

**Cameron County Commissioners' Court
Agenda Request Form**

No. 2-2

Date: March 28, 2025 Meeting Date Request: April 8, 2025
 Deadline for Action: N/A Contact Person: Raul Garcia, Lillie Blanchard
 Department: Community Services Phone: (956) 544-0828 Fax: (956) 554-0891
 Dept. Head/Official Signature: Raul Garcia *R*

Caption Consent:

Consideration and Approval of a Resolution to Adopt and Re-affirm the Fair Housing Policy and Designate the Month of April 2025 as Fair Housing Month in Cameron County, as required for its HUD funded projects; TxCDBG -Texas Community Development Block Grant-TDA Texas Department of Agriculture Contract-CFC24-0004 and TDHCA Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs Contract-7220023 and 23-0519.

Background: (Briefly summarize your request. If needed use separate sheet(s) or attach supporting documentation).
 Cameron County participates in the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD)'s Texas Community Development Block Program (TxCDBG) through the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The TxCDBG program requires grantees, like Cameron County, to proclaim April (or any other month) as "Fair Housing Month" in their jurisdictions in respect to all TxCDBG open contracts and meet the requirement to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing. After its adoption, the proclamation will be published in a local newspaper, consistent with TxCDBG requirements. The estimated publication cost is \$1,300 which will be paid by TxCDBG grant funds.
 On August 27, 2024, Cameron County Commissioners' Court Approved and Re-affirmed the Civil Rights Policies including Citizen Participation Plan & Grievance Procedures, Excessive Force Policy, Fair Housing Policy, Section 504 Policy & Grievance Procedures, VAWA Right to Report, Code of Conduct Policy and Affirmed its commitment to conduct a project-specific analysis and take all appropriate action necessary to comply with program requirements for the following: Section 3 economic opportunity, Limited English Proficiency; and the Activity to affirmatively Further Fair Housing choice.

See attached Resolution, which includes a description of all TxCDBG opened contracts.

PLEASE FILL IN ALL BLANKS BY INITIAL OR PLACE N/A IF APPROVAL IS NOT APPLICABLE:

Approval:
 County Judge N/A Auditor N/A Legal *J* Personnel N/A Purchasing N/A

Fiscal Data:
 Dept/Fund No.: Amt. Expended: \$ Funds/Staffing Budgeted: Yes X No
 Account Code: Impact on Future Budget: Yes No X

Comments:

Action taken by Commissioner's Court:
 Approved Tabled Denied Motion made by Seconded Vote

County Judge's Office
 Received By:
 Lillian Blanchard
 04/01/2025 - 10:01am

RESOLUTION NO. 2025R04063

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ON THIS THE 8TH DAY OF April 2025, THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS CONVENED IN REGULAR SESSION AND THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF SAID COURT FOR SUCH MEETING, PURSUANT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 511.041 *et seq.*, VERNON'S TEXAS CIVIL STATUTES (THE TEXAS OPEN MEETING ACT) TO BE CONSIDERED:

"CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH, AND ADOPT AND RE-AFFIRM THE FAIR HOUSING POLICY IN CAMERON COUNTY".

WHEREAS, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and declares it a national policy to provide, within constitutional limits, fair housing in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the principal of fair housing is not only natural law and national policy but a fundamental human concept and entitlement for all Americans;


WHEREAS, the anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, during the month of April, provides an opportunity for all Americans to recognize that complete success in the goal of equal housing opportunity can only be accomplished with the help and cooperation of all Americans;


WHEREAS, Cameron County is a grant recipient of U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grants, consisting of the Texas Community Development Block Grant active contracts from Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA):


WHEREAS, HUD requires TxCDBG grantees, like Cameron County, to proclaim April as "Fair Housing Month" and adopt and Re-Affirm the Fair Housing Policy as a Fair Housing activity during the TxCDBG contract period;
NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Cameron County Commissioners Court hereby proclaims the month of April 2025 as **FAIR HOUSING MONTH** in the County of Cameron, and adopt and re-affirms the Fair Housing Policy and does hereby urge all the citizens of this locality to become aware of and support the National Fair Housing Law.
2. THAT this Resolution be published in a newspaper of general circulation to inform the public of National Fair Housing Law.

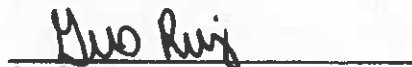
PASSED THIS 8th DAY OF April 2025, BY THE CAMERON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

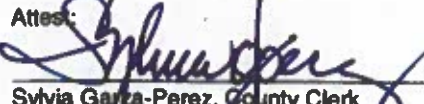

Eddie Treviño, Jr. County Judge


Sofia C. Benavides,
Commissioner Precinct 1


David A. Garza,
Commissioner Precinct 3


Joey Lopez
Commissioner Precinct 2


Gus Ruiz,
Commissioner Precinct 4

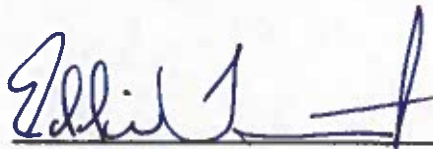
Attest:

Sylvia Garza-Perez, County Clerk

Cameron County- Fair Housing Policy

In accordance with Fair Housing Act, the Cameron County hereby adopts the following policy with respect to the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing:

1. Cameron County agrees to affirmatively further fair housing choice for all seven protected classes (race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin).
2. Cameron County agrees to plan at least one activity during the contract term to affirmatively further fair housing.
3. Cameron County will introduce and pass a resolution adopting this policy.

As officers and representatives of Cameron County, we the undersigned have read and fully agree to this plan, and become a party to the full implementation of this program.



Eddie Treviño, Jr.
County Judge, Cameron County

4-8-25

Date



Sofia J. Benavides, Commissioner Pct. 1



Joey Lopez, Commissioner Pct. 2

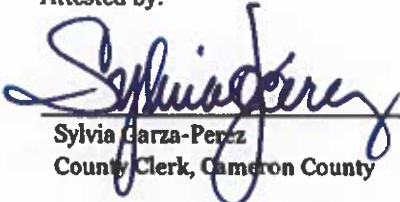


David A. Garza, Commissioner Pct. 3



Gus Ruiz, Commissioner Pct. 4

Attested by:



Sylvia Garza-Perez
County Clerk, Cameron County

4-8-25

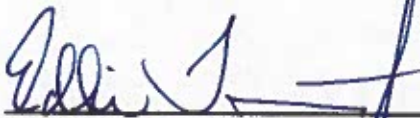
Date

Condado de Cameron Política de Vivienda Justa

De conformidad con la Ley de Equidad de Vivienda, el Condado de Cameron adopta la siguiente Política con respecto a la Promoción de Vivienda Equitativa Afirmativamente:

1. El Condado de Cameron acuerda afirmativamente más opciones de vivienda justa para las siete clases protegidas (raza, color, religión, sexo, discapacidad, estado familiar y origen nacional).
2. El Condado de Cameron acuerda planificar al menos una actividad durante el plazo del contrato para alentar afirmativamente la vivienda justa.
3. El Condado de Cameron presentará una resolución adoptando esta política.

Como oficiales y representantes de la Corte de Comisionados del Condado de Cameron, nosotros, los abajo firmantes, hemos leído y estamos totalmente de acuerdo con este plan y nos convertimos en parte de la implementación de este programa.



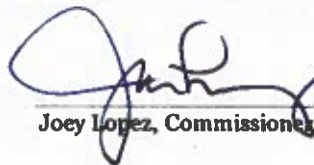
Eddie Treviño, Jr.
County Judge, Cameron County

4-8-25

Fecha



Soñia C. Benavides, Commissioner Pct. 1



Joey Lopez, Commissioner Pct. 2

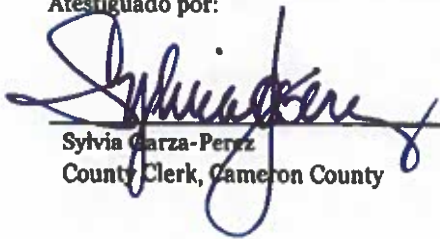


David A. Garza, Commissioner Pct. 3



Gustavo "Gus" Ruiz, Commissioner Pct. 4

Atestiguado por:



Sylvia Garza-Perez
County Clerk, Cameron County

4-8-25

Fecha

Cameron County Commissioners' Court Agenda Request Form

No. 2-N

Date: August 16, 2024 Meeting Date Request: August 27, 2024
 Deadline for Action: _____ Contact Person: Raf Garcia
 Department: Community Services Phone: 954-542-0028 Fax: 954-542-0021
 Department Head Name: Raf Garcia Signature: [Signature]

Consent Items

Consideration and Approval of a Resolution by Commissioners Court of County of Cameron, Texas that authorizes the Submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Application (part 2), to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) under the 2024 Colonia Fund: Construction Program.

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

The above referenced resolution will authorize a 2024 Colonia Fund: Construction Program application for \$1000,000 from the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program. Funding will be used for first-time sanitary sewer service Central Estates-Salvador Colonias in the Brownsville Public Utility Board (PUB) service area. This Resolution also includes compliance of all federal rules & regulations including required Re-Affirmation of the CR-Civil Rights Policies. The service provider, Brownsville Public Utility Board (PUB), will be responsible for engineering services and any construction cost overruns.

Community Services Department staff expects to file the application on or about August 28, 2024.

Copy of Resolution.

**PLEASE FILL IN ALL BLANKS WITH NUMBERS, SYMBOLS AND FULLY SIGNATURES
OR PLACE IN IF NOT APPLICABLE**

County Judge N/A Auditor [Signature] Human Resources N/A Purchasing N/A
 1293 Form N/A

Fund Data: Dept. Name: CE Dept Fund No. N/A Funds From: Department: Yes ___ No X Grant Amt. : \$1,000,000
 Funds Available: Yes X No ___ General: Yes ___ No X Impact on future budget: Yes ___ No X
 Grant: Yes X No ___

Comments

Action taken by Commissioners' Court
 Approved _____ Tabled _____ Denied _____ Motion made by _____ Seconded _____ Vote _____

County Judge's Office
 Received By:
 Raf Garcia
 08/16/2024 - 09:12am

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CAMERON COMMISSIONERS COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY OF THE COUNTY OF CAMERON, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE 2024 COLONIA FUND: CONSTRUCTION (CFC) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the CAMERON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT of the COUNTY OF CAMERON desires to develop a viable community, including decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low-to-moderate income; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and in the best interests of the COUNTY OF CAMERON to apply for funding under the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program;

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF CAMERON, in consideration for the receipt and acceptance of federal funding if awarded, agrees to comply with all federal rules and regulations including those rules and regulations governing citizen participation and civil rights protections as follows;

- in accordance with Section 109 of the Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act (24 CFR 6); the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107); and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and for construction contracts greater than \$10,000, to take actions to ensure that no person or group is denied benefits such as employment, training, housing, and contracts generated by the CDBG activity, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability;
- in accordance with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, and 24 CFR Part 73, to the greatest extent feasible, to provide training and employment opportunities to lower income residents and contract opportunities to businesses in the Section 3 Service Area;
- in accordance with Section 104(1) of the Housing and Community Development Act, as amended, and State's certification requirements at 24 CFR 91.325(b)(6), to adopt an excessive force policy that prohibits the use of excessive force against non-violent civil rights demonstrations;
- in accordance with Executive Order 13166, to take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to services in federally assisted programs and activities by persons with limited English proficiency (LEP) and must have an LEP plan in place specific to the locality and beneficiaries for each TeCDBG project;
- in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to not discriminate on the basis of disability and agrees to ensure that qualified individuals with disabilities have access to programs and activities that receive federal funds; and

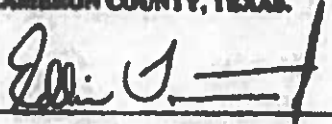
- in accordance with Section 808(a)(5) of the Fair Housing Act (42 USC 1608(a)(5)) that requires HUD programs and activities be administered in a manner affirmatively to further the policies of the Fair Housing Act, to conduct at least one activity during the contract period of the TxCDBG contract, to affirmatively further fair housing; and
- in accordance with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Reauthorization Act of 2022, to ensure that no local ordinance or crime-free ordinance must not result in penalties or eviction for victims of domestic violence and/or violent crimes.

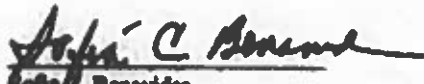
WHEREAS, the COUNTY OF CAMERON, agrees to maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS,

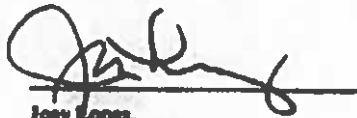
1. That a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program application for the Colonia Fund: Construction (CFC) Program is hereby authorized to be filed on behalf of the County with the Texas Department of Agriculture
2. That the County's application be submitted for consideration under the Colonia Fund: Construction.
3. That the application be for \$1,000,000 of grant funds to provide first-time sewer improvements in the Central Estates-Saldiver Colonia.
4. That all funds will be used in accordance with all applicable federal, state, local and programmatic requirements including but not limited to procurement, environmental review, labor standards, and property acquisition, and civil rights requirements.
5. That it further be stated that the Sub-grantee (BROWNSVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD-BPUB) is committing \$400,000.00 plus for construction and overall costs for the Central Estates-Saldiver Colonia first-time sewer-improvements project.
6. The County of CAMERON REAFFIRMS the following policies
 - a. Citizen Participation Plan and Grievance Procedures
 - b. Excessive Force Policy
 - c. Fair Housing Policy
 - d. Section 504 Policy and Grievance Procedures
 - e. VAWA Right to Report and
 - f. Code of Conduct Policy
7. The County of CAMERON AFFIRMS its commitment to conduct a project-specific analysis and take all appropriate action necessary to comply with program requirements for the following
 - g. Section 3 economic opportunity;
 - h. Limited English Proficiency; and
 - i. Activity to affirmatively Further Fair Housing choice

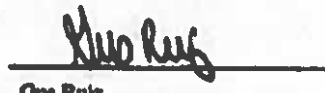
Passed and approved this 27th day of August 2004 BY COMMISSIONERS COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS.


Eddie Treviño, Jr., County Judge

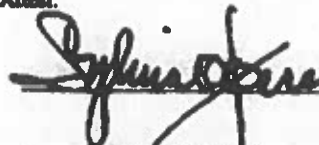

Gotfrido Benavides,
Commissioner Precinct 1


David A. Garza,
Commissioner Precinct 3


Joey Lopez,
Commissioner Precinct 2


Gus Ruiz,
Commissioner Precinct 4

Attest:


Sylvia Garza-Farr, County Clerk
County of Cameron, Texas

