



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

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**Exhibit A - Budget Amendments**

#	ARPA Project No.	ARPA Project Name	Prior Budget	New Budget
1	22-110-090	Communication Interoperability	\$64,751.58	\$64,591.58
2	23-115-336	Assistance for Hidalgo County Repairs and Maintenance Services	\$500,000.00	\$497,060.05
3	23-115-339	Hidalgo County Technology Modernization	\$5,310,905.00	\$6,019,700.00
4	22-200-043	Cybersecurity Detection and Response	\$1,679,916.50	\$1,680,595.00



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American Rescue Plan Act 2021

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## **Project Description**

**Project Name:**

Communication Interoperability

**Project Number:**

ARPA-22-110-090

**Department Name:**

Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management

**ARPA Expenditure Category:**

1: Public Health

**ARPA Eligibility Category:**

1.7: Other COVID 19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine) ^

**Project Description:**

Expand EOC Interoperability communication capabilities during Pandemic related responses. The purpose of this project is to connect public-safety radio systems to non public-safety radios using an interoperability patching system. This system will leverage the use of low cost radios to communicate with the higher cost public safety radio. In order to make the systems connect with each other, there is a need to purchase data card services to install in one radio system to connect with the other to make the system operable. Project will be administered through the Office of Emergency Management for county-wide use as applicable. The Expected Timeline for project completion will be 3 to 6 months, based on any supply line issues for equipment.

Treasury enumerates Improvements to or construction of emergency operations centers and acquisition of emergency response equipment (e.g., emergency response radio systems) and Costs of establishing public health data systems, including technology infrastructure.<sup>1</sup> The system will assist in COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts by facilitating timely information exchange in the Operations Exchange Center vital in coordinating response efforts to vaccination, testing and distribution locations related to public health measures and the ongoing COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Pursuant to the Final Rule, commenters asked whether “enhancement of public health data systems” could include investments in software, databases and other information technology resources that support responses to the COVID-19 public health emergency but also provide benefits for other use cases and long-term capacity of public

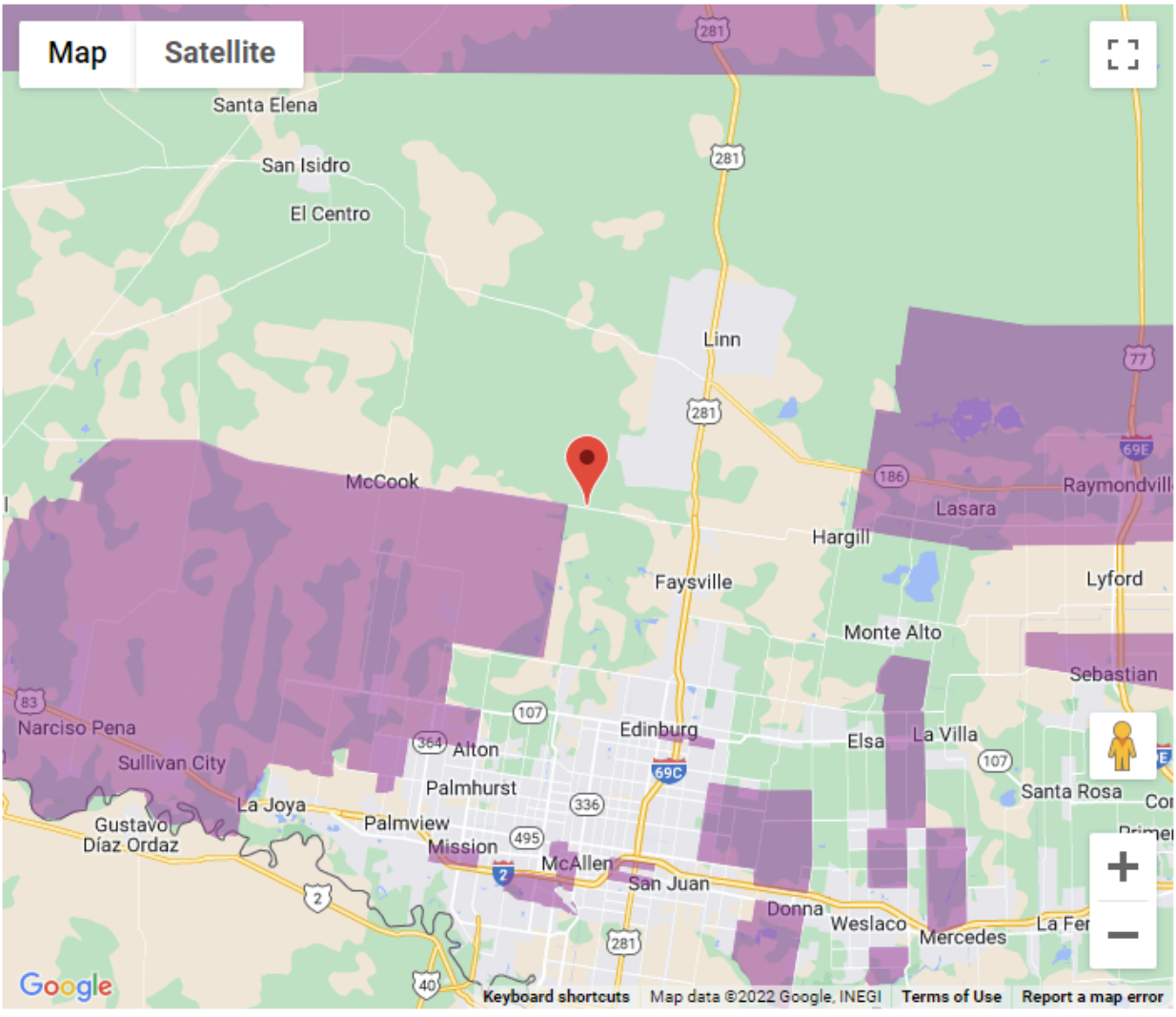
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<sup>1</sup> Department of the Treasury. (2022) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18) p. 4354

health departments and systems. According to the Treasury, these are permissible uses of funds under the interim final rule and remain eligible under the final rule.<sup>2</sup>

**Fiscal Impact:** \$64,591.58

Below is the 2022 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)

<sup>2</sup> Department of the Treasury. (2022) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18) p. 4354



## **Project Description**

**Project Name:**

Assistance for Hidalgo County Repairs and Maintenance Services

**Project Number:**

ARPA-23-115-336

**Department Name:**

Budget and Management

**ARPA Expenditure Category:**

6: Revenue Replacement

**ARPA Eligibility Category:**

6.1: Provision of Government Services

**Project Description:**

The Assistance for Hidalgo County Repairs and Maintenance Services project will allocate ARPA Relief Funds for the repairs and maintenance expenditures of law enforcement equipment which are crucial in maintaining code standards for utilization. These provisions will provide safe and sustainable repairs and maintenance which will enable employees to continue performing essential services to continue the response capabilities to our community.

“Treasury continues to believe that the lists of activities that either are or are not providing government services are accurate but is clarifying here that, generally speaking, services provided by the recipient governments are “government services” under the interim final rule and final rule, unless Treasury has stated otherwise. Government services include, but are not limited to...the provision of police, fire, and other public safety services.”<sup>1</sup>

**Fiscal Impact:** \$497,060.05

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



## 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.<sup>1</sup>

**Fiscal Impact:** \$6,019,700.00

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

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## **Project Description**

**Project Name:**

Cybersecurity Detection and Response

**Project Number:**

ARPA-22-200-043

**Precinct/Department Name:**

Information Technology

**ARPA Expenditure Category:**

1: Public Health

**ARPA Eligibility Category:**

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

**Project Description:**

The Cybersecurity Detection and Response project will provide monitoring, detection and response tools, services and other necessary provisions to the Information Technology Department to reduce the possibility of a successful cyber attack. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, governments set restrictions in response to the coronavirus pandemic that have encouraged employees to work from home and stay at home. Due to the rise in remote workers, there has been an increase in vulnerabilities and compromised accounts. The project will increase the detection and response with alerts of malicious or questionable activity on the data infrastructure as well as provide an analysis of the environment for any addressable vulnerabilities. Through this project, the County of Hidalgo will be able to provide a cyber-safe remote-work environment, which has become crucial and essential to continue the county efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Cybersecurity infrastructure investments that are designed to improve the reliability and resiliency of new and existing broadband infrastructure. Such investments may include the addition or modernization of network security hardware and software tools designed to strengthen cybersecurity for the endusers of these networks.<sup>1</sup>

**Fiscal Impact:** \$1,680,595.00

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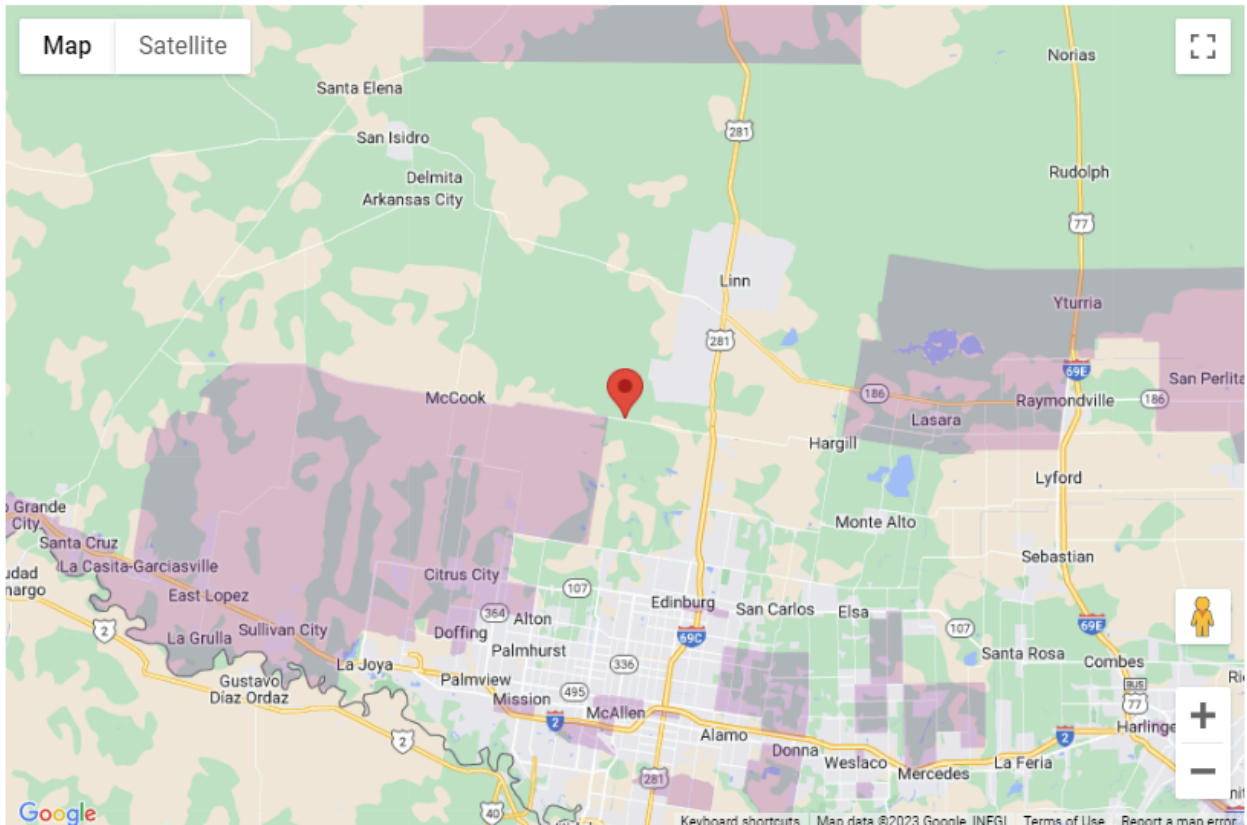
<sup>1</sup> Department of the Treasury. (2022). Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. *Federal Register*, 87(18), p. 4452



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^ Below is the Qualified Census Tract Analysis for Hidalgo County



Source: Office of Policy Development and Research 2022 and 2023 Small Difficult Development Areas (DDAs) and Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs)