



2812 S. Bus. Hwy 2811  
 Edinburg, Texas 78539  
 Phone: (956) 318-2626  
 Fax: (956) 318-2629  
 www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/purchasing

## TRANSMITTAL FORM

Today's Date:	01/04/2021	Department:	240 - Health & Human Service - Human Services Division
Contract No.:	C-20-677-12-22	Effective Date:	12/22/2020
Description of Project:	ILCA - UTRGV/HC - Surveillance and Screening of Arboviral Diseases in the Lower Rio Grande Valley		
Awarded Vendor:	UTRGV		
CC Approval on	12/22/2020	AI-	78812

### Routing of documents:

- 1. Executive Office – Attn: Monica Salinas
- 2. District Attorney's Office – Attn: Victor Garza
- 3. County Judge's Office – Attn: Richard F. Cortez
- 4. County Clerk's Office – Attn: Arturo Guajardo, Jr.
- 5. Purchasing Department – Attn: JD Cortez ext. 4882

### ATTENTION COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE:

Please do not attach the following to the minutes of this agenda due to the confidential nature of the information contained herein:

- Contract/Agreement
- Exhibit A – Scope of Services to be provided by the County
- Exhibit B – Scope of Services to be provided by Architect
- Exhibit C – Certificate of Liability Insurance
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. AI-78817 Requesting approval of the agreement between Hidalgo County and Guzman & Munoz Engineering & Surveying, Inc. - C-20-235-12-22 for the provision of "On-Call Surveying Services for projects located within Precinct 4. (Audio Reference 53m:44s)

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 2, EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on item 18.F.2.

**Vote:** 4 - 0 – Unanimously

**G. Health & Human Services Dept.**

1. AI-78812 Requesting approval to renew the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and The County of Hidalgo. The purpose of the Agreement is surveillance and screening of Arboviral (Anthropod-borne) diseases in the Lower Rio Grande Valley (Audio Reference 54m:02s)

Commissioner Flores stepped away from the meeting and did not return.

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 2, EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on item 18.G.1.

**Vote:** 3 - 0 -Unanimously

2. AI-78857 Acceptance and approval of Amendment #1 to C-20-182-06-09, goERO International, LLC d/b/a ERO Architects for Testing/Bio-Safety Laboratory Facility for the additional scope of work as detailed in the document attached herein. (Audio Reference 54m:31s)

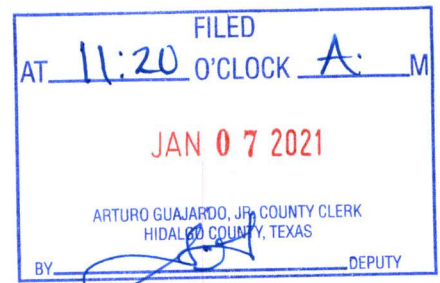
On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 2, EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on item 18.G.2.

**Vote:** 3 - 0 -Unanimously

3. AI-78860 Requesting approval of revised proposal with an increase of **\$2,361.70**, to awarded contractor, Herrcon through (CC AI-77753- Regular), due to required NDE (non-destructive examination) of concrete cylinder testing, required per Structural Engineered drawings, for a new project total of **\$442,275.26**. (Audio Reference 55m:00s)

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 2, EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on item 18.G.3.

**Vote:** 3 - 0 -Unanimously



STATE OF TEXAS §  
 COUNTY OF HIDALGO §

**INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
 RIO GRANDE VALLEY AND THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO**

**Surveillance and Screening of Arboviral Diseases in the Lower Rio Grande Valley**

This Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (Agreement”) is made on this 22nd day of December, 2020 by and between The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, (“UTRGV”), and the County of Hidalgo, acting by and through the Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department (“County”), (collectively, the “Parties”), and pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act, Texas Govt. Code 791.001 et seq., (“Act” ), as follows:

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, UTRGV is a political subdivision as defined by the Act, an Agency of the State of Texas organized under Chapter 79 of the Texas Education Code, an institution of higher education as defined by Texas Education Code Section 61.003(8), and is a component institution of The University of Texas System and has a campuses in Hidalgo County, Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, County is a “local government” as defined by the Act, and a political subdivision of the State of Texas, and the Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department is a Health Department within the network of the Texas Department of State Health Services in Edinburg, Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, UTRGV desires to provide an educational and research program experience of the highest quality for its students, under the direction of UTRGV personnel, through health promotion, education, recreation, disease prevention, community development, and other services which will be provided under this agreement (the “Program”); and

**WHEREAS**, UTRGV is willing to collaborate with County to promote health and community self-interest in the County by deepening the understanding of the prevalence and risk of arboviral diseases in the region; and

**WHEREAS**, UTRGV is willing to provide surveillance screening and vector-identification in collaboration with the County at no cost, based on duration and availability of funds for each of the Parties;

**WHEREAS**, UTRGV and County are authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to the Act, which authorizes local governments to cooperate with to perform governmental functions and services under the terms of the Texas Government Code;

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, in order to establish and implement the Program involving Surveillance and Screening of Arboviral Diseases in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, the Parties agree to collaborate for the provision of the services through the Program as follows:

**1) The Program will:**

- a. Promote exchanges between both Parties through frequency communication of surveillance results and activities;
- b. Develop protocols for transport and testing of locally collected mosquito, flea, tick, and other arthropod specimens for identification and testing (if warranted due to increased probability of infection);
- c. Develop protocols for transport and testing of locally collected, de-identified blood, urine, and other bodily fluid samples (as needed) to be tested at the Western Gulf Center for Excellence in Vector-Borne Disease, UTRGV Campus, while following guidelines required by the UTRGV approved IRB protocol (approval pending).
- d. Allow for the immediate dissemination of positive results of these tests to the HCHHSD in the event of identification of an infected sample.
- e. State that the identification of a positive sample is not a diagnostic result, but merely a screening survey and additional testing will be required for positive confirmation of infected human samples;
- f. Allow for dissemination of results to scientific meetings, publications, or other venues as agreed upon by both parties.

**2) Coordinator Contact Information:**

The Parties hereby designate the following individuals to coordinate, oversee and facilitate the implementation of this Program:

For UTRGV: Christopher Vitek, Associate Professor  
1201 West University Drive, Science Building 2.324  
Edinburg, TX 78539  
956-665-2845  
[Christopher.vitek@utrgv.edu](mailto:Christopher.vitek@utrgv.edu)

For County: Eduardo Olivarez, Chief Administrative Officer  
1304 South 25<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Edinburg, TX 78539  
[Eddie.olivarez@hchd.org](mailto:Eddie.olivarez@hchd.org)

**3) Responsibilities of Designated Coordinators:**

- a. To promote collaboration between the Parties to facilitate the goals of this Agreement;
- b. To act as principal contacts for individual and group activities and to plan and coordinate all activities within their organizations as well as with partner organizations;
- c. To share with each Party information about the participants, facilities, outreach efforts, and resources of the other organization; and
- d. To meet periodically to review and evaluate past activities and to work out new ideas for future cooperative agreements.

**4) Transfer of Materials:**

County may deliver to UTRGV samples collected in connection with the Program and/or services performed under this Agreement. The transfer of such samples from County to UTRGV shall be done under a simple "Letter Agreement" in the form attached as Attachment "A", and incorporated herein by reference.

**5) General Provisions**

- a. **Term and Termination.** This Agreement shall commence as of the day and year first written above, and remain in effect until the 22nd\_\_day of \_December\_\_\_\_, 2021. This Agreement may automatically renew for four (4) additional one (1) year terms under the same terms and conditions, or as amended by written agreement between the Parties. The Agreement may be terminated earlier by either party in accordance with this Agreement. Either Party may terminate this Agreement without cause by giving the other party ninety (90) days' written notice.
- b. **Independent Contractors.** For the purposes of this Agreement and all services to be provided hereunder, the Parties are independent contractors and not agents or employees of the other Party. Neither Party shall have the authority to make any statements, representations nor commitments of any kind, or to take action, which shall be binding on the other Party, except as expressly provided herein or authorized in writing. Under no circumstances shall any employee or student of UTRGV be considered an agent or employee of County; they will be

considered to be on the premises for the purpose of participating in the Program. County has no authority to dismiss UTRGV employees or students without UTRGV's consent. However, County Facility personnel may make recommendations to and shall retain its full power to control the practice and operations of a County.

- c. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter and no prior or contemporaneous agreements, written or oral, will be effective to vary the terms of those agreements. No amendment to this Agreement shall be effective unless reduced to a writing specifically referencing this Agreement and signed by an authorized representative of each Party.
- d. **Compliance.** The Parties will comply with applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations in the performance of this Agreement including applicable, confidentiality and safety regulations.
- e. **Waiver.** No waiver by any party hereto of any breach of any provision of the Agreement shall be deemed to be a waiver of any preceding or succeeding breach of the same or any other provision hereof.
- f. **Notice.** Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in the Agreement, all notices, demands, request or communication required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall either be (i) personally delivered against a written receipt, or (ii) send by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid and addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth below, or at such other addresses as may have been theretofore specified by written noticed delivered in accordance herewith:

If to County: Richard Cortez  
Hidalgo County Judge  
100 E. Cano  
Second Floor  
Edinburg, TX 78539

With a copy to: Eduardo Olivarez  
Chief Administrative Office  
Department of Health  
Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department  
1304 South 25<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Edinburg, Texas 78542

If to UTRGV: Office of Technology Commercialization  
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
1201 W. University Drive  
Edinburg, Texas 78539-2999

Each notice, demand, request, or communication which shall be delivered or mailed in the manner described above shall be deemed sufficiently given for all purposes at such time as it is personally delivered to the addressee or, if mailed at such time as it is deposited in the United State mail.

- g. **Controlling Law.** This Agreement shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, and all obligations of the parties created hereunder are performable in Hidalgo County, Texas.
- h. **Additional Documents.** The Parties agree that they will use reasonable, good faith efforts to execute each 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.
- i. **Assignment.** This Agreement may not be assigned by either party without written consent of the other party.
- j. **Non-Discrimination.** The Program 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 UTRGV and/or County policy, including without limitation race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.
- k. **Liabilities.** This Agreement is not intended to extend the liability of the Parties beyond that provided by law. Neither UTRGV nor County waive, 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.
- l. **Performance of Governmental Functions.** The Parties hereto are entering into this Agreement for the purpose of providing for governmental services or functions. The Parties understand that the costs regarding the services to be provided under this Agreement are to be paid for by the Party who incurs the cost. Nothing contained in this Agreement is to be construed as providing for the sharing of profits or losses arising out of the efforts of either or both Parties. Neither Party will be liable to the other for any costs, expenses, risks or liabilities arising out of the other Party's efforts in connection with this Agreement.
- m. **Commitment of Current Revenues.** In the event that during the term hereof, the governing body of any Party does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of such party under this Agreement, then any party may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice to the other party. Each of the parties hereto agrees to use its best efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this Agreement. The Parties intend this provision to be a continuing right to terminate this Agreement at the expiration of each budget period of each Party hereto.

EXECUTED by the County of Hidalgo and The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in duplicate copies, each of which will be deemed an original.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY**


DocuSigned by:  
By: Karen Martirosyan  
OF06 Karen Martirosyan, Ph.D.  
Associate VP for Research Enhancement

**COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS**

By: Richard T Cortez  
Richard Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge

ATTEST:

By: Arturo Guajardo, Jr.  
Arturo Guajardo, Jr., Hidalgo County Clerk



**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

**Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office  
Ricardo Rodriguez, Jr.**

By: Victor M. Garza  
Victor M. Garza, Assistant District Attorney

C-20-677-12-22

APPROVED BY  
COMMISSIONERS COURT  
ON: 12/22/20 jm