

Date: January 29, 2025

LRGVDC

2025 STATEMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES

LRGVDC Member

Hidalgo County

Amount:

\$46,529.00

Please make check payable to the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council and mail to 301 W. Railroad St. Weslaco, TX 78596-5104

(Please return lower portion of this statement with your remittance.)

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Please pay from copy of invoice/credit memo

PO #

Acct # 5-400-413-30-125-004-0-8

Invoice Received By:

By: [Signature] on 2/3/25

Goods/Services Received By:

Hidalgo Co on 2025

(Please return lower portion of this statement with your remittance.)

RECEIVED

Feb 13 2025

By: [Signature] Executive Office



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

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 Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza Mission..... 1st Vice President
 Judge Aurelio Guerra, Willacy County..... 2nd Vice President
 Mayor John Cowen, Jr, Brownsville..... Secretary
 Mayor Ramiro Garza, Edinburg Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

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- David A. Garza
Commissioner, Cameron County
- Ellie Torres
Commissioner, Hidalgo County
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Mayor, Alamo
- David Moreno
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- Alma Salinas
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Mayor, San Benito
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Delta Lake Irrigation District
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- Jim Darling
Member-at -Large
- Tony Chavez
Member-at-Large
- Ann Williams Cass
Member-at-Large
- Lupita Sanchez Martinez
Grassroots Organizations

MEMORANDUM

TO: LRGVDC General Membership

CC: Crystal Balboa, Finance Director

FROM: Manuel Cruz, Executive Director

SUBJ: Membership Dues

DATE: January 29, 2025

Thank you for your continued membership in the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC), the Regional Council of Governments for Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties.

As you are aware, active membership in LRGVDC's association of local governments supports regional collaborative efforts and qualifies your entity for projects, plans and programs from the estimated 99% of state and federal funding received for continued development and prosperity across our region. Additionally, members shall have access to LRGVDC meeting room facilities, to include virtual platforms, (when available), project technical assistance and LRGVDC's governing body support of initiatives and efforts in alignment with the 2025-2030 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) & Lower Rio Grande Valley Strategic Plan.

Membership fees are based on population for the general governments (county, city, etc.) or an annually approved fixed fee for special purpose units: educational institutions, school districts, water districts, etc.)

To retain membership status and voting privileges, dues must be paid by March 31, 2025, before the May 2025 elections take place.

This year I've enclosed a "Get to Know LRGVDC" One Pager. It's hard to capture all the work the LRGVDC does in one page, and we know there is more to our region's stories!

In advance, thank you for your participation in this great organization and for your support. If you have any questions or if there is anything the LRGVDC can be doing to assist you, please do not hesitate to let us know.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 Manuel "Manny" Cruz

Get to Know the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC)



What are COGs?

Councils of governments (COG), regional councils or regional planning commissions are political subdivisions created under Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 391. In Texas there are 24 COGs and are members of the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) that assists by representing COGs before state, federal agencies and legislators.

LRGVDC Mission?

Encourage and permit local units of gov't to join and cooperate with one another and with representatives of major economic interests, citizen groups and groups experiencing economic distress to improve the health, safety, and general welfare of their citizens and to plan for future development of the Region.

Texas COG regions are made up of counties, cities, school districts and special districts and were developed from 1966 to the early 1970s.

Regional councils are political subdivisions but have no authority to make laws, levy taxes or exercise police powers.

Each council's policy decisions are made by its board of directors. At least two-thirds of this governing body must be elected officials from participating counties or municipalities.

COG activities typically include planning for:



Workforce Development



Housing Programs



Emergency Communications



Transportation Planning & Rural Transit



Disaster Preparedness & Recovery



Community & Economic Development



Aging & Disability Resource Centers



Services & Supports for Older Texans



Environmental Quality

How are COGs funded?

COGs primarily receive funding through federal grants but also receive funding from state and local sources. Serve as fiscal agents for RGVMPPO, RGV9-1-1, Region M.

\$1.02 BILLION

The amount of funding that Texas' 24 member COGs collectively received, administered and awarded in revenue from federal, state and local sources in FY2020. Each COG is **required by statute** to report certain data annually, including the amount and source of funds expended and received. They are frequently audited, both by funders and by independent auditing firms.

The Value of Regionalism

Texas' 24 COGs are comprised of city, county and special district members working together to implement cost-effective, results-oriented strategies that address statewide and local needs on a regional scale for more than 50 years.

99.9% of LRGVDC's funding is utilized for direct services & support benefiting local gov'ts & citizens in the Region.



Local expertise solving regional challenges | COGs are a bridge between federal, state and local governments.



Statewide coverage, regional focus | COGs help local governments find solutions to pressing emerging issues, from water and environmental quality to broadband and planning for older Texans.



Finding common ground across Texas | COGs work with state and federal partners on vital projects and its initiatives.



Building regional partnerships | COGs help spur economic development across Texas by strengthening efficiency and cooperation across geographic boundaries.