

Report to Congress for Future Water Resources Development (WRRDA 7001) Submission Package

Proposal Name: Lower Rio Grande Valley Watershed Assessment

Submission Date: 08/27/2019

Proposal ID Number: 40751924-f828-4ede-b687-c828f78b6110

Purpose of Proposal: The proposed study will determine problems, needs and opportunities within the watershed by involving study partners, water and related land resources interests, resource agencies and the public. Hurricane Harvey of 2017 resulted in a presidential disaster declaration that encompassed all Texas coastal counties except for the 3 southern most - Kennedy, Willacy and Cameron. The following June (2018) brought deluging floods in Hidalgo, Willacy and Cameron counties that resulted in tens of millions of dollars of damage. With no national stream gauging monitoring stations and hydrologic models that ignore the impact of man-made irrigation ditches and drainage canals, the region's ability to plan, forecast and prepare for the impact of hydrologic extreme is severely limited. The proposed watershed assessment will include a holistic hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) assessment of the Lower Rio Grande Valley basin. Local drainage and municipal storm-water management programs and issues will be identified, characterized and aggregated into a geo-tagged compendium of local measures and methods that influence regional H&H, water quality and flooding. Flood protection strategies for flood prone areas within the LRGV basin will be developed and list of structural and nonstructural measures that could be taken before a flood event will be determined. The H&H study will be augmented to characterize watershed based ecological issues, including the identification of impaired and potentially impaired waters, along with ongoing and proposed watershed protection and characterization projects. Existing watershed characterization and protection projects will be integrated into a regional ecological assessment. The results of the regional H&H study will be integrated with the regional ecological assessment to produce a comprehensive water resource management plan that will be the final work-product of the watershed assessment.

1. Administrative Details

Proposal Name: Lower Rio Grande Valley Watershed Assessment

by Agency: Cameron County, Texas

Locations: TX

POC Name: Natural Resource Engineer

POC Phone:

POC Email:

Date Submitted: 08/27/2019

Confirmation Number: 40751924-f828-4ede-b687-c828f78b6110

Supporting Documents

File Name	Date Uploaded
USACE Resoulution Cameron.pdf	08/27/2019
Soluth Laguna Madre Drainage Basin.pdf	08/27/2019
LRGV Watershed Assessment Proposal Narrative.pdf	08/27/2019
USACE Resolution Harlingen 2019-30.pdf	08/27/2019
USACE Resolution Hidalgo.pdf	08/27/2019
USACE Resolution Willacy.pdf	08/27/2019
USACE LoS RATES.pdf	08/27/2019
USACE LoSCoastal Cities.pdf	08/27/2019

2. Provide the name of the primary sponsor and all non-Federal interests that have contributed or are expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.

Sponsor	Letter of Support
Cameron County, Texas(Primary)	Cameron County supports this Sec 7001 proposal, which will work synergistically to manage regional flood risks with flood risk management studies and projects in partnership with USACE. Hidalgo County supports this Sec 7001 proposal, which will work synergistically to manage regional flood risks with flood risk management studies and projects in partnership with USACE. Willacy County supports this Sec 7001 proposal, which will work synergistically to manage regional flood risks with flood risk management studies and projects in partnership with USACE. The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee supports this Sec 7001 proposal, which will work synergistically to manage regional flood risks with flood risk management studies and projects in partnership with USACE.

3. State if this proposal is for new feasibility study authority, a modification to an existing feasibility study authority, a modification to an existing USACE project authority, or a modification to an existing USACE Environmental Infrastructure Program authority. If it is a proposal for a modification to an existing study, project or program authority, provide the authorized water resources development feasibility study or project name.

New Feasibility Study Authority

4. Clearly articulate the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification. Demonstrate that the proposal is related to USACE mission and authorities and specifically address why additional or new authorization is needed.

The proposed study will determine problems, needs and opportunities within the watershed by involving study partners, water and related land resources interests, resource agencies and the public. Hurricane Harvey of 2017 resulted in a presidential disaster declaration that encompassed all Texas coastal counties except for the 3 southern most - Kennedy, Willacy and Cameron. The following June (2018) brought deluging floods in Hidalgo, Willacy and Cameron counties that resulted in tens of millions of dollars of damage. With no national stream gauging monitoring stations and hydrologic models that ignore the impact of man-made irrigation ditches and drainage canals, the region's ability to plan, forecast and prepare for the impact of hydrologic extreme is severely limited. The proposed watershed assessment will include a holistic hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) assessment of the Lower Rio Grande Valley basin. Local drainage and municipal storm-water management programs and issues will be identified, characterized and aggregated into a geo-tagged compendium of local measures and methods that influence regional H&H, water quality and flooding. Flood protection strategies for flood prone areas within the LRGV basin will be developed and list of structural and nonstructural measures that could be taken before a flood event will be determined. The H&H study will be augmented to characterize watershed based ecological issues, including the identification of impaired and potentially impaired waters, along with ongoing and proposed watershed protection and characterization projects. Existing watershed characterization and protection projects will be integrated into a regional ecological assessment. The results of the regional H&H study will be integrated with the regional ecological assessment to produce a comprehensive water resource management plan that will be the final work-product of the watershed assessment.

5. To the extent practicable, provide an estimate of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification.

	Federal	Non-Federal	Total
Study	\$4,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$6,000,000
Construction	\$325,000,000	\$175,000,000	\$500,000,000

Explanation (if necessary)

SEC. 729. RIO GRANDE VALLEY. a. FLOOD RISK REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE.--The Secretary shall determine the feasibility of and proceed with engineering, design, and construction of projects to provide for flood risk management and resilience improvements to rainfall drainage systems in Cameron, and Hidalgo and Willacy Counties, Texas. b. COST SHARING.--The cost of any work performed by non-Federal interests subsequent to date of the feasibility report referred to in subsection (a) and determined by the Secretary to be a compatible and integral part of the feasibility study shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the study. c. FUNDING.--There is authorization to be appropriated \$500,000,000 for initiation and partial accomplishment of projects described in the report referred to in subsection (a). d. OBLIGATIONS.--No funds may be obligated in excess of amount authorized by subsection (c) for flood risk reduction and resilience improvement projects to rainfall drainage systems authorized by subsection (a) until the Corps of Engineers determines their feasibility to be carried out with such funds is technically sound, environmentally acceptable, and economic, as applicable. e. Using \$10,000,000 of funds appropriated herein, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is authorized and directed to proceed with a feasibility study, engineering, design, and construction of projects, as described in subsection (a). There is authorized to be appropriated \$100,000,000 for the initiation and partial accomplishment of projects described in this report. The cost of any work performed by the non-Federal interests subsequent to the above cited report, as determined by the Secretary of the Army to be a compatible and integral part of the feasibility study, shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the projects.

6. To the extent practicable, describe the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.

The constructed project would reduce flood damages to properties and provide for increased resilience to flooding of properties, transportation systems, energy industries, and critical infrastructure, in the Rio Grande Valley, on the order of \$1 Billion. Given that the coast of Texas provides for significant energy production and distribution, reducing flood risks of industries and its workers who reside in flood-prone areas, and providing for greater resiliency, is a National security benefit. The environmental benefit of providing for this project is reduce risks of water treatment plant and chemical spills due to flooding, which is a threat to human and environmental health and safety. The non-monetary benefits would include reduce risks to loss of life due to regional flooding, especially to residents with insufficient means.

7. Does local support exist? If 'Yes', describe the local support for the proposal.

Yes

Local Support Description

Yes. This proposal enjoys the full support of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVD C) through its Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee. Further, all three counties that make up the geographic area of the LRGVDC Council of Governments are fully engaged and supportive. The Lower Rio Grande Valley TPDES Storm-water Taskforce and the Coastal Cities Taskforce, which together comprise of well over 40 local government entities, are fully supportive of this proposal.

8. Does the primary sponsor named in (2.) above have the financial ability to provide for the required cost share?

Yes

Primary Sponsor Letter of Support

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USACE Resoulution Cameron.pdf

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ON THE 6TH DAY OF AUGUST 2019, THE CAMERON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT, CONVENED IN REGULAR SESSION, AND UPON THE REQUEST OF THE CAMERON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF THE SAID COURT FOR SUCH MEETING, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.041 ET. SEQ., VERNON'S TEXAS CIVIL STATUTES (THE TEXAS OPEN MEETING ACT) TO BE CONSIDERED:

“DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE) PROPOSED SUBMITTAL OF A PROPOSED STUDY ENTITLED LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE PROJECT TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS UNDER SECTION 7001 OF THE WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT (WRRDA) 2014”

WHEREAS, SECTION 7001 OF THE WRRDA 2014, AS AMENDED, REQUIRES THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY ANNUALLY SUBMIT TO THE CONGRESS A REPORT THAT IDENTIFIES, FOR POTENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION, COMPLETED FEASIBILITY REPORTS, PROPOSED FEASIBILITY STUDIES SUBMITTED BY NON-FEDERAL INTERESTS, PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO AUTHORIZED WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OR FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AND PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM AUTHORITIES; AND

WHEREAS, THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT IS TO BE BASED, IN PART, UPON ANNUAL REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR AUTHORIZATION FROM NON-FEDERAL INTERESTS. THE PROPOSAL PERIOD FOR THE 2020 REPORT TO CONGRESS OPENS ON APRIL 29, 2019 FOR 120 DAYS. THE DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS IS AUGUST 27, 2019; AND

WHEREAS, CAMERON, HIDALGO AND WILLACY COUNTIES, IN COORDINATION WITH THE LOWER RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LRGVDC) REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) AND THE LRGV TPDES STORMWATER TASK FORCE (TASK FORCE), A COLAITION COMPRISED OF TWENTY SIX (26) LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, DO SEEK TO SUBMIT THIS PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A HOLISTIC, REGIONAL HYDROLOGIC, HYDRAULIC AND WATERSHED CHARACTERIZATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT; AND

WHEREAS, THE THREE COUNTIES THAT CONSTITUTE THE CORE OF THE LRGVDC'S SERVICE AREA NARROWLY AVOIDED MAJOR IMPACT BY HURRICANE HARVEY. THESE COUNTIES DID, HOWEVER SUFFER SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE DURING THE FLOODS OF JUNE 2018 AND 2019. EXHIBIT A IS A WHITE PAPER THAT DESCRIBES THE USACE REGIONAL INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS SYSTEMIC AND REPEATED FLOODING, WATER QUALITY IMPAIRMENTS AND ECOLOGICAL DEGRADATION WITHIN LRGV IN A HOLISTIC AND INTEGRATED FASHION; AND

WHEREAS, IF FUNDED, THE PRIMARY SPONSOR IS CAMERON COUNTY; AND

WHEREAS, IF FUNDED, THE CO-SPONSORS INCLUDE THE USACE, HIDALGO COUNTY, WILLACY COUNTY AND THE TASK FORCE; AND

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CAMERON COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT WISHES TO SUPPORT THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PROPOSED USACE PROJECT TO THE U.S. CONGRESS UNDER SECTION 7001 OF THE WRDDA ACT TO ADDRESS FLOOD PLANNING, MITIGATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LRGV.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 6TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2019

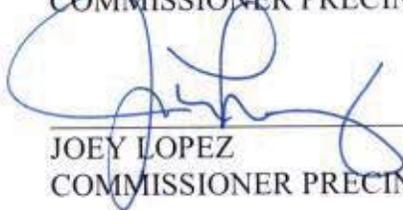
COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS



EDDIE TREVIÑO, JR.
COUNTY JUDGE

Absent

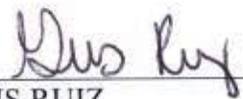
SOFIA C. BENAVIDES
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1



JOEY LOPEZ
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2

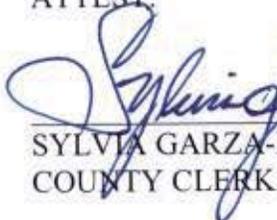
Absent

DAVID A. GARZA
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3



GUS RUIZ
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4

ATTEST:



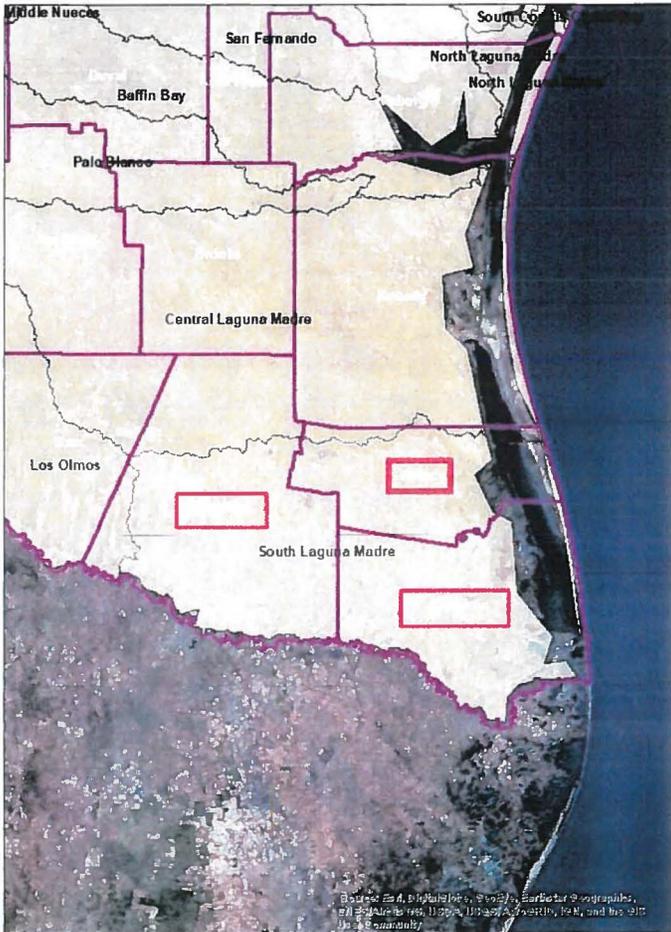
SYLVIA GARZA-PEREZ
COUNTY CLERK



Map Document

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Soluth Laguna Madre Drainage Basin.pdf



Additional Proposal Information

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LRGV Watershed Assessment Proposal Narrative.pdf

LRGV Watershed Assessment Proposal Narrative

Purpose

The proposed watershed assessment will determine problems, needs and opportunities within the Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV) watershed by involving study partners, water and related land resources interests, resource agencies and the public. The outcome of this study will further integrate regional water resource management, by evaluating the range of project options simultaneously to determine the best combination of projects to achieve multiple goals over the entire LRGV basin rather than examining each local project in isolation from others.

Budget

Partner	Local Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Notes
Cameron County	\$800,000	\$1,200,000	\$2,000,000	60%:40%. Local Funding & TX SB 7
Hidalgo County	\$800,000	\$1,200,000	\$2,000,000	60%:40%. Local Funding & TX SB 7
Willacy County	\$400,000	\$1,600,000	\$2,000,000	40%:60%. (Economically Distressed). Local Funding & TX SB 7
Total	\$2,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$6,000,000	67%:33%.

Background

The Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV), located along the southeastern most portion of US-Mexico border, bounded on the east by the Gulf of Mexico, is one of the fastest growing regions in the United States, with primary economic sectors including agriculture, retail service, manufacturing industries, tourism, and commercial fishing – all of which depend on reliable, good quality water supplies. The LRGV is comprised of three counties with diverse socio-economic structures - two coastal counties - Willacy (predominantly agricultural and one of the most economically disadvantaged in Texas) and Cameron (the 13th most populous county in Texas, with an eco-tourism, inter-modal transport-associated heavy coastal industry driven economy), and a third, interior county, Hidalgo (the 7th most populous county in Texas, with a tourism and light manufacturing industry-driven economy). The LRGV has historically been underserved, both in terms of demographic-related services and general federal and state investment.

The LRGV climate is semi-arid, experiencing hydrologic extremes, ranging from extended droughts to extreme flooding caused both by hurricanes and stagnant storm systems. The Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV) is characterized by a flat topography, with five major drainage pathways from west to east – the Raymondville Drain, the Hidalgo Main Drain, the International Boundary Water Commission’s (IBWC) Floodway, the Arroyo Colorado, and the Rio Grande River. This drainage pattern is intersected and cross-hatched with numerous irrigation and drainages canals and ditches dating back to the early 1900’s. This complex hydrography is further confounded by numerous overlapping political jurisdictions and local government entities that often have

conflicting if not contradicting authority and responsibility over stormwater, drainage and flood control.

Hurricane Harvey of 2017 resulted in a presidential disaster declaration that encompassed all Texas coastal counties except for the 3 southern most – Kenedy, Willacy and Cameron. The following June (2018) brought deluging floods in Hidalgo, Willacy and Cameron counties that resulted in tens of millions of dollars of damage. With no national stream gauging stations and hydrologic models that ignore the impact of man-made irrigation ditches and drainage canals, the region's ability to plan, forecast and prepare for the impact of hydrologic extreme is severely limited.

Objectives

The purpose of this project is to conduct a comprehensive and detailed watershed assessment on the Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV). Building on the existing LRGV Stormwater and Coastal Cities Taskforces, a comprehensive regional stakeholder group representing the local decision makers in the region will be formed to help shape the direction and recommendations of the watershed assessment. The proposed watershed assessment will include a holistic hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) assessment of the Lower Rio Grande Valley basin. Local drainage and municipal stormwater management programs and issues will be identified, characterized and aggregated into a geo-tagged compendium of local measures and methods that influence regional H&H, water quality and flooding. Flood protection strategies for flood prone areas within the LRGV basin will be developed and list of structural and nonstructural measures that could be taken before a flood event will be determined. The H&H study will be augmented to characterize watershed-based ecological issues, including the identification of impaired and potentially impaired waters, along with ongoing and proposed watershed protection and characterization projects. Existing watershed characterization and protection projects will be integrated into a regional ecological assessment. The results of the regional H&H study will be integrated with the regional ecological assessment to produce a comprehensive water resource management plan that will be the final work-product of the watershed assessment.

Scope of Work

The watershed assessment will integrate previous data collected, typically at the sub-watershed, political jurisdictional level, while maintaining a rigorous emphasis on basin-scale hydrologic processes and hydrographic features. The study will be executed in a heuristic manner, beginning with basin-scale, major drainage pathway-focused sub-basin delineation, followed by watershed and sub-watershed characterization. Intersections between sub-watersheds and political (and special district - e.g. water/wastewater, drainage and irrigation districts) jurisdictions will be defined to enable translation of non-structural measures into effective implementation. Further, the heuristic methodology will allow progressive integration of actionable intelligence from the five (5) critical operational domains being address - 1) local drainage and municipal stormwater; 2) localized flood warning and mitigation; 3) sub-watershed-based ecological management; 4) management of navigable waterways; and 5) regional hydrology, drainage and flood protection. The proposed water resource management plan will establish what the baseline water quality, drainage and flooding conditions are for the LRGV Basin to develop protection, mitigation and management strategies for the impaired and flood prone areas within the basin and determine a

list of structural and nonstructural measures that could be taken. The proposed water resource management plan will establish what the baseline conditions are for the entire basin, including the areas outside the limits of each responsible political jurisdiction and incorporate (and update) the models of the major channels from county governments, irrigation & drainage districts, and municipalities that have them. This study will also process LiDAR topographic data and field survey data for areas that are out of date or where information is lacking, perform or confirm drainage basin delineations for the major outfall drains within the LRGV Basin, develop hydrologic, hydraulic and water quality models of the major drains within the basin for various storm events using Geo-HMS, perform limited HEC-RAS modeling to evaluate alternative improvement plans for various drainage channels, perform SWMM modeling and analysis of the storm sewer system for these same storm events, and prepare a Capital Improvement Plan outlining recommended improvements to mitigate the water quality impairments, drainage and flooding conditions the basin experiences. By compiling the existing models together and including the missing portions of the basin, the counties, cities, irrigation and drainage districts can help their communities better respond to a flood event and minimize long-term hardships associated by weather events. By knitting together the models of the existing systems within the basin, each entity gains a better understanding of the overall drainage system and can develop solutions outside their district boundaries that would improve the operation of their facilities and minimize the damages caused by flooding, stormwater and drainage.

Additional Proposal Information

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USACE Resolution Harlingen 2019-30.pdf

RESOLUTION No. 2019-30

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ON THE 21st DAY OF AUGUST 2019, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN CONVENED IN REGULAR SESSION AND THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF THE SAID COUNCIL FOR SUCH MEETING, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.041 ET SEQ. VERNON'S TEXAS CIVIL STATUTES (THE TEXAS OPEN MEETING ACT) TO BE CONSIDERED:

“DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE) PROPOSED SUBMITTAL OF A PROPOSED STUDY ENTITLED LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE PROJECT TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS UNDER SECTION 7001 OF THE WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT (WRRDA) 2014”

WHEREAS, WHEREAS SECTION 7001 OF THE WRRDA 2014, AS AMENDED, REQUIRES THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY ANNUALLY SUBMIT TO THE CONGRESS A REPORT THAT IDENTIFIES, FOR POTENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION, COMPLETED FEASIBILITY REPORTS, PROPOSED FEASIBILITY STUDIES SUBMITTED BY NON-FEDERAL INTERESTS, PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO AUTHORIZED WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OR FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AND PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM AUTHORITIES; AND

WHEREAS, THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT IS TO BE BASED, IN PART, UPON ANNUAL REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR AUTHORIZATION FROM NON-FEDERAL INTERESTS. THE PROPOSAL PERIOD FOR THE 2020 REPORT TO CONGRESS OPENS ON APRIL 29, 2019 FOR 120 DAYS. THE DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS IS AUGUST 27, 2019; AND

WHEREAS, WHEREAS CAMERON, HIDALGO AND WILLACY COUNTIES, IN COORDINATION WITH THE LOWER RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LRGVDC) REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) AND THE LRGV TPDES STORMWATER TASK FORCE (TASK FORCE), A COALITION COMPRISED OF TWENTY SIX (26) LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, DO SEEK TO SUBMIT THIS PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A HOLISTIC, REGIONAL HYDROLOGIC, HYDRAULIC AND WATERSHED CHARACTERIZATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ; AND

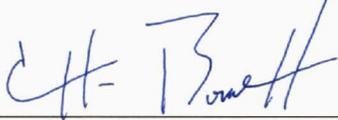
WHEREAS, THE THREE COUNTIES THAT CONSTITUTE THE CORE OF THE LRGVDC'S SERVICE AREA NARROWLY AVOIDED MAJOR IMPACT BY HURRICANE HARVEY. THESE COUNTIES DID, HOWEVER SUFFER SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE DURING THE FLOODS OF JUNE 2018 AND 2019. EXHIBIT A IS A WHITE PAPER THAT DESCRIBES THE USACE REGIONAL INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS SYSTEMIC AND REPEATED FLOODING, WATER QUALITY IMPAIRMENTS AND ECOLOGICAL DEGRADATION WITHIN LRGV IN A HOLISTIC AND INTEGRATED FASHION; AND

WHEREAS, IF FUNDED, THE PRIMARY SPONSOR IS CAMERON COUNTY; AND

WHEREAS, IF FUNDED, THE CO-SPONSORS INCLUDE THE USACE, HIDALGO COUNTY, WILLACY COUNTY AND THE TASK FORCE; AND

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN WISHES TO SUPPORT THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PROPOSED USACE PROJECT TO THE U.S. CONGRESS UNDER SECTION 7001 OF THE WRDDA ACT TO ADDRESS FLOOD PLANNING, MITIGATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LRGV.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 21ST DAY OF AUGUST 2019, BY THE CAMERON COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT.



CHRIS BOSWELL
MAYOR

ATTEST:



Amanda C. Elizondo
City Secretary

Additional Proposal Information

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USACE Resolution Hidalgo.pdf

VERNON'S TEXAS CIVIL STATUTES (THE TEXAS OPEN MEETING ACT) TO BE CONSIDERED:

“DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE) SUBMITTAL OF A PROPOSED STUDY ENTITLED **LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE PROJECT** TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS UNDER SECTION 7001 OF THE WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT (WRRDA) 2014”

WHEREAS, WHEREAS SECTION 7001 OF THE WRRDA 2014, AS AMENDED, REQUIRES THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY ANNUALLY SUBMIT TO THE CONGRESS A REPORT THAT IDENTIFIES, FOR POTENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION, COMPLETED FEASIBILITY REPORTS, PROPOSED FEASIBILITY STUDIES SUBMITTED BY NON-FEDERAL INTERESTS, PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO AUTHORIZED WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OR FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AND PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM AUTHORITIES; AND

WHEREAS, THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT IS TO BE BASED, IN PART, UPON ANNUAL REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR AUTHORIZATION FROM NON-FEDERAL INTERESTS. THE PROPOSAL PERIOD FOR THE 2020 REPORT TO CONGRESS OPENED ON APRIL 29, 2019 FOR 120 DAYS. THE DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS IS AUGUST 27, 2019; AND

WHEREAS, WHEREAS CAMERON, HIDALGO AND WILLACY COUNTIES, IN COORDINATION WITH THE LOWER RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LRGVDC) REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) AND THE LRGV TPDES STORMWATER TASK FORCE (TASK FORCE), A COLAITION COMPRISED OF TWENTY SIX (26) LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, DO SEEK TO SUBMIT THIS PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A HOLISTIC, REGIONAL HYDROLOGIC, HYDRAULIC AND WATERSHED CHARACTERIZATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ; AND

RELATED FLOODING, WATER QUALITY IMPAIRMENTS AND
ECOLOGICAL DEGRADATION WITHIN LRGV IN A HOLISTIC AND
INTEGRATED FASHION; AND

WHEREAS, IF FUNDED, THE PRIMARY SPONSOR IS CAMERON COUNTY; AND

WHEREAS, IF FUNDED, THE CO-SPONSORS INCLUDE THE USACE, HIDALGO
COUNTY, WILLACY COUNTY AND THE TASK FORCE; AND

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE HIDALGO COUNTY DRAINAGE
DISTRICT NO. 1 WISHES TO SUPPORT THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PROPOSED USACE
PROJECT TO THE U.S. CONGRESS UNDER SECTION 7001 OF THE WRDDA ACT TO
ADDRESS FLOOD PLANNING, MITIGATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN
CAMERON COUNTY, HIDALGO COUNTY AND WILLACY COUNTY.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 30TH DAY OF JULY 2019, BY THE
HIDALGO COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS.



RICHARD F. CORTEZ
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



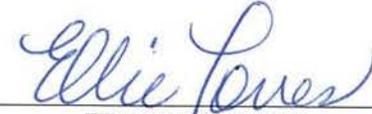
DAVID L. FUENTES
BOARD MEMBER



JOE M. FLORES
BOARD MEMBER



EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
BOARD MEMBER



ELLIE TORRES
BOARD MEMBER

APPROVED BY HIDALGO
COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT
NO. 1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ON: 7/30/19

Additional Proposal Information

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USACE Resolution Willacy.pdf

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ON THE 8TH DAY OF Aug. 2019, THE WILLACY COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT CONVENEED IN REGULAR SESSION AND THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF THE SAID COURT FOR SUCH MEETING, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.041 ET SEQ. VERNON'S TEXAS CIVIL STATUTES (THE TEXAS OPEN MEETING ACT) TO BE CONSIDERED:

“DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE) PROPOSED SUBMITTAL OF A PROPOSED STUDY ENTITLED LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE PROJECT TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS UNDER SECTION 7001 OF THE WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT (WRRDA) 2014”

WHEREAS, WHEREAS SECTION 7001 OF THE WRRDA 2014, AS AMENDED, REQUIRES THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY ANNUALLY SUBMIT TO THE CONGRESS A REPORT THAT IDENTIFIES, FOR POTENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION, COMPLETED FEASIBILITY REPORTS, PROPOSED FEASIBILITY STUDIES SUBMITTED BY NON-FEDERAL INTERESTS, PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO AUTHORIZED WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OR FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AND PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM AUTHORITIES; AND

WHEREAS, THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT IS TO BE BASED, IN PART, UPON ANNUAL REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR AUTHORIZATION FROM NON-FEDERAL INTERESTS. THE PROPOSAL PERIOD FOR THE 2020 REPORT TO CONGRESS OPENS ON APRIL 29, 2019 FOR 120 DAYS. THE DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS IS AUGUST 27, 2019; AND

WHEREAS, WHEREAS CAMERON, HIDALGO AND WILLACY COUNTIES, IN COORDINATION WITH THE LOWER RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LRGVDC) REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) AND THE LRGV TPDES STORMWATER TASK FORCE (TASK FORCE), A COALITION COMPRISED OF TWENTY SIX (26) LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, DO SEEK TO SUBMIT THIS PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A HOLISTIC, REGIONAL HYDROLOGIC, HYDRAULIC AND WATERSHED CHARACTERIZATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ; AND

WHEREAS, THE THREE COUNTIES THAT CONSTITUTE THE CORE OF THE LRGVDC'S SERVICE AREA NARROWLY AVOIDED MAJOR IMPACT BY HURRICANE HARVEY. THESE COUNTIES DID, HOWEVER SUFFER SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE DURING THE FLOODS OF JUNE 2018 AND 2019. EXHIBIT A IS A WHITE PAPER THAT DESCRIBES THE USACE REGIONAL INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS SYSTEMIC AND REPEATED FLOODING, WATER QUALITY IMPAIRMENTS AND ECOLOGICAL DEGRADATION WITHIN LRGV IN A HOLISTIC AND INTEGRATED FASHION; AND

WHEREAS, IF FUNDED, THE PRIMARY SPONSOR IS CAMERON COUNTY; AND

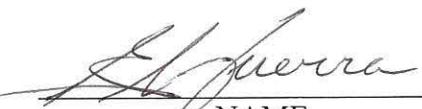
WHEREAS, IF FUNDED, THE CO-SPONSORS INCLUDE THE USACE, HIDALGO COUNTY, WILLACY COUNTY AND THE TASK FORCE; AND

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE WILLACY COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT WISHES TO SUPPORT THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PROPOSED USACE PROJECT TO THE U.S. CONGRESS UNDER SECTION 7001 OF THE WRDDA ACT TO ADDRESS FLOOD PLANNING, MITIGATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LRGV.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 8TH DAY OF Aug, 2017, BY THE Willacy COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT.



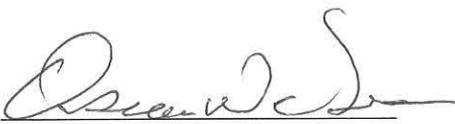
NAME
COUNTY JUDGE



NAME
BOARD MEMBER



NAME
BOARD MEMBER



NAME
BOARD MEMBER



NAME
BOARD MEMBER

Additional Proposal Information

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USACE LoS RATES.pdf



P.O. Box 834
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

Edmond J. Russo Jr., Ph.D., P.E., D.CE, D.NE, D.WRE
Deputy District Engineer, Programs and Project Management
USACE Galveston District
P.O. Box 1229
Galveston, TX 77553-1229

Re: Sec. 7001 LRGV Watershed Assessment

Dear Dr. Russo:

Research, Applied Technology, Education and Service, Inc. (RATES), is pleased to provide our full and complete support for the LRGV Watershed Assessment proposal under Sec 7001 of the Water Resources and Reform Development Act of 2014. RATES, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation serving the Lower Rio Grande Valley offers advanced information technology facilities and related services, including event based and real-time data acquisition and control systems with dynamic data analytics, to participating organizations, either directly or through third party providers, to address environmental and public safety issues with local, regional, and national significance and ensure regulatory compliance. With access to shared databases and through partnerships with institutions of higher learning, regulatory agencies, and regional public service departments, RATES' provides in-service training and professional development programs and supports multidisciplinary and collaborative research. RATES' serves as liaison between academic, commercial, governmental and nongovernmental entities to establish and manage cooperative public service programs (e.g. Stormwater Task Force, Flood Response and Resiliency Network).

RATES works closely with the all the governmental entities participating in the Sec 7001 proposal and fully endorses the effort to develop water resource management and implementation plans that maximize both local and regional benefit through holistic assessment.

Sincerely,



Andrew N.S. Ernest, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, D.WRE
President and CEO

Additional Proposal Information

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USACE LoSCoastal Cities.pdf



Cameron County Coastal Taskforce

1390 W. Expressway 83 San Benito, TX 78586 956-361-8209 Fax 956-361-8211

August 26, 2019

Edmond J. Russo Jr., Ph.D., P.E., D.CE, D.NE, D.WRE
Deputy District Engineer, Programs and Project Management
USACE Galveston District
P.O. Box 1229
Galveston, TX 77553-1229

Re: Sec. 7001 LRGV Watershed Assessment

Dear Dr. Russo:

The Cameron County Coastal Task Force offers its strongest endorsement of the LRGV Watershed Assessment proposal under Sec 7001 of the Water Resources and Reform Development Act of 2014. As you are aware, flooding and water quality is an issue of critical global importance, and most specifically to coastal communities. Increased development and urbanization in the Lower Rio Grande Valley will likely lead to increased pressure on existing resources. The founding principles of the Coastal Task Force reflect a commitment to regional approaches to determining solutions to local problems, as exemplified by the watershed assessment process. We believe this project will go a long way to addressing the flooding and water quality issues increasingly prevalent in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Sincerely,

David A. Garza
Cameron County Coastal Task Force, Chair
Cameron County Commissioner, Pct. 3



PORT OF BROWNSVILLE
•WORLD CLASS•



Point Isabel
Independent School District
A TEA "Recognized" District

