project	\$1,255,120.00	\$1,073,370.00
7	23-340-325	Hidalgo County Edinburg Health Center Improvements Project	\$133,961.81	\$153,961.81
8	23-340-331	Hidalgo County Bio Safety Lab Efforts	\$1,477,156.14	\$2,365,950.13
9	23-115-339	Hidalgo County Technology Modernization	\$4,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00
10	23-124-346	J-01 Stormwater Management Project	\$4,260,000.00	\$2,300,000.00
11	23-121-348	Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Administrative Offices Indoor Air Quality Equipment & Services	\$175,000.00	\$174,566.70



Project Description

Project Name:

McColl Building Retrofits

Project Number:

ARPA-21-125-015

Department Name:

Executive Office

ARPA Expenditure Category:

6: Revenue Replacement

ARPA Eligibility Category:

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description:

The McColl Building Retrofits project consists of facility improvements to the Hidalgo County Administration Building to be in compliance with health guidelines throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. This will include both interior and exterior modifications included but not limited to additions for social distancing and exterior improvements to lock out moisture and corrosive chemicals and help with insulation. Features such as these will provide a safe and sustainable building and will enable employees to continue performing essential services.

To comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, the recent acquisition of the McColl Building located at 505 S. McColl Road, Edinburg, TX 78539, requires additional renovations to be in compliance with health and safety guidelines outlined by the CDC and ARPA requirements. Retrofits include, but are not limited to, adequate space to adhere to social distancing guidelines to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

As per the State and local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rule, Government services can include, but are not limited to, maintenance or pay-go funding building.¹

Fiscal Impact: \$1,365,000.00

¹ Department of the Treasury (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Federal Register, 87(18), p. 4408



Project Description

Project Name:

El Paraiso Health Clinic Improvement Project

Project Number:

ARPA-21-340-019

Program Name:

El Paraiso Health Clinic Improvement 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:

Hidalgo County Health & Human Services, along with the various County Departments and COVID healthcare partners are actively assessing (Testing), intervening (vaccinating), and providing prevention education. The COVID virus has proven to be especially hardy as evident by its ever enhancing mutations. The need for expanding and upgrading our current clinical facilities to assure the access to intervention, vaccinations, and advance healthcare referral for a County of over a 1.2 million residents and an unaccounted immigrant population is critical. The purpose of El Paraiso Health Clinic Improvement Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations and/or new construction including but not limited to professional services, furniture, fixtures and equipment, personnel and other provisions and services. 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. El Paraiso Health Clinic plans to provide the residents of Hidalgo County access to resources that improve health outcomes during and after the public health emergency. El Paraiso Health Clinic, located at 1901 N. Los Ebanos Rd., Alton, TX, 78573, is in a Qualified Census Tract area and will provide quality services to an underserved community.

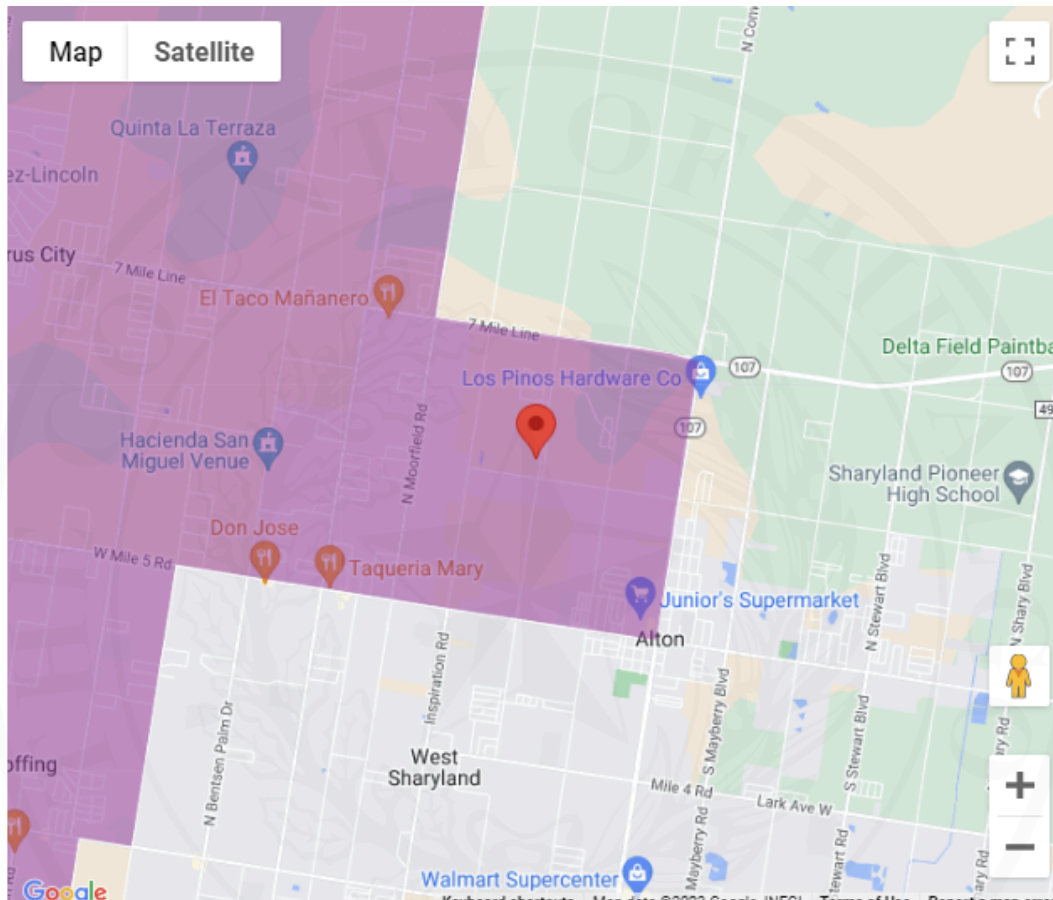
Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget: \$5,283,116.78



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

^Below is the Qualified Census Tract Analysis for El Paraiso Health Clinic, located at 1901 N. Los Ebanos Rd., Alton, TX, 78573.



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



Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Mercedes Gate Structure Stormwater Project

Project Number:

ARPA-22-121-044

Program:

The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Mercedes Gate Structure will be part of the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Stormwater System Improvement Program.

Precinct/Department Name:

Hidalgo County Precinct 1

ARPA Expenditure Category:

5: Infrastructure

ARPA Eligibility Category:

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description:

The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Mercedes Gate Structure Stormwater Project will reduce stormwater for the area south of Business 83 and west of S. Capisallo Road. The Mercedes Gate Structure consists of regrading approximately 4,000 L.F of the ditch, adding an additional box culvert at 14th St., and adding a third outfall that consists of box culvert and gate structure that will cross under the USIBWC Levee and discharge into the USIBWC Floodway. Efficient sewage services directly translate into a healthier community by providing clean water and avoiding potential environmental disasters. These basic needs are critical to the health and ability to work and learn of low-income minorities.

As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. Efficient sewage services directly translate into a healthier community by providing clean water and avoiding potential environmental disasters. These basic needs are critical to the health and ability to work and learn of the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Fiscal Impact: \$1,840,322.77



Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Delta Region Stormwater Project

Project Number:

ARPA-22-121-046

Program Name:

The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Delta Region Stormwater Project will be part of the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Stormwater System Improvement Program.

Department Name:

Hidalgo County Precinct 1

ARPA Expenditure Category:

5: Infrastructure

ARPA Eligibility Category:

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description:

The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Delta Region Stormwater Project is a regional mitigation project that will provide flood control for the most populated areas of Hidalgo County and establish a process to reclaim the water for municipal and irrigation use. Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Delta Region Stormwater Project is proposed to be constructed in three phases and includes an off-line stormwater detention reservoir and treatment facility. Efficient sewage services directly translate into a healthier community by providing clean water and avoiding potential environmental disasters. These basic needs are critical to the health and ability to work and learn of low-income minorities.

As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. Efficient sewage services directly translate into a healthier community by providing clean water and avoiding potential environmental disasters. These basic needs are critical to the health and ability to work and learn of the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Fiscal Impact: \$5,687,000.00



Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Wi-Fi Project

Project Number:

ARPA-22-200-076

Department Name:

Information Technology

ARPA Expenditure Category:

5: Infrastructure

ARPA Eligibility Category:

5.21 Broadband: Other projects

Project Description:

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the purpose of the Hidalgo County Wi-Fi Project is to increase connectivity to assist citizens with distance learning while seeking to improve technological improvements as well as telework capability. In an effort to comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, this project will work with County functions to continue an established lease with the Radio Tower, leasing spaces to serve the community, replace damaged or weather wif-fi poles, provide technical support and by mounting equipment of Wi-Fi connectivity in order to effectively and efficiently assist citizens. This project will provide the minimum level of service which will include but not limit to, maintain a level of service that will meet applicable health-based standards and establish or improve broadband service to unserved or underserved populations that were impacted by COVID-19 public health emergency.

The COVID–19 public health emergency has underscored the importance of universally available, high-speed, reliable, and affordable broadband coverage as millions of Americans rely on the internet to participate in, among other critical activities, school, healthcare, and work. Recognizing the need for such connectivity, SLFRF funds can be used to make necessary investments in broadband infrastructure that increase access over the long term, as well as the necessary supports to purchase internet access or gain digital literacy skills needed to complete activities of daily living during the pandemic.¹ These commenters recommended that Treasury permit, as assistance to households for internet access, investments in public wi-fi networks, free wi-fi in public housing communities, and other equipment that offers internet access to end users by utilizing existing broadband networks.² Treasury has determined that these services,

¹ Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Federal Register, 87(18), p. 4361

² Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Federal Register, 87(18), p. 4362



Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management

American Rescue Plan Act 2021

which expand internet access without constructing new networks, are an appropriate enumerated eligible use as assistance to households to respond to a negative economic impact, and they are permitted under the final rule.³

Fiscal Impact: \$2,260,548.83



³ Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Federal Register, 87(18), p. 4362



Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Gmail Service Project

Project Number:

ARPA-22-200-083

Precinct/Department Name:

Information Technology

ARPA Expenditure Category Group:

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

ARPA Expenditure Category:

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description:

The Hidalgo County Gmail Service Project will allow Hidalgo County employees access to Google Workspaces which plays a role in protecting county files, digitally sending and receiving emails, and signing official documents, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Google Workspaces eliminates the need for staff to potentially be at risk of contracting the virus by eliminating the need to physically deliver County documents and agreements to departments, offices, or elected officials during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Treasury also received comments seeking clarification on using funds for investments in data and technology, including whether upgrading government websites to improve community outreach and investing in technologies that support social distancing were eligible uses. Treasury is clarifying that recipients may use SLFRF funds toward the following non-exhaustive list of uses to address the data, evidence, and program administration needs of recipients. Technology infrastructure resources to improve access to and the user experience of government information technology systems, including upgrades to hardware and software as well as improvements to public-facing websites or to data management systems, to increase public access and improve public delivery of government programs and services¹ are eligible expenses.

Fiscal Impact: \$1,073,370.00

¹ Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Federal Register, 87(18), p. 4388



Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Edinburg Health Center Improvements Project

Project Number:

ARPA-23-340-325

Program Name:

Hidalgo County Health Center 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 Center 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 Center, located at 3105 E. Richardson Rd., Edinburg, TX, 78539.

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

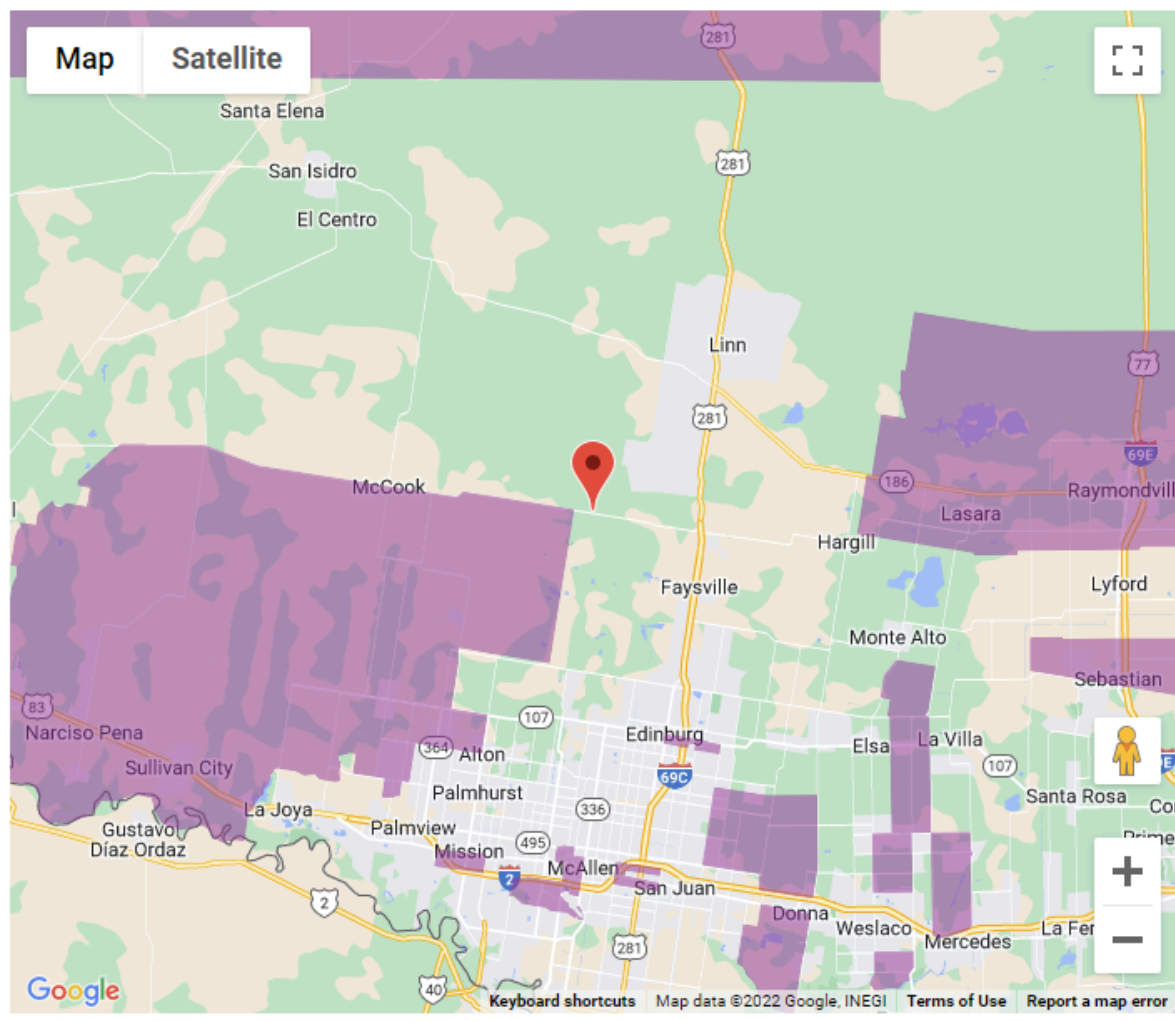


Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management American Rescue Plan Act 2021

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: \$153,961.81

^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



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 (2022) Federal Register, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (p. 4452)

² Department of the Treasury (2022) Federal Register, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (p. 4453)

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

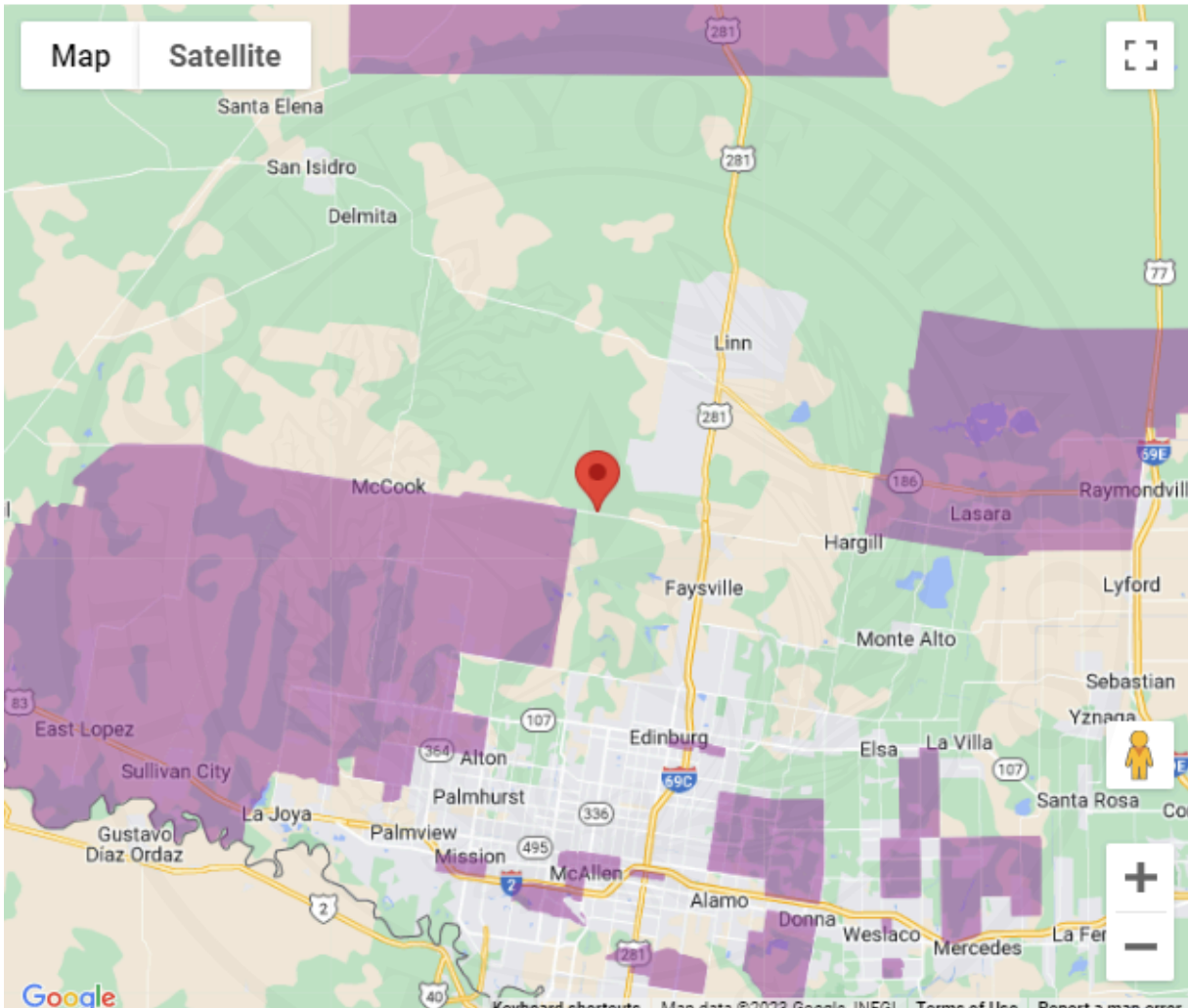


Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management

American Rescue Plan Act 2021

Fiscal Impact: \$2,365,950.13

^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)



Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Technology Modernization

Project Number:

ARPA-23-115-339

Department Name:

Budget and Management

ARPA Expenditure Category:

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

ARPA Eligibility Category:

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description:

The rapidly escalating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected technology infrastructure by making it more difficult for government agencies to provide essential services and to execute the delivery of these services. To mitigate these effects, Hidalgo County will implement the Hidalgo County Technology Modernization Project for its departments countywide and aims to increase efficiency, productivity and safety. This project will include but is not limited to new technology application solutions, cybersecurity modernization, and other hardware and software upgrades. Better government systems will permit employees to continue performing essential services for the county and be responsive to the needs of the community.

Treasury also received comments seeking clarification on using funds for investments in data and technology, including whether upgrading government websites to improve community outreach and investing in technologies that support social distancing were eligible uses. Treasury is clarifying that recipients may use SLFRF funds toward the following non-exhaustive list of uses to address the data, evidence, and program administration needs of recipients. Technology infrastructure resources to improve access to and the user experience of government information technology systems, including upgrades to hardware and software as well as improvements to public-facing websites or to data management systems, to increase public access and improve public delivery of government programs and services are eligible expenses.¹

Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget: \$3,000,000.00

¹ Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4488



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

Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 J-01 Stormwater Management Project

Project Number:

ARPA-23-124-346

Program Name:

Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Stormwater System Improvement Program

Department Name:

Hidalgo County Precinct 4

ARPA Expenditure Category:

5: Infrastructure

ARPA Eligibility Category:

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description:

The J-01 Stormwater Management Project manages stormwater flows by providing additional stormwater capacity to the existing drainage system and creating a new drainage outfall to the North Main Drain II. The project intercepts stormwater from the Vista Bonita Drain located at N. Kenyon Rd and Ingle Road. The stormwater flow is carried within the ditch in an easterly then southerly direction, eventually outfalling into the North Main Drain II. This work not only includes ditch widening, but also a new ditch will be excavated and culvert crossings will be improved at Benito Ramirez Rd, Ramseyer Rd, and Davis Rd. The project will address the inadequate stormwater systems that cause flooding, the spread of diseases, and eroded roads during the rainy season thereby increasing community quality of life.

Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure all involve the provision of essential services to residents, businesses, and other consumers. As the pandemic has made clear, access to broadband has itself become essential for individuals and businesses to participate in education, commerce, work, and civic matters and to receive health care and social services.¹ The Treasury states that CWSRF includes a broad range of stormwater infrastructure projects, and as such these projects were eligible under the interim final rule and continue to be eligible under the final rule. These projects include gray infrastructure projects, such as traditional pipe, storage, and treatment systems. Projects that manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or

¹ Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4410

subsurface drainage water are also eligible, including real-time control systems for combined sewer overflow management, and sediment control.²

Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget: \$2,300,000.00



² Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4413-4414



Project Description

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Administrative Offices Indoor Air Quality Equipment

Project Number:

ARPA-23-121-348

Department Name:

Hidalgo County Precinct 1

ARPA Expenditure Category:

1: Public Health

ARPA Eligibility Category:

1.4: Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, Child care facilities, etc.)*^

Project Description:

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed unprecedented challenges for public health. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the virus that causes COVID-19 is always changing, and protection from COVID-19 vaccines declines over time.¹ The COVID-19 pandemic has made it important to keep workplaces safe as viruses, like COVID-19, can easily spread in enclosed indoor spaces with poor ventilation. Although vaccination may be the best protection against hospitalization, other joint mitigation strategies are recommended for both home and work. One recommendation is the use of a portable air cleaner. Using a portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) cleaner can improve filtration with an existing Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC).² To reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading, Hidalgo County Precinct 1 aims to provide Indoor Air Quality Equipment to improve ventilation in its administrative buildings which include but is not limited to Commissioner Precinct 1 Offices, Justice of the Peace Offices, Constable Offices, and the Tax Office. By taking this course of action, Hidalgo County Precinct 1 is ensuring that offices are safer for everyone, employees and visitors, especially those who may need more support.

Recognizing the broad range of services and programming needed to contain COVID-19, 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. Enumerated eligible uses of funds in this category included: ventilation improvements in congregate settings, health care settings, or

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2023/p0912-COVID-19-Vaccine.html>

² <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/Improving-Ventilation-Home.html>



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

other key locations. These enumerated uses are consistent with guidance from public health authorities, including the CDC.³

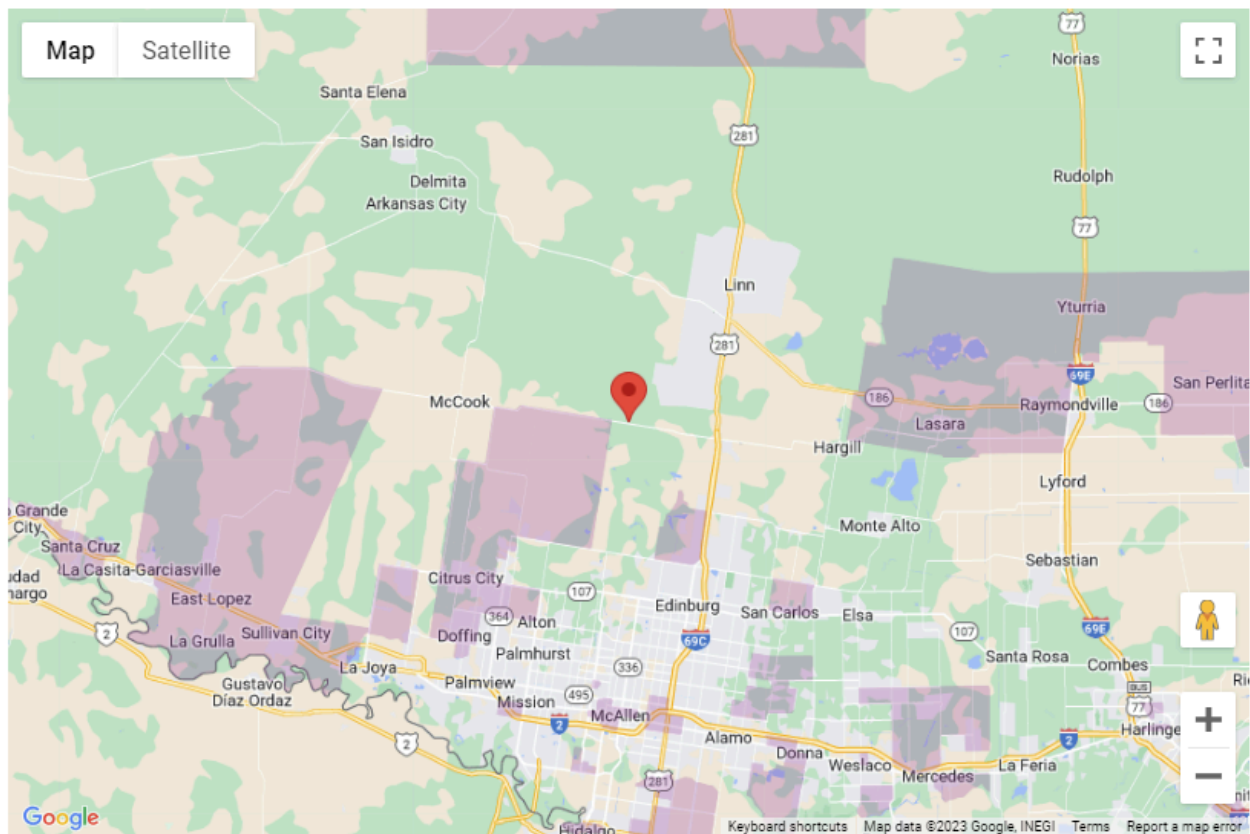
Fiscal Impact: \$174,566.70

* Evidence-Based:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2022/12/08/clean-indoor-air-benefits-everyone/>

https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-03/508-cleanairbuildings_factsheet_v5_508.pdf

^Below is the 2024 Qualified Census Tract Analysis for Hidalgo County.



Source: Office of Policy Development and Research 2023 and 2024 Small Difficult Development Areas (DDAs) and Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs):

https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sadda/sadda_qct.html

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