

**PORT OF**   
**BROWNSVILLE**  
the port that works

March 24, 2021

The Honorable Sofia C. Benavides  
Commissioner, Precinct 1  
Cameron County  
Darcy Building  
1100 E. Monroe Street  
Brownsville, TX 78520

RE: County Initiative – The Grand Gateway on the Rio Grande!

Dear Commissioner Benavides:

I was very pleased to learn of your personal involvement and leadership in Cameron County's initiative to remodel and expand the Gateway International Bridge into The Iconic Grand Gateway on the Rio Grande with its numerous commercial and cultural elements. The idea to re-engineer the levee adjacent to the Bridge and convert it into a fully functional flood protection system that creates the cornerstone for the Rio Grande Riverfront Project that will foster downtown revitalization. This project will have long-lasting positive impacts stimulating private sector investment and job creation.

The Port of Brownsville encourages the County through your efforts and leadership to pursue this project. The Port, like the County, supports economic development for the entire region and this project will have tremendous positive impact that will transform downtown Brownsville and the surrounding area into a commercial and cultural center of economic activity. My fellow Port Commissioners applaud your efforts.

Please keep us posted on the development of this project. We are very appreciative of the opportunity to provide our support to you and the County in its endeavors to realize The Iconic Grand Gateway on the Rio Grande! Please do not hesitate to call on me or any member of the Port if we can be of further assistance in advancing the project. We will all benefit from the economic prosperity that will be borne by your efforts.

Sincerely,

  
Sergio Tito Lopez  
Chairman, Board of Port Commissioners

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