



COUNTY OF HIDALGO, §  
STATE OF TEXAS §

**CARES ACT INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS, AND THE  
MCALLEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

THIS Agreement is made on and entered into effective as of the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020, by and between **COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS**, hereinafter referred to as (“County”), and **MCALLEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT** hereinafter referred to as (“District”), collectively referred to as “Parties” and pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act (“Act”), Chapter 791, et seq., Texas Government Code, as follows:

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, the District is organized as an Independent School District under the laws of the State of Texas for the purpose of educating and providing other activities with assist and benefit the youth and general community within its district boundary, and within the boundary of Hidalgo County; and

**WHEREAS**, the County is defined as a “Local Government” under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, a political subdivision organized under the laws of the State of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the County and District and their respective constituents have been affected by the COVID-19/Coronavirus public health emergency and the resulting Federal, State and Local disaster declarations and executive orders regarding the same; and

**WHEREAS**, the County, pursuant to its statutory and constitutional authority, are responsible for the safety and wellbeing of the citizens; the District pursuant to its statutory authority, is responsible for the safety and well-being of its students, employee, faculty and administration, and both are desirous that necessary services and equipment are available to respond and mitigate the public health emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the County and the District are authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to the Act, which authorizes local governments to contract with each other and with agencies of the state, to perform governmental functions and services under the terms of the Interlocal Cooperation Act; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to facilitate compliance with current public health measures related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the County established the Hidalgo County Public Access Wi-Fi 2020 Project (hereinafter “Project”) to assist the citizens of the County with

distance learning, including technological improvements, as well as improving telework capability, in connection with school and business closings; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency, County, in cooperation with District, has identified and is working toward developing innovative learning strategies that include access to a Public Internet Wi-Fi network as part of the Project. The Project goal is to provide free internet access to identified areas within each District and County that will enable online distance learning as well as improving telework capabilities for families that do not have the means to provide internet access. The system will be designed to support wireless devices, including laptops, iPads, and other personal devices used to access online classes and telework capabilities.

**WHEREAS**, County and District desire to enter into this agreement for a public purpose and for the benefit of the residents of County and District in that access to online learning will assist in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in classrooms and schools, protecting our children, our teachers, and all school staff and to further detail each party's duties and responsibilities; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, County and District in consideration of the mutual covenants expressed hereinafter, agree as follows:

### **I. PROVISIONS OF SERVICES**

Through this Agreement the **PARTIES** will develop a cooperative program to provide services as follows:

Purpose of Agreement:

1. The purpose of this agreement is to establish cooperation between the **County** and **District** on an "as needed basis" in order to coordinate the **County's** ongoing efforts and use of all available resources for the Public Internet Access Wi-Fi Network Project in an effort to facilitate compliance with current public health measures related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The participation of DISTRICT in this initiative shall consist of the following:

1. In an effort to assist the citizens of the **County** and **District** with distance learning, including technological improvements, as well as improving telework capability, in connection with school and business closings, **District** will provide **County** with access to one or more **District** premises, as mutually agreeable to **County** and **District**, for the sole purposes of placing communications equipment devices and/or tower/poles **devices** on District property. Requests will be made in writing by **County** to **District** prior to the placement of any devices needed to facilitate the Public Internet Access Wi-Fi Project and thereafter, will only be placed on **District** property with consent and approval of **District**.
2. **District** will communicate directly with the **County's** designated point of contact to facilitate specific, written requests for assistance from the **District** for the **County's** efforts to provide a Public Internet Access Wi-Fi in order to provide educational information and distance learning resources to its constituents aimed at mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

The participation of COUNTY in this initiative shall consist of the following:

1. **County** will designate a point of contact to streamline communications between the **District** and **County** and all Elected Offices and Departments.
2. **County** will acquire the services of a vendor to design and implement a Public Internet Access Wi-Fi Network in order to provide educational information and distance learning resources to its constituents aimed at mitigating the spread of COVID-19.
3. **County** will acquire necessary equipment, hardware and software for the Public Internet Access Wi-Fi Network Project. Equipment will be installed on **District** premises on an as needed basis in the mutually agreed upon selected areas of each **County** Precinct.
4. **County** shall obtain **District's** prior written consent to coordinate access to **District's** premises, or should any alterations, additions, or improvements be needed to assist with the **County's** efforts to provide a Public Internet Access Wi-Fi Project.

5. **County** shall be responsible for installation, repairs and maintenance in connection with equipment and/or assets on **District** Premises utilized for the purpose of assisting the **County** with efforts to provide a Public Internet Access Wi-Fi Project.
6. **County** shall be responsible for costs associated with the repair and maintenance of equipment and/or **County** assets placed on **District** Premises utilized for the purpose of assisting the **County** with its efforts to provide a Public Internet Access Wi-Fi Project.

## **II. TERM OR AGREEMENT**

The term of this agreement is for the lifetime of the Public Internet Access Wi-Fi Network; it will begin on date of execution, **and extend until terminated by either party or mutual agreement of the PARTIES**. Upon termination, alterations, additions, or improvements made by **County** shall become the property of **District**, unless **District** requests removal of the same. **County** shall repair any damage to **District** Premises caused by such removal.

## **III. COMPENSATION**

**County** will receive no reimbursement from **District** for any services provided under the agreement. Requests for financial assistance presented by **District** will be considered, reviewed and subsequently approved to the extent they meet the requirements of the CARES Act Guidance in that they are directly related to the **County's** efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

## **IV. NOTICES**

All notices or other writing required under this Agreement shall be deemed to have been made when sent by mail to the following address:

**TO MCALLEN INDEPENDENT:  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Attn: Jose A. Gonzalez  
2000 N. 23rd St.  
McAllen, TX 78501956-618-6000

**TO COUNTY:**

County of Hidalgo  
Attn: Richard Cortez, County Judge  
100 E. Cano  
Edinburg, TX 78539

With CC to:  
Purchasing Services  
McAllen ISD  
Alejandra.gonzalez@mcallenisd.net

With CC to:  
Daniel Salinas  
Hidalgo County Director of  
Information Technology  
daniel.salinas@co.hidalgo.tx.us

## **VI. TERMINATION**

This Agreement may be amended, modified or terminated by agreement of the **PARTIES**. Further, the agreement may be terminated by either party by giving thirty (30) days written notice via certified mail, return receipt requested to the other party hereto of the intention to terminate.

## **VII. LAW GOVERNING VENUE**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, and, obligations and undertakings of each of the **PARTIES** to this Agreement shall be performable in Hidalgo County, Texas.

## **VIII. LIABILITIES**

This Agreement is not intended to extend the liability of the **PARTIES** beyond that provided by law. Neither party waives, nor shall be deemed to have hereby waived, any immunity or defenses that would otherwise be available to it against claims arising from third parties.

## **IX. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS**

The parties hereto covenant and agree that they will execute such other and further instruments and documents as are or may become necessary or convenient to effectuate and carry out the terms of this Agreement.

## **X. GOVERNMENTAL PURPOSE**

Each party hereto is entering into this agreement for the purpose of providing for governmental services or functions and will pay for such services out of current revenues available to the paying party as herein provided.

**XI. APPENDIX II TO CFR 200-CONTRACT PROVISIONS**

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.236, a non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions described in Appendix II to 2 CFR 200-Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards. Therefore, if applicable, the provisions of Appendix II to 2 CFR 200 are attached and incorporated by reference into this County contract should it be subject to Federal award.

**XII. NON-DISCRIMINATION**

The Agreement and all related activities shall be conducted in a manner that does not discriminate against any person on a basis prohibited by applicable law or County and District policy, including without limitation race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

**WITNESS THE HANDS OF THE PARTIES** effective as of \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

**DISTRICT**

Conrado Alvarado  
Conrado Alvarado (Sep 18, 2020 16:30 CDT)  
Conrado Alvarado, President, Board of Trustees

**ATTEST**

Tony [Signature]  
Tony [Signature] (Sep 18, 2020 16:48 CDT)  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

**HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS**

Richard Cortez  
Richard Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge  
Clerk

ATTEST  
Arturo Guajardo, Jr.  
Arturo Guajardo, Jr. Hidalgo County  


APPROVED AS TO FORM FOR DISTRICT:

Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez, LLP  
Stephen L. Crain  
By: Stephen L. Crain (Sep 17, 2020 15:15 CDT)  
Honorable Steve Crain

APPROVED BY  
COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
ON: 8/18/20

APPROVED AS TO FORM FOR THE COUNTY:

Office of Criminal District Attorney  
Ricardo Rodriguez, Jr.  
By: Victor M. Garza  
Victor M. Garza, ADA