

# Cameron County Commissioners' Court Agenda Request Form

2020 R07053

No. 2-V

Date: July 1, 2020 Meeting Date Request: July 7, 2020  
Deadline for Action: July 7, 2020 Contact Person: Mark Yates  
Department: Economic Development & Community Affairs Phone: 956-544-0828 Fax: 956-544-0891  
Department Head Name: Mark A. Yates, CPA Signature: Mark A. Yates

**Caption: Consent**

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GATEWAY PEDESTRIAN PROJECT AND INCLUSION OF ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS TO ASSIST THE FUNDING OF THE PROJECT IN THE CAMERON COUNTY 2021 LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES.**

**Background:** *(Briefly summarize your request, if needed use separate sheet(s) or attach supporting documentation).*

Cameron County is interested in providing safety and security for those pedestrians who are crossing at the Gateway International Toll Bridge. The U.S. State Department has recently opened a new Consulate building in Matamoros near the Gateway Bridge. There are several proposals that have emerged to assist the County in paying for the construction of a new pedestrian bridge. One of the proposals includes the creation of a Texas Tax Code Ch. 351 "Hotel Zone". This resolution endorses the concept of the developing the Riverfront area between the two International Bridges to create value and jobs, promote private investment, and fund public infrastructure. This resolution prompts county staff to commence compiling the Commissioner's Court 2021 State legislation initiatives by including the Gateway Pedestrian/Riverfront proposal for a Texas Tax Code Ch. 351 authorization request.

**PLEASE FILL IN ALL BLANKS WITH REQUIRED INITIALS AND FISCAL DATA INFORMATION OR PLACE N/A IF IS NOT APPLICABLE:**

County Judge N/A Auditor IS/ Budget IS/ Legal IS/ Human Resources N/A Purchasing N/A

1295 Form

**Fiscal Data:**

Dept. Name: ED&CA. Fund No. N/A Department: Yes \_\_\_ No  Amt. Expended : \$ 0.00  
Funds Available: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ General: Yes \_\_\_ No  Impact on future budget: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Grant: Yes \_\_\_ No

**Comments:**

**Action taken by Commissioners' Court**

Approved \_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_ Denied \_\_\_ Motion made by \_\_\_ Seconded \_\_\_ Vote \_\_\_

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County Judge N/A Auditor [initials] Budget X Legal [initials] Human Resources N/A Purchasing N/A  
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Action taken by Commissioners' Court  
 Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_ Denied \_\_\_\_\_ Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded \_\_\_\_\_ Vote \_\_\_\_\_

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF CAMERON**

**RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ON THE 07<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020, 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:

**“CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AT THE GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL TOLL BRIDGE (“THE PROJECT”) AND DEVELOPING THE UNPRODUCTIVE AREAS BETWEEN THE GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL TOLL BRIDGE AND THE B&M INTERNATIONAL TOLL BRIDGE TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT, IMPROVE FLOOD PROTECTION, IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW AT INTERNATIONAL CROSSINGS, AND PROVIDE ECONOMIC INCENTIVES THROUGH THE USE OF LOCAL AND STATE TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE PROGRAMS.”**

**WHEREAS,** AS OF MAY 10, 2019, THE CONSULATE GENERAL HAS MOVED TO A NEW LOCATION AT CALLE CONSTITUCIÓN NO. 1, COLONIA JARDÍN, MATAMOROS, TAMAULIPAS 87330 AND THE CONSULATE IS EXPECTED TO SERVE AN INCREASED VOLUME OF U.S. CITIZENS RESIDING IN AND VISITING MATAMOROS, AND THE GREATER PORTION OF THE STATE OF TAMAULIPAS AND THOSE SEEKING LEGAL ENTRY IN TO THE U.S.; AND

**WHEREAS,** THIS COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF THE COUNTY OF CAMERON, TEXAS HAS DETERMINED THERE IS A NEED TO ADDRESS THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THOSE UTILIZING THE CROSSING FACILITIES OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE COUNTY REVIEWED PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR THE SAME; AND

**WHEREAS,** THERE IS A DESIRE ON THE PART OF CAMERON COUNTY TO UTILIZE ALL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES TO FUND THE CROSSING AND DEVELOP ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE TEXAS TAX CODE § 351 INCLUDING SUCH PROPOSITION IN THE COUNTY'S 2020-2021 LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE, THE TEXAS TAX CODE § 311 IMPLEMENTING TIRZ FOR THE PROJECT AS WELL AS SEEKING ANY APPLICABLE STATE OR FEDERAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES; AND

**WHEREAS,** THE AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS PROTECTION PROGRAM WAS CREATED BY AN EXECUTIVE ORDER, NUMBER 13061, SIGNED BY PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1997, PROMOTING THE COMMUNITY'S VISION FOR PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES, PROMOTING ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, AND PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE THROUGH FEDERAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION; AND

**WHEREAS,** THERE IS PRESENTLY A NEED TO PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA ALONG THE RIO GRANDE RIVER LOCATED BETWEEN THE GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL TOLL BRIDGE AND THE B&M INTERNATIONAL TOLL BRIDGE AND SOUTHERN BROWNSVILLE TO ELIMINATE ECONOMIC BLIGHT AND TRANSPORTATION CONGESTION; AND

**WHEREAS,** THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF THE COUNTY OF CAMERON, TEXAS INTENDS TO COORDINATE WITH THE FEDERAL, STATE AND ALL LOCAL AGENCIES AND DISTRICTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION OF DOWNTOWN BROWNSVILLE, THE PROMOTION OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES, PROMOTION OF CULTURAL AND HERITAGE RESOURCES; AND

**WHEREAS,** THIS COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF THE COUNTY OF CAMERON, TEXAS HAS DETERMINED THERE IS A NEED TO ADDRESS THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THOSE UTILIZING THE CROSSING FACILITIES OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE COUNTY REVIEWED PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR THE SAME.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF THE COUNTY OF CAMERON, TEXAS, THAT:**


- SECTION 1. THIS COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS HEREBY STATES ITS SUPPORT FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS (THE "PROJECT") TO BE CONSTRUCTED AT THE GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL TOLL BRIDGE, LOCATED IN SOUTHERN BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVED SECURITY AND SAFETY FOR PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE CROSSINGS.
- SECTION 2. THIS COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS PRESENTLY INTENDS TO UTILIZE ALL ASPECTS OF THE "AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS PROTECTION PROGRAM SIGNED IN TO LAW BY PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON, SEEK THE CREATION OF TAX INCREMENT ZONES TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ALL OF THE SURROUNDING INFRASTRUCTURE NECESSARY INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO NECESSARY FLOOD PREVENTION LEVEES, STRUCTURES THAT SPAN THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER, ADJACENT TRAFFIC OR PARKING STRUCTURES, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE STRUCTURES, CROWD CONTROL, AND RESIDENTIAL, CULTURAL OR HISTORICAL FACILITIES.
- SECTION 3. THIS COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS INTENDS TO COORDINATE ALL ACTIVITIES AS ARE APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY WITH ALL AGENCIES FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL TO INTEGRATE THE INTENDED FACILITIES AND FUNCTIONS IN A MANNER BENEFICIAL TO THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THE PROJECT RESIDES.
- SECTION 4. THIS COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, HEREBY FINDS, DETERMINES, RECITES, AND DECLARES THAT THE SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT WILL HELP PROMOTE THE PUBLIC PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THE ENABLING ACT.


SECTION 5. IF ANY SECTION, PARAGRAPH, CLAUSE, OR PROVISION OF THIS RESOLUTION SHALL FOR ANY REASON BE HELD TO BE INVALID, OR UNENFORCEABLE, THE INVALIDITY OR UNENFORCEABILITY OF SUCH SECTION, PARAGRAPH, CLAUSE, OR PROVISION SHALL NOT AFFECT ANY OF THE REMAINING PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION.

SECTION 6. THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT FROM AND UPON ITS PASSAGE.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 07<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2020.


COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

  
EDDIE TREVIÑO, JR.  
COUNTY JUDGE


  
SOFIA C. BENAVIDES  
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1

  
DAVID A. GARZA  
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3

  
JOEY LOPEZ  
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2

  
GUS RUIZ  
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4

ATTEST:

  
Lucino Rosenbaum III  
Deputy Clerk

