



Letter of Commitment  
Between  
The County of Hidalgo  
And  
The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council



This Letter of Commitment outlines the agreement between the County of Hidalgo and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) regarding their collaboration on the Knapp Community Care Foundation planning grant application.

### **Background**

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) is applying for a planning grant from the Knapp Community Care Foundation. This letter confirms LRGVDC's intent to create a multiphase plan with cost estimates aimed at enhancing the facilities at the main campus in Weslaco, Texas.

LRGVDC will employ innovative practices and technology to establish a Strategic Enhancements Initiative working group/subcommittee. This group will support public involvement and stakeholder interviews. If successful in obtaining the planning grant, LRGVDC intends to pursue an implementation grant to execute several proposed enhancements, which include but are not limited to:

- Upgrading the marquee sign to promote regional initiatives and planning partner activities.
- Expanding the walking trail network to encourage walkability and promote safety
- Adding amenities to walking trails, such as planting trees, lighting and emergency poles.
- Improving the parking lot to accommodate the expanded walking trails.

### **Purpose and Tasks**

This letter assures the participation of the County of Hidalgo as one of the two local match sources, assisting LRGVDC in submitting their application. With support from the County of Hidalgo, LRGVDC will:

- Invite county staff to join the Strategic Enhancement Initiative subcommittee.
- Assist with public involvement and make recommendations for approval to the Board of Directors.
- Share the completed plan and data with the County of Hidalgo.
- Use this planning grant to apply for an implementation grant in a future Knapp Community Care Foundation funding round.

### **Funding**

LRGVDC is requesting a \$20,000 planning grant. To meet the grant requirements, LRGVDC has solicited \$5,000 each from the County of Hidalgo and the City of Weslaco as a local match. The main campus is located within the jurisdictions of both entities, justifying this request. With contributions from the City of Weslaco and the County of Hidalgo, LRGVDC aims to increase the total grant amount by nearly 66%.

---

Honorable Judge Richard Cortez  
Judge, Hidalgo County

---

Manuel Cruz  
Executive Director, LRGVDC