

L&G Engineering

Transportation Consultants

September 10th, 2026

The Honorable David L. Fuentes
Commissioner, Pct. 1
Attn.: Danny Guzman ROW Agent
1902 Joe Stevens Avenue, Ste. 101
Weslaco, Texas 78596

RE: County: Hidalgo
RCSJ No. 0921-02-355
Parcel No. 123
MILE 6W: From : 14.5-11 Mile

Dear Commissioner Fuentes:

Attached herewith is a counter-offer as submitted by Arturo A. Cervantes owner of Parcel 123 on September 10th, 2026. L & G Engineering has reviewed the aforementioned and hereby recommends that counter-offer **be approved**. Also attached is the N-9, Administrative Settlement Evaluation and Approval Form.

L & G Engineering believes the counter offer is within an acceptable range of value and we recommend that the counteroffer of **\$4,000.00** be accepted.

Please review these documents and feel free to contact me at (956) 585-1909 if you wish to discuss this matter personally.

Sincerely,


Fred Herrera
Right of Way Administrator

Attachments: As noted.
cc: File



HIDALGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE EVALUATION AND APPROVAL FORM

ROW CSJ: 0921-02-355

Highway: Mile 6 West

Parcel No.: 123

Owner's Name: Arturo A. Cervantes

Approved Offer: \$2,420.00

Owner's Counteroffer: \$4,000.00

County: Hidalgo

Project Limits: From Mile 14.5 to Mile 11

Date Offer Sent: October 14th, 2025

Date Counteroffer Received: 9/10/2026

Factors considered in evaluation:

1. Valuation Issues

- a. ☐ Reconciliation of all available appraisals, including Owner's.
- b. ☒ Other: Property owner feels that the offer amount doesn't fully compensate for the caliche he put into the driveway, the transition of the mailbox and the movement of the gates in front of the property that will also have to be moved.

2. Legal Issues

- a. ☒ Analysis of recent court awards on similar properties or projects.
- b. ☒ Analysis of recent court decisions which may affect the outcome of a condemnation action.
- c. ☐ Analysis of previously unlitigated issues.
- d. ☐ Other: _____

3. Cost Savings

- a. ☒ Approximate cost to litigate through Special Commissioners' Hearing \$15,000.00
- b. ☒ Approximate additional cost to litigate through jury trial \$20,000.00
- c. ☐ Other: _____

4. Timing Issues

- a. ☒ Maintain project schedule: 12/2027
Possession of this property is needed by: 9/2026
Projected possession date, if settled is: 9/2026
Projected possession date, if condemned is: 3/2027
Letting date: 12/2027
- b. ☐ Other: _____

5. Other Issues

☐ _____

** The following documents have been considered and are incorporated by reference: appraisals, appraisal review form, owner's counteroffer and supporting documentation, negotiator's log, and _____

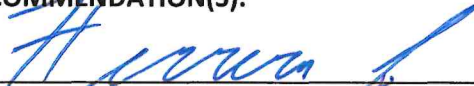
Analysis and Conclusion:

Our ☒ approval/ ☐ disapproval recommendation is based on the items checked above and has been evaluated as follows: (attach additional sheets as necessary)

Parcel 123 is a partial acquisition containing 2,488 sq. ft., parcel of land situated in Hidalgo County, Texas and also being a part or portion of a 4.807 acre tract of land out of Farm Tract 287, WEST AND ADAMS TRACTS SUBDIVISION. On October 14th 2025, Acquisition Provider(L&G) mailed an offer of \$2,420.00 to purchase the property to Arturo A. Cervantes. On September 10th, 2026, the property owner submitted a counteroffer in the amount of \$4,000.00. In his offer he stated that the offer amount doesn't fully compensate for the caliche he put into the driveway, the transition of the mailbox and the movement of the gates in front of the property that will also have to be moved. Based on the information provided within the counteroffer and discussion by the acquisition team, it is recommended that the Administrative Settlement should be approved. The difference between the approved value versus the property owner's counteroffer (a difference of \$1,580.00).

This administrative settlement of \$ 4,000.00 ☒ is / ☐ is not recommended for approval as being reasonable, justified, prudent and in the public interest.

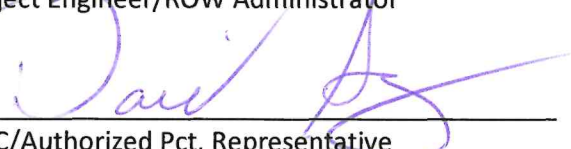
RECOMMENDATION(S):



Project Engineer/ROW Administrator

9/11/2026

Date



RPIC/Authorized Pct. Representative

9/14/26

Date

COUNTY APPROVAL:

County Judge

Date

Sep. 10, 2026

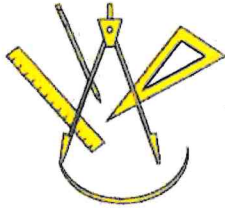
To Whom It May Concern,

I, Arturo A. Cervantes, reject the offer of \$2,420 for the purchase of land in my property that is in front of the power plant on Mile 12 + 6.

I would like to present a counter offer of \$4,000. The reason being are as follow. First, I spent money on adding some caliche to the driveway entrance. Second, I will have to move and replace my mailbox. Lastly, the gates at the entrance will also have to be moved and replaced. All this will require money to be performed. I will be awaiting your response to my offer.

Thank You

* Arturo A. Cervantes



L&G Engineering

Transportation Consultants

October 14, 2025

***Via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested
No. 9589 0710 5270 0706 0156 26***

County: Hidalgo
Federal Project No.: N/A
Highway: Mile 6 West

ROW CSJ: 0921-02-355
Parcel: 123
From: Mile 14.5
To: Mile 11 N.

Arturo A. Cervantes
416 E Sugar Cane Drive
Weslaco, Texas 78599-4030

Dear Mr. Arturo A. Cervantes:

In acquiring property for the highway system of Hidalgo County (the "County") follows a definite procedure for appraising the land needed and for handling personal negotiations with each owner. ~~As has been or will be explained by the County's negotiator, Fernando Herrera Right of way Manager, a portion of your property located on Mile 6 West, as described in the enclosed property description, is to be acquired for the construction or improvement of the above-referenced highway project.~~

We believe at this stage of the purchase process it is mutually beneficial to confirm that, based on an appraisal, the County is authorized to offer you **\$2,420.00** for your property, which includes **\$2,420.00** for the property to be purchased and **\$0.00** for damages to your remaining property. This amount is the total amount of just compensation for all interests in the portion of your property to be acquired, as determined in accordance with State law, less oil, gas and sulphur, subject to clear title being conveyed to the County. In accordance with State law, it is the policy of the County to negotiate with the fee owner(s) of the real property with the understanding that you will, in turn, negotiate with any lessee or other party who may own any interest in the land or improvements, with the exception of public utility easements, which will be handled separately by the County.

This offer to purchase includes the contributory values of the improvement(s) listed below, which are considered to be part of the real property. Since the improvement(s) must be removed, it is the policy of the County to permit owners who convey voluntarily to the County to thereafter retain the improvement(s), if they wish to do so. The retention values shown below are the estimated amounts the improvement(s) would bring if sold on public bids. If you wish to retain title to any of the following improvement(s) and remove it (them) from the right of way, the amount of the above offer must be reduced by the appropriate retention amount(s). This option to retain the improvement(s) does NOT apply should it become necessary for the County to acquire the real property by eminent domain.

<u>Improvement</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount to be Subtracted if Retained</u>
A. Driveway	Caliche – 254 SF.	\$1.00

If you wish to accept the offer based upon this appraisal, please contact Project Manager Robert "Bob" Garcia or Fernando Herrera Right of Way Manager, as soon as possible at (956) 585-1909, so that the process of issuing your payment may be started. If you are not willing to accept this offer, you may submit a written request for administrative settlement/counteroffer, setting forth a counteroffer amount and the basis for such amount, *provided such settlement request is received in writing within 30 days from the date of this letter.* Please note that your opportunity to submit an administrative settlement shall be forfeited if such a settlement request is not received by the County within the 30 day time deadline. In the event the condition of the property changes for any reason, the County shall have the right to withdraw or modify this offer.

After the date of payment of the purchase price, or the date of deposit in court of funds to satisfy the award of compensation as determined through eminent domain proceedings to acquire real property, you will be reimbursed for any fair and reasonable incidental expenses necessarily incurred in transferring title to the property for use by Hidalgo County. Expenses eligible for reimbursement may include (1) recording fees, transfer taxes and similar expenses incidental to conveying the real property to



the County and (2) penalty costs for prepayment of any preexisting recorded mortgage entered into in good faith encumbering the real property. Voluntary unnecessary expenses or expenses incurred in clearing questionable title will not be eligible for reimbursement. Eligible incidental expenses will be reimbursed upon submission of a claim supported by receipted bills or other evidence of actual expenses incurred. You may file a written request for review if you believe that the County failed to properly determine the eligibility for, or the amount of, incidental expenses to be reimbursed. There is no standard form on which to request a review of a claim; however, the claim must be filed with this office within six months after you are notified of the County's determination on any claim for reimbursement.

You may be entitled to additional payments and services under the County's Relocation Assistance Program. It is emphasized, however, that any benefits to which you may be entitled under this program will be handled entirely separate from and in addition to this transaction. You will receive a brochure entitled "*Relocation Assistance*" which will inform you of eligibility requirements, payments and services which are available.

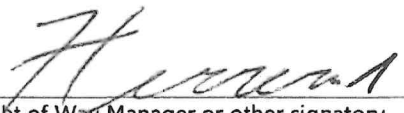
You have the right to discuss with others any offer or agreement regarding the County's acquisition of the subject property, or you may (but are not required to) keep the offer or agreement confidential from others, subject to the provisions of Chapter 552, Government Code (the Public Records Act) as it may apply.

Attached is a copy of the Texas Department of Transportation brochure entitled "*Right of Way Purchase*" which we trust will give you a better understanding of the procedures followed by the County in purchasing property. We respectfully request the opportunity to meet with you or to otherwise discuss and answer any questions you may have regarding the details of the type of facility to be built, or concerning the County's offer or proposed purchase transaction. Also, please do not hesitate to contact Project Manager Robert "Bob" Garcia or Fernando Herrera Right of Way Manager at the telephone number provided above regarding any question you may have.

Please see the enclosed copy of the Texas Landowner Bill of Rights.

Finally, we enclose copies of all appraisal reports relating to your property being acquired which were prepared in the ten (10) years preceding the date of this offer and produced or acquired by the County, including the appraisal on which this offer is based.

Sincerely,



Right of Way Manager or other signatory

ENCLOSURES:
Appraisal Report(s)
Landowner Bill of Rights
Brochure ("*Right of Way Purchase*")

[illegible]

Item No.	Improvement Type	Type Construction	Improvement Value	Retention Value	Bisection Category
		Total	\$254.00	\$1.00	

TABULATION OF VALUES (continued)

Parcel: 123

Highway: Mile 6 West Road-Phase II ROW CSJ: 0921-02-355

III. Damages and Enhancements

Total Non-Exempt Damages	Enhancements	Exempt Damages	Net Damages
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

IV. Sign Values

Item No.	Sign Owner	Type Construction	Improvement Value	Retention Value	Bisect. Cat.
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Total	\$0.00	\$0.00	

V. Recapitulation

Date:	2/5/2025			Recommended Value
Appraiser's Name:	Leonel Garza III.			
Value of Whole Property	\$623,166.00			\$623,166.00
Parcel Area: 0.057 Acres				
VALUE FOR PARCEL				
Land: per ac. 38,000	\$2,166.00			\$2,166.00
Easement	\$0.00			\$0.00
Improvements	\$254.00			\$254.00
Net Damages or (Enhancements)	\$0.00			\$0.00
OAS Value(s)	\$0.00			\$0.00
TOTAL COMPENSATION	\$2,420.00			\$2,420.00

Calculations for Net Damages or (Enhancements) considers Direct Access Denial damages.

TABULATION OF VALUES (continue)

Parcel: 123

Highway: Mile 6 West Road-Phase II ROW CSJ: 0921-02-355

VI. Comments and Conclusions on Values in the Appraisal Report

Appraiser: Leonel Garza III
Effective Date of Report: February 5, 2025
Report Dated: March 20, 2025
Review Appraiser: Harvey L. Heerssen
Effective Date of Review: March 25, 2025

Parcel 123 is a partial taking of 0.057 acres (2,488 sf.) parcel of land situated in Hidalgo County, Texas and also being a part or a portion of a 4.807-acre tract of land out of Farm Tract 287 West and Adams Tracts Subdivision according to the plat or map thereof recorded in Volume 2, Pages 34-37, of the Map Records of Hidalgo County, according to a deed dated December 10, 2012, from Vida Properties, LLC., to Arturo Cervantes and recorded in Document Number 2365435 of the Official Records of Hidalgo County, Texas.

The whole property is located on the west side of Mile 6 West Road, and addressed at 7561 Mile 6 West Road, Weslaco, Texas. The whole tract is vacant land with the exception of caliche drive. The highest and best use is for residential use.

The appraiser has selected three (3) vacant sales to value the whole property at \$38,000 per acre. The part taken is properly valued as a pro-rata part of the whole value. There are no market damage to the remainder land.

The appraiser has considered access damages in accordance with Section 21.042(d) of the Texas Property Code, as amended by SB18 of the Texas 82nd Regular Legislative Session. The result of the findings is that there is no denial of direct access nor material impairment of direct access on or off the remaining property that affects the market value of the remaining property. Therefore, there are no access damages to the remainder property.

The report prepared by the appraiser Leonel Garza III. is an Appraisal Report presented on TxDOT form ROW-A-5 and appears to comply with USPAP and the Texas Department of Transportation's Appraisal and Review Manual. The appraisers' opinion and conclusions appear to be well supported by information contained within this appraisal report. It is recommended that the total value of \$2,420 be approved for negotiations and acquisition.

VII. Justification and Explanation for Credit if Retained.

A retention of \$1.00 is applied to the caliche drive to encourage retention and removal.



Form ROW-A-5
(Rev. 08/11)

REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL REPORT - TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Address of Property: 7561 Mile 6 W, Weslaco, Texas
 Property Owner: Arturo A. Cervantes
 Address of Property Owner: 416 E Sugar Cane Drive, Weslaco, Texas
 78599-4030

District: Pharr
 Parcel: 123
 ROW CSJ: 0921-02-355

Occupant's Name: Arturo A. Cervantes
 Whole: ☐ Partial: ☒ Acquisition

Federal Project No: N/A
 Highway: Mile 6 West Road Phase II County: Hidalgo

Purpose of the Appraisal

The purpose of this appraisal is to estimate the market value of the fee simple title to the real property to be acquired, encumbered by any easements not to be extinguished, less oil, gas and Sulphur. If this acquisition is of less than the whole property, then any special benefits and /or damages to the remainder property must be included in accordance with the laws of Texas.

Market Value

Market value is defined as follows: "Market Value is the price which the property would bring when it is offered for sale by one who desires, but is not obliged to sell, and is bought by one who is under no necessity of buying it, taking into consideration all of the uses to which it is reasonably adaptable and for which it either is or in all reasonable probability will become available within the reasonable future."

Certificate of Appraiser

I hereby certify:

That it is my opinion the total compensation for the acquisition of the herein described property is \$2,420 as of February 5, 2025, based upon my independent appraisal and the exercise of my professional judgment;

That on February 5, 2025, I personally inspected in the field the property herein appraised; that I afforded Arturo A. Cervantes, the property owner or the representative of the property owner, the opportunity to accompany me at the time of the inspection;

That the comparables relied upon in making said appraisal were as represented by the photographs contained in the appraisal report and were inspected on February 27, 2025;

That I have not revealed and will not reveal the findings and results of such appraisal to anyone other than the proper officials of L&G Engineering Transportation Consultants Inc., Hidalgo County Precinct No. 1 and or the Texas Department of Transportation, and/or their representatives, or officials of the Federal Highway Administration until authorized by State officials to do so, or until I am required to do so by due process of law, or until I am released from this obligation by having publicly testified to such findings;

That my compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined value or direction in value that favors the cause of the client, the amount of the value estimate, the attainment of a stipulated result, or the occurrence of a subsequent event.

The appraiser has considered access damages in accordance with Section 21.042(d) of the Texas Property Code, as amended by SB18 of the Texas 82nd Regular Legislative Session and finds as follows:

1. Is there a denial of direct access of the parcel? No
2. If so, is the denial of direct access material? Not Applicable
3. The lack of any access denial or the material impairment of direct access on or off the remaining property affects the market value of the remaining property in the sum of \$ 0.00.

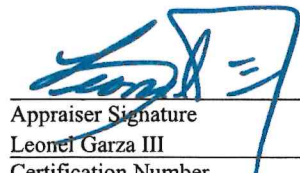
I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief:

That the statements of fact contained in this report are true and correct;

That the reported analysis, opinions and conclusions are limited only by the reported assumptions and limiting conditions, and are my personal, unbiased professional analysis, opinions, and conclusions;

That I have no present or prospective interest in the property that is the subject of this report, and I have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved;

That my analysis, opinions and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared in conformity with the appropriate State laws, regulations, and policies and procedures applicable to the appraisal of right-of-way for such purposes, and that to the best of my knowledge no portion of the value assigned to such property consists of items which are non-compensable under the established law of said State, and any decrease or increase in the fair market value of subject real property prior to the date of valuation caused by the public improvement for which such property is to be acquired, or by the likelihood that the property would be acquired for such improvement, other than that due to the physical deterioration within the reasonable control of the owner, has been disregarded in estimating the compensation for the property.


 Appraiser Signature
 Leonel Garza III

Certification Number
 TX-1328375 G

Date: March 20, 2025

To the best of my knowledge, the value does not include any items which are not compensable under State law.


 Reviewing Appraiser

4/2/2025
 Date

