



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development
451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
www.hud.gov
espanol.hud.gov

**Environmental Assessment
Determinations and Compliance Findings
for HUD-assisted Projects
24 CFR Part 58**

Project Information

Project Name: 2024-Elsa-Parks,-Recreational-Facility-Improvements

HEROS Number: 900000010429030

Start Date: 10/02/2024

Project Location: 616 W. Ciro Casares, Elsa, TX 78543

Additional Location Information:

Location: Mario Leal City Park: 616 W. Ciro Casares Elsa, TX 78543

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

Project consists of the purchase and installation of lighting and all related appurtenances. Other expenditures include professional engineering services, surveying, geotechnical and construction material testing fees, and advertisement as they pertain to project completion.

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Program Name	
B24-UC-48-0501	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) (Entitlement)	\$214,014.00

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$214,014.00

Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]: \$214,014.00

Mitigation Measures and Conditions [CFR 1505.2(c)]:

Summarized below are all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition
Permits, reviews, and approvals	No permits, reviews, or additional approvals are required for the construction of the Elsa Parks and Recreation lighting project. The scope of work involves minimal ground disturbance and takes place within an existing developed public park, eliminating the need for local, state, or federal permitting.

Project Mitigation Plan

No mitigation measures are required for this project as no significant adverse impacts were identified in the environmental review process. The project will comply with all applicable regulations, and general construction practices will ensure the site remains safe and clean.

Determination:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Finding of No Significant Impact [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.13] The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of human environment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finding of Significant Impact

Preparer Signature:  Date: 06/06/25

Name / Title/ Organization: Anita Jenny, Division Mgr. III / / HIDALGO COUNTY

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: 6/6/2025

Name/ Title: Joel Rivera Ph.D. / UCP Director / Authorized Signatory

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environment Review Record (ERR) for the activity / project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

Request for Release of Funds and Certification

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development

OMB No. 2506-0087
(exp. 04/30/2027)

This form is to be used by Responsible Entities and Recipients (as defined in 24 CFR 58.2) when requesting the release of funds, and requesting the authority to use such funds, for HUD programs identified by statutes that provide for the assumption of the environmental review responsibility by units of general local government and States. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 36 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control number.

Part 1. Program Description and Request for Release of Funds (to be completed by Responsible Entity)

1. Program Title(s) CDBG	2. HUD/State Identification Number B-24-UC-48-0501	3. Recipient Identification Number (optional)
4. OMB Catalog Number(s)	5. Name and address of responsible entity Hidalgo County Urban County Program 1916 Tesoro Street Pharr, Texas 78577	
6. For information about this request, contact (name & phone number) Joel Rivera Ph.D. / UCP Director 956-787-8127	7. Name and address of recipient (if different than responsible entity)	
8. HUD or State Agency and office unit to receive request HUD-San Antonio Office of Community Planning & Development HF Garcia Federal Bldg./US Courthouse 615 E. Houston St., Suite 347, San Antonio	The recipient(s) of assistance under the program(s) listed above requests the release of funds and removal of environmental grant conditions governing the use of the assistance for the following	
9. Program Activity(ies)/Project Name(s) 2024 Elsa Parks and Recreational Facility Improvements	10. Location (Street address, city, county, State)	

11. Program Activity/Project Description

Elsa Parks & Recreational Facilities Improvements	\$214,014.00
<p>Project consists of the purchase and installation of lighting and all related appurtenances. Other expenditure include professional engineering services, surveying, geotechnical and construction material testing fees, and advertisement as they pertain to project completion.</p>	


Part 2. Environmental Certification (to be completed by responsible entity)

With reference to the above Program Activity(ies)/Project(s), I, the undersigned officer of the responsible entity, certify that:

1. The responsible entity has fully carried out its responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action pertaining to the project(s) named above.
2. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the environmental procedures, permit requirements and statutory obligations of the laws cited in 24 CFR 58.5; and also agrees to comply with the authorities in 24 CFR 58.6 and applicable State and local laws.
3. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and its implementing regulations 36 CFR 800, including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, and the public.
4. After considering the type and degree of environmental effects identified by the environmental review completed for the proposed project described in Part 1 of this request, I have found that the proposal did did not require the preparation and dissemination of an environmental impact statement.
5. The responsible entity has disseminated and/or published in the manner prescribed by 24 CFR 58.43 and 58.55 a notice to the public in accordance with 24 CFR 58.70 and as evidenced by the attached copy (copies) or evidence of posting and mailing procedure.
6. The dates for all statutory and regulatory time periods for review, comment or other action are in compliance with procedures and requirements of 24 CFR Part 58.
7. In accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b), the responsible entity will advise the recipient (if different from the responsible entity) of any special environmental conditions that must be adhered to in carrying out the project.

As the duly designated certifying official of the responsible entity, I also certify that:

8. I am authorized to and do consent to assume the status of Federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.5 list of NEPA-related authorities insofar as the provisions of these laws apply to the HUD responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action that have been assumed by the responsible entity.
9. I am authorized to and do accept, on behalf of the recipient personally, the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the enforcement of all these responsibilities, in my capacity as certifying officer of the responsible entity.

Signature of Certifying Officer of the Responsible Entity X 	Title of Certifying Officer UCP Director / Authorized Signatory
	Date signed 06/23/2025
Address of Certifying Officer Hidalgo County Urban County Program 1916 Tesoro Street, Pharr, Texas 78577	

Part 3. To be completed when the Recipient is not the Responsible Entity

The recipient requests the release of funds for the programs and activities identified in Part 1 and agrees to abide by the special conditions, procedures and requirements of the environmental review and to advise the responsible entity of any proposed change in the scope of the project or any change in environmental conditions in accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b).

Signature of Authorized Officer of the Recipient X	Title of Authorized Officer
	Date signed

We, the undersigned, certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct. WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties. (18 U.S.C. §§ 287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 3802)

Bush's Points of Light aims to double US volunteerism

BY THAJIA BEATY
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Points of Light, the nonprofit founded by former President George H.W. Bush, will lead an effort to double the number of people who volunteer with U.S. charitable organizations from 75 million annually to 150 million in 10 years.

The ambitious goal, announced in New Orleans at the foundation's annual conference, which concluded Friday, would represent a major change in the way Americans spend their time and interact with nonprofits.

It aspires to mobilize people to volunteer with nonprofits in the U.S. at a scale that only federal programs like AmeriCorps have in the past.

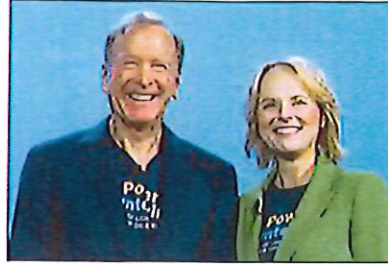
It also coincides with deep federal funding cuts that threaten the financial stability of many nonprofits and with an effort to gut AmeriCorps volunteers, which sent 200,000 volunteers

all over the country. A judge on Wednesday paused those cuts in some states, which had sued the Trump administration.

Jennifer Strangelo, president and CEO of Points of Light, said that while the campaign has been in development well before the federal cuts, the nonprofit's board members recently met and decided to move forward.

"What our board said was, 'We have to do it now. We have to put the stake in the ground now. It's more important than it was before the disruption of AmeriCorps,'" she said in an interview with The Associated Press. She said the nonprofit aims to raise and spend \$100 million over the next three years to support the goal.

Points of Light, which is based in Atlanta, was founded by President George H.W. Bush to champion his vision of volunteerism. It has carried on his tradition of giving out a daily award to a volunteer around the



Points of Light president and CEO Jennifer Strangelo and Neil Bush, chair, speak at the 2025 Points of Light Conference in New Orleans, Friday, June 6, 2025.

country, built a global network of volunteer organizations and cultivated corporate volunteer programs.

Speaking Wednesday in New

Orleans, Points of Light's board chair Neil Bush told the organization's annual conference that the capacity volunteers add to nonprofits will have a huge impact

on communities.

"Our mission is to make volunteering and service easier, more impactful, more sustained," Bush said. "Because, let's be honest, the problems in our communities aren't going to fix themselves."

According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau and AmeriCorps, the rate of participation has plateaued since 2002, with a noticeable dip during the pandemic.

Susan M. Chambré, professor emerita at Baruch College who studied volunteering for decades, said Points of Light's goal of doubling the number of volunteers was admirable but unrealistic, given that volunteer rates have not varied significantly over time.

But she said more research is needed into what motivates volunteers, which would give insight into how to recruit people. She also said volunteering has become more transactional over time, directed by staff as opposed to organized by volunteers themselves.

COMBINED NOTICE TO PUBLIC NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS

Publication date: June 7, 2025.

HIDALGO COUNTY - URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM
1916 Tesoro Street, Pharr, Texas 78577 - 956-787-8127

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS:

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Hidalgo County Urban County Program.

REQUEST OF RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about June 22, 2025, the Hidalgo County - Urban County Program will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of federal funds under Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development of the Act of 1974, to undertake the following projects:

- Project #1 Title:** 2024 Elsa Parks & Recreational Improvements
- Purpose:** This project will allow the residents to have an upgraded lighting in Mario Leal City Park in The City of Elsa, Texas.
- Location:** 616 W. Ciro Caceres Street, Elsa, Texas 78543
- Project Description:** Project consists of the purchase and installation of lighting and all related appurtenances. Other expenditure include professional engineering services, surveying, geotechnical and construction material testing fees, and advertisement as they pertain to project completion.
- Project Issues:** An Environmental assessment was completed in compliance with 24 CFR Part 58.
- Mitigation Measures:** There is no instance in which any type of mitigation, additional consultation and/or special permitting is required.
- Conditions/Permits (if any):**
- Estimated Project Cost:** Total estimated HUD Funds: \$214,014.00
Total project cost (HUD and non-HUD Funds): \$214,014.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Hidalgo County Urban County Program has determined that the projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) is what documents the environmental determinations for these projects and is on file at Hidalgo County Urban County Program located at 1916 Tesoro Street, Pharr, TX 78577 and can be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., or by calling the UCP office at 956-787-8127. No further environmental reviews of said projects are proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of federal funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR by mail to the County of Hidalgo Urban County Program at 1916 Tesoro Street, Pharr, Texas 78577 or via email to ucp@co.hidalgo.tx.us. All comments received by June 22, 2025 will be considered by the Hidalgo County Urban County Program prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Hidalgo County Urban County Program certifies to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that Richard F. Cortez, in his capacity as Hidalgo County Judge consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Hidalgo County Urban County Program to use Program Funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will accept objections to its release of funds and the Hidalgo County certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) if they are on one of the following bases: (a) That the certification was not, in fact, executed by this certifying officer of the Hidalgo County; or (b) Hidalgo County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR; or (c) The grant recipient or other participants in the development process has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Section 58.76 and shall be addressed to the HUD San Antonio Field Office at: GDPROFESAN@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the HUD office via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Joel Rivera, Ph. D.
UCP Director

Richard F. Cortez
Hidalgo County Judge

AVISO COMBINADO AL PÚBLICO AVISO DE LA CONCLUSIÓN DE IMPACTO NO SIGNIFICATIVO Y AVISO DE INTENCION DE SOLICITAR LA LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS

Fecha de publicación: 7 de junio de 2025.

HIDALGO COUNTY - URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM
1916 Tesoro Street, Pharr, Texas 78577 - 956-787-8127

A TODAS LAS AGENCIAS, GRUPOS Y PERSONAS INTERESADAS:

Estos avisos cumplen con dos requisitos procedimentales separados pero relacionados para las actividades que llevar a cabo el Programa Urbano del Condado de Hidalgo.

SOLICITUD DE LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS

En o alrededor del 22 de junio de 2025, el Programa Urbano del Condado de Hidalgo presentará una solicitud al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos para la liberación de fondos federales bajo el Programa de Subvenciones para el Desarrollo Comunitario (Community Development Block Grant) bajo el Título I de la Ley de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de 1974, para llevar a cabo los siguientes proyectos:

- Título del Proyecto #1:** Mejoras en Parques e Instalaciones Recreativas de Elsa 2024
- Propósito:** Este proyecto permitirá a los residentes contar con una iluminación mejorada en el Parque Mario Leal de la Ciudad de Elsa, Texas.
- Ubicación:** 616 W. Ciro Caceres Street, Elsa, Texas 78543
- Descripción del Proyecto:** El proyecto consiste en la compra e instalación de iluminación y todos los accesorios relacionados. Otros gastos incluyen servicios profesionales de ingeniería, levantamientos topográficos, estudios geotécnicos y pruebas de materiales de construcción, así como publicidad relacionada con la finalización del proyecto.
- Problemas del Proyecto:** Se completó una Evaluación Ambiental en cumplimiento con el Título 24 del Código de Regulaciones Federales (24 CFR) Parte 58.
- Medidas de Mitigación:** No existe ninguna instancia en la que sea necesario aplicar algún tipo de mitigación.
- Condiciones/Permisos:** consulta adicional y/o permisos especiales.
(en caso de existir):
- Costo Estimado del Proyecto:** Total estimado de fondos de HUD: \$214,014.00
Costo Total del Proyecto (Fondos de HUD y Fondos No relacionados con HUD): \$214,014.00

DETERMINACIÓN DE LA AUSENCIA DE UN IMPACTO SIGNIFICATIVO

El Programa Urbano del Condado de Hidalgo ha determinado que los proyectos no tendrán un impacto significativo en el entorno humano. Por lo tanto, no se requiere una Declaración de Impacto Ambiental conforme a la Ley de Política Ambiental Nacional de 1969 (NEPA). Un Registro de Revisión Ambiental (ERR) es el documento que documenta las determinaciones ambientales para estos proyectos y se encuentra archivado en el Programa Urbano del Condado de Hidalgo, ubicado en 1916 Tesoro Street, Pharr, TX 78577, y puede ser examinado o copiado de lunes a viernes de 8:00 A.M. a 12:00 P.M. y de 1:00 P.M. a 5:00 P.M., o llamando a la oficina de UCP al 956-787-8127. No se propone realizar revisiones ambientales adicionales de dichos proyectos antes de la solicitud de liberación de fondos federales.

COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS

Cualquier individuo, grupo o entidad puede enviar comentarios por escrito sobre el ERR por correo al Programa Urbano del Condado de Hidalgo, en la dirección 1916 Tesoro Street, Pharr, Texas 78577, o por correo electrónico a ucp@co.hidalgo.tx.us. Todos los comentarios recibidos antes del 22 de junio de 2025 serán considerados por el Programa Urbano del Condado de Hidalgo antes de autorizar la presentación de una solicitud de liberación de fondos. Los comentarios deben especificar a qué Aviso están haciendo referencia.

CERTIFICACIÓN AMBIENTAL

El Programa Urbano del Condado de Hidalgo certifica ante el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos que Richard F. Cortez, en su capacidad de Juez del Condado de Hidalgo, da su consentimiento para aceptar la jurisdicción de los Tribunales Federales en caso de que se presente una acción para hacer cumplir las responsabilidades relacionadas con el proceso de revisión ambiental que estas responsabilidades se han cumplido. La aprobación del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos de la certificación satisface sus responsabilidades bajo NEPA y las leyes y autoridades relacionadas, y permite al Programa Urbano del Condado de Hidalgo utilizar los fondos del Programa.

OBJECIONES A LA LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS

El Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos (HUD) aceptará objeciones a la liberación de fondos y la certificación del Condado de Hidalgo durante un periodo de quince días después de la fecha anticipada de presentación o su recepción real de la solicitud (lo que ocurra más tarde), solo si se basan en una de las siguientes razones: (a) que la certificación no fue ejecutada de hecho por el funcionario certificante del Condado de Hidalgo; o (b) que el Condado de Hidalgo ha omitido un paso o no ha tomado una decisión o hallazgo requerido por las regulaciones del HUD en 24 CFR; o (c) el beneficiario de la subvención u otros participantes en el proceso de desarrollo han comprometido fondos o incurrido en costos no autorizados por 24 CFR Parte 58 antes de la aprobación de la liberación de fondos por parte del HUD; o (d) una agencia federal que actúa de conformidad con 40 CFR Parte 1504 ha presentado un hallazgo por escrito de que el proyecto es insatisfactorio desde el punto de vista de la calidad ambiental. Las objeciones deben ser preparadas y enviadas por correo electrónico de acuerdo con los procedimientos requeridos (24 CFR Parte 58, Sección 58.76) y deben dirigirse a la Oficina de Campo de HUD en San Antonio a la siguiente dirección de correo electrónico: GDPROFESAN@hud.gov. Los posibles objetores deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina de HUD por correo electrónico para verificar el último día del periodo de objeción.

Joel Rivera, Ph. D.
UCP Director

Richard F. Cortez
Hidalgo County Judge

THE MONITOR

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT
State of Texas
County of Hidalgo

Mercedes Contreras being duly sworn on her oath states that she is the Legal Account Representative of THE MONITOR a semi-weekly newspaper in Hidalgo County and that the attached notice did print in the following issue:

June 7, 2025

Mercedes Contreras

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 16th day of June A.D. 2025

Norm J. Barr

Notary Public, Hidalgo County

