

# Eddie Treviño, Jr. County Judge

June 14, 2022

Honorable Chairman Jim Himes and Committee Members House Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth 5240 O'Neill House Office Building Washington, DC 20024

RE: Cameron County Projects Which Will Connect People To Economic Opportunity

To the esteemed members of The House Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to come before you and share information about Cameron County and the Rio Grande Valley.

Cameron County is part of the four-county Rio Grande Valley, and to say that Cameron County is unique would be an understatement. Where else in the United States will you find a county with an international border, a coastal border, and six modes of transportation that include air, sea, rail, highway, pipeline, and space? You will not. Cameron County truly is one of a kind.

Roughly one-tenth, or approximately 90,000 acres, of Cameron County is designated as protected land. The Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, located in Cameron County, has recorded over four hundred fifty species of birds and one hundred thirty species of butterflies alone. In addition to protected lands, Cameron County has barrier islands and beaches providing desirable habitat to sea turtles and brown pelicans. Altogether, the voluminous wildlife, which includes the endangered mid-sized ocelot, has significant economic value in the form of creating extensive ecotourism opportunities. To protect our natural resources, Cameron County has developed a green infrastructure vision map that will enable us to keep our natural treasures intact while highlighting our cultural attractions through the implementation of active catalyst projects.

In addition to our unique geographical location, world-renowned ecosystem, and six modes of transportation, Cameron County is experiencing a massive economic boom. Space X employs more than 1,600 employees at its Starbase location at Boca Chica Beach and has invested over \$430 million on operations, construction, capital expenditures and payroll. As a result, Space X has generated a gross economic output of \$903 million in aggregate market value of goods and services produced from Space X activities in Cameron County. In addition to Space X, NextDecade, a company in the liquified natural gas (LNG) market, is looking to break ground in fall of 2022. NextDecade's investment in Cameron County will be approximately \$12 billion.

Cameron County has accomplished much and stands proud of our achievements, but the vision our leaders have for our area is great and we have much more yet to achieve. To gain access to additional infrastructure funding and support the growing economy in deep South Texas, the metropolitan planning organizations (MPO) throughout the Rio Grande Valley merged to form the fifth largest MPO in the State of Texas in 2019. In turn, the newly created Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (RGVMPO) is receiving a healthier portion of state appropriations to help develop and enhance infrastructure. As a result of additional state funding and improvements to infrastructure, we know economic opportunities for all will follow.

Prior to the formation of the RGVMPO, Cameron County worked diligently and intelligently with the funding we had available. We stretched millions of dollars into tens of millions of dollars all while working cohesively with local municipalities, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the Texas State Legislature, and the United States government. Cameron County has proven that with a little, we can do a lot.

In the Rio Grande Valley, we have twelve international bridges and one ferry. We have six airports, three deep water seaports and one Spaceport. Despite the amount of trade that goes through our international bridges, airports, and seaports, we do not have a seamless Interstate System into our metropolitan area.

With that said, additional funding and support from the federal government will help propel Cameron County and Rio Grande Valley to new heights. Despite our accomplishments, funding shortfalls have prevented us from addressing three significant issues: drainage infrastructure, access to broadband connectivity and highway infrastructure.

#### Highway Infrastructure/Transportation Project Achievements

The most notable achievements in Cameron County's portfolio are related to transportation projects. From completing \$500 million in projects by leveraging \$50 million in local funds, to completing highway, rail, bridge, international and border master plans, to completing the first international rail bridge project between the United States in Mexico in over 100 years, Cameron County has continuously delivered great quality of life and economic opportunity projects that impact not only local residents, but state and international visitors alike.

While accomplishing transportation projects, Cameron County has utilized the tools the Texas State Legislature has provided us. That we are aware of, Cameron County has the only county-wide Transportation Reinvestment Zone. In addition, Cameron County was the first of two counties that has implemented additional vehicle registration fees used 100% to fund local transportation projects. Finally, Cameron County has utilized TxDOT's Pass Through Program for County projects.

Not only has Cameron County worked with the state resources, but we have also worked well with federal government resources and programs as well. Cameron County has completed one Donation Acceptance Program (DAP) project at the Veteran's International Bridge for commercial primary lanes and is set to begin construction on a \$15 million DAP project at the same bridge which will double capacity for passenger vehicles. Additionally, Cameron County is set to begin construction in the fall of 2022 at the Free Trade International Bridge at Los Indios that will allow for joint inspection for some southbound transmigrante and commercial trucks carrying fuel into Mexico.

Cameron County is not slowing down with respect to improving infrastructure. Through the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (CCRMA), Cameron County has a \$2 billion system of projects that we believe will be completed in the next decade using a combination of local, state, and federal funds. Of the \$2 billion system of projects, \$60 million worth of projects are shovel ready, \$200 million worth of projects are under design and \$1.6 billion are in the planning phase. From 2020 to 2023, Cameron County and the CCRMA will let over \$100 million worth of construction projects with RGVMPO funds.

Despite the economic disparity the Rio Grande Valley has experienced for decades, by utilizing tools that the state has given us and by leveraging our local dollars, Cameron County has been able to improve the antiquated infrastructure and add prosperity and economic opportunity throughout the border, region, and country. If you go back roughly four decades, you can imagine the loss of economic benefits that our international bridges, airports, seaports, and other facilities have experienced by not having an interstate system in our area. It is time that Cameron County is given the attention and funding consideration we deserve.

#### Needs Related to Infrastructure

Cameron County is seeking assistance from our federal government with several transformative projects that will allow for significant economic growth in an area continuously classified as low income and economically disadvantaged.

#### SPI Second Causeway

Cameron County needs assistance in working with United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). USFWS is a resource agency, and we must both agree on mitigation plans for the extremely critical second causeway. Cameron County needs to be able to meet, discuss and agree on mitigation plans in a timely manner.

The Second Access Project to South Padre Island will involve a second crossing on a new location to South Padre Island to provide a much-needed alternate route from the island to the mainland. The second causeway also would facilitate evacuation of South Padre in the event of a hurricane or other natural disaster. The project will include a bridge approximately 8 miles long as well as improvements to roadways on the mainland and on the Island. The total construction cost will be approximately \$450 million. TxDOT will be the reviewing agency. Cameron County is looking to partner with the State of Texas and federal government for funding opportunities.

#### East Loop Project

This project will connect the Veterans International Bridge with the Port of Brownsville. The East Loop will be an overweight corridor that was approved by the State Legislature in 2009. Like the second causeway to South Padre Island, Cameron County needs help with USFWS to complete a land swap and approval of a mitigation plan. Cameron County is looking to partner with the State of Texas and federal government for funding opportunities.

#### IBTC Corridor

The purpose of the IBTC project is to improve local and regional mobility for transporting persons and goods from international ports of entry in the area and SH 365 north to I-2 between US 281 and FM 493. The total length of the proposed project is 13.15 miles and would traverse the cities of Pharr, Alamo, and Donna, Texas. The IBTC project would connect to the SH68 project being developed by TxDOT to take truck traffic from the regional interstate system north to I69C and beyond.

#### Veterans International Bridge Primary Lane Expansion Project

This project will increase the capacity for passenger vehicles entering the United States at the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates. The project has environmental clearance and design phase is complete. No additional right-of-way or utility relocations are required. The project will increase safety and allow for a much better flow of passenger vehicle traffic. The project will reduce congestion on the bridge passenger lanes since currently only two northbound lanes are available for passenger vehicles. This project will reduce wait times and travel time and will complete a gap that was included in the original master plan for the Border Station. It is a project of regional, national and international significance and will improve air quality. The Veterans International Bridge is a partnership between Cameron County and the City of Brownsville. Interstate 69E starts at the Veterans International Bridge and this project would facilitate the movement of passenger vehicles between Brownsville and Matamoros. The project cost is \$15 million and construction plans are complete and approved by GSA, CBP and TxDOT. This project will allow the Veterans International Bridge to be able to attract additional passenger vehicle traffic. Currently, the project is fully funded with \$15 million in funds allocated for construction through the RGVMPO. The Donation Acceptance Agreement is fully executed between Cameron County, GSA and CBP. Construction is expected to begin July 2022. SHOVEL READY PROEJCT.

#### SPC (Phase III)

Project limits are from FM 2520 (Sam Houston Blvd) to FM 1577, partially on new location with intermittent existing 40-80 ft ROW. Construction of a 2-lane rural roadway with shoulders in 120' ROW with future expansion to a 4-lane urban section. Scope of Services are for Local Let/award and Construction Inspection and Testing. Design will be in compliance with TxDOT's Roadway Design Manual and Acquisition of ROW will be in compliance with Title II & III of the Uniform Act of 1970 and SB 18 for acquisition of real property or displaced persons. Engineering, environmental re-evaluation, right of way acquisition and utility relocation is underway.

#### SHOVEL READY PROJECT.

#### **Old Alice Road Project**

Currently, Old Alice Road consists of sections that are paved and unpaved. The paved sections of the road are at the south and north ends towards SH 550 and SH 100, respectively. From approximately 0.1 miles north of SH 550 to approximately 0.9 miles north of SH 550, Old Alice Road is a caliche roadway. From approximately 0.9 miles north of SH 550 to 2.6 miles north of SH 550, the facility is a dirt roadway. The existing Old Alice Road is a 20 to 22 feet (ft.) wide

rural roadway consisting of two variable width travel lanes of 10 to 11 ft. and no shoulders within 120 ft. right-of-way (ROW) width. The proposed improvements are to reconstruct and widen the existing roadway to provide for a paved four lane urban roadway with shoulders and sidewalks within the existing right-of-way. The right of way is in place, design was completed in April 2022 and the project will be environmentally cleared by December 2022. The project is fully funded from CAT 7 funds from the RGVMPO. **SHOVEL READY PROJECT**.

#### West Rail Trail Project

The West Rail Relocation project for Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico was constructed to improve the safety and quality of life for local residents by reducing congestion and eliminating travel time delays for first responder personnel and residents during an emergency. The West Rail also greatly improved the transportation of goods and services.

The coordination of the West Rail project was extremely complex and involved more than 50 agencies on both sides of the border. The West Rail project was a result of more than 15 years of trying to solve the congestion and delays brought on by the rail crossings in the City of Brownsville. By relocating the rail line in Brownsville and Matamoros, 14 at-grade rail crossings were eliminated.

The West Rail relocation project was a historic and significant accomplishment for the Rio Grande Valley, Texas and Tamaulipas, Mexico. The West Rail was the first new international rail bridge to cross the Texas-Mexico border in over a century. The relocation project opened a key corridor through the City of Brownsville by utilizing the old rail right of way to create the West Rail Trail Project.

This project is part of the larger system called the Caracara Trails, one of just eight Trail Nation projects in the United States under the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, an organization dedicated to creating a nationwide network of trails from former rail lines and connecting those corridors. The proposed West Rail Trail, along a former Union Pacific railroad line in Brownsville, is part of Caracara Trails, which was featured in RTC's official magazine in 2017. The network has also been highlighted in the Austin Chronicle, Daily Beast and Texas Monthly.

The corridor, located on the South Texas border, runs parallel to the Rio Grande River and the U.S.-Border Wall, and links to both economically deprived and affluent neighborhoods directly to the historic downtown center of Brownsville. The corridor terminates at a U.S.-Mexico international crossing bridge, the original crossing for rail freight traffic in Brownsville, which has the potential to become a new bi-national hike and bike linkage across the border.

The project proposes to create a 6.5-mile-long pedestrian and bicycle mobility corridor through the City of Brownsville. Extensive coordination between TxDOT, the CCRMA, the City of Brownsville, and Cameron County has allowed project development to move forward. The project is in the construction phase.

The project sponsors are working directly with community stakeholders to address the future redevelopment of the abandoned rail ROW to be utilized as a catalyst for social and economic change, and the significant impact that access to hike and bike infrastructure has in addressing mobility, health, and economic development as an extension into the downtown and the wider city context.

#### West Rail Roadway Project

As a component of the 6.5-mile West Rail Trail project, the Roadway component is being proposed to provide a connection between two on-system TxDOT arterial roadways and improve the safety and quality of life for local residents by reducing congestion and eliminating travel time delays for first responder personnel and residents during an emergency to highly developed areas along the project. The proposed urban roadway section would accommodate the Hike and Bike trail and provide for improved mobility between FM 802 (Ruben Torres Blvd) and FM 3248 (Alton Gloor Blvd) two major arterials in the region.

The project proposes to create a 2-mile urban roadway section that would also accommodate pedestrian and bicycle mobility corridor through the City of Brownsville. Currently the project schematics and environmental documents are under development and the project is anticipated to be "Ready to Let" by late 2022. **SHOVEL READY PROJECT.** 

#### East Loop Project

The East Loop Project consists of the construction of a four to six-lane roadway from SH 4 to I69E (U.S. 77/83) and the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates. The East Loop Project consists of a 10-mile-long segment of roadway and will connect to the South Port Connector Road. This will become the overweight corridor connecting the Veterans Bridge at Los Tomates with the Port of Brownsville. In 2009, the State Legislature designated the East Loop as the overweight corridor once it was operational. The Value Engineering was completed in April 2014. Schematics are 100% complete. The Value Engineering recommendations were incorporated into the 100% schematics. The total construction cost of the East Loop Project is approximately \$100 million. The Environmental Assessment of the East Loop Project is underway, and an environmental clearance is expected in 2023.

#### **Outer Parkway Project**

The Outer Parkway Project is approximately 21.5 miles long and includes the construction of a new four lane divided highway from I69E (U.S. 77) near the North Cameron County Line to FM 1847. The project will link the General Brant Road Project with I69E (U.S. 77). The total construction cost is approximately \$200 million. A corridor study was prepared for the project and the preparation of an environmental document began in December 2016.

#### Commerce Street Project

CCRMA has been working with Cameron County, the City of Harlingen and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) to install a new track connection to align the UPRR Harlingen Subdivision track at Jefferson Street directly across Commerce Street to connect to the UPRR Brownsville Subdivision. This new connection would result in the retirement of approximately 1.7 miles of the Harlingen Subdivision between U.S. 77 Sunshine Strip and Jefferson Avenue, which includes

removal of seven (7) at-grade road crossings at Adams Avenue, Washington Avenue, Lela Street, Ona Street, Orange Heights Road, Markowsky Avenue, and Commerce Street south of U.S. 77 Sunshine Strip.

The project will require coordination and approval by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). It is assumed that the environmental phase of the project will be classified as a Categorical Exclusion (CE). The work to be performed includes the preparation of a CE for the proposed UPRR Harlingen Subdivision Commerce Street Connection Project (Project) in Cameron County. There are \$400,000 available through an FRA Grant for engineering and \$5.6 million available via an FRA grant for construction.

#### FM 509 Project

FM 509 will be constructed to add new four lane divided highway from FM 508/FM 509 intersection to FM 1579. The Project will be approximately 3 miles and will be constructed at a cost of approximately \$8 million. Efforts are currently being made to incorporate alignments with the Outer Parkway Project. CCRMA is handling the environmental document. The project has \$1 Million available in federal funding for engineering and \$7 million via Cat 2 funding for construction.

#### FM 1925 Project

One of Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (CCRMA)'s goals is to initiate new system projects that support economic development and promote quality of life for citizens of the region well into the future for our next generation. As such, CCRMA in coordination with the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) have identified FM 1925 as a great regional project that would promote a healthy regional transportation network for all the counties (Starr, Hidalgo, Willacy and Cameron) in the Rio Grande Valley.

The FM 1925 Needs Assessment Report was developed in March 2015, as a result, the proposed project limits extend approximately 10.7 miles from FM 491 in Hidalgo County to I69E (U.S. 77) in Cameron County which is the proposed project termini for the Outer Parkway project. The interim facility would consist of a tolled Super 2 highway with 2-12 foot travel lanes in each direction with an additional lane built to one side of the facility at alternate locations for directional passing lanes with a 300' ROW footprint for future transportation needs. The preliminary construction cost estimate for the interim facility is approximately \$80 to \$90 Million. The ultimate facility (which will be considered at a future date) would consist of an urban freeway with 2-12 foot travel lanes in each direction with a center barrier and 2-12 foot lane frontage roads with 4' inside and 10' outside shoulders. The preliminary construction cost estimate for the ultimate facility is approximately \$160 Million. TxDOT is leading the environmental phase on this project.

#### 281 Connector Project

The 281 Connector Project is approximately 7.5 miles long and includes the construction of a four lane divided highway from U.S. 281 to I69E (U.S. 77/83). The total construction cost is approximately \$140 million. TxDOT has performed various studies for the project and the CCRMA anticipates an environmental study to begin in 2023.

#### Whipple Road Project

This road will be improved from FM 1847 to FM 1575. The right-of-way is in place to do the necessary improvements. The project is currently in the environmental phase. CAT 7 funds from the RGVMPO have been allocated for Engineering Services and construction.

#### Morrison Road Project

This is a new location road from FM 1847 to FM 511. When complete, Morrison Road will go from FM 3248 to FM 511. This project will provide connectivity to a large retail area in Brownsville and reduce congestion on several major roads. The project is in the environmental phase and has CAT 7 funds from the RGVMPO have been allocated for Engineering Services.

#### Technology Projects

In October 2021, the CCRMA launched their very own toll tag, called the FUEGO Tag. The CCRMA is now working to provide an electronic toll collection system that will be interoperable with the CCRMA's toll road, the County's International Bridge System as well as all of the Cameron County coastal parks. The CCRMA is working with the other international bridge owners throughout the Rio Grande Valley to provide the same electronic toll collection system. Additionally, the CCRMA has started a dialogue with Mexico so that our electronic toll collection system can be interoperable with Mexico as well. **SHOVEL READY PROJECT.** 

As a region with some of the best beaches along the entire gulf coast, ample room for growth and a capable workforce, we come before you today in hopes that our discussion here will turn the spotlight on the Rio Grande Valley and Cameron County. We have lost a great deal of economic opportunities over the last four decades without an interstate system. We need your help in bringing an interstate system into the Rio Grande Valley. If you were not aware of all the great and unique things that Cameron County and Rio Grande Valley have to offer, I personally invite you to visit for a longer period of time. I will be sure to roll the red carpet out for each of you and take you on a tour of both the greatness and untapped potential of Cameron County--the front door of the United States of America and the rest of the world!

I look forward to your positive response and future correspondence.

Sincerely,

Eddie Treviño, Jr. County Judge





#### **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS**

- OVER 90,000 ACRES OF PROTECTED LAND
- THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY HAS RECORDED OVER 500 SPECIES OF BIRDS
- 130 BUTTERFLY SPECIES RECORDED AT LAGUNA ATASCOSA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
- OPPORTUNITIES FOR BI-NATIONAL CULTURAL AND HERITAGE TOURISM
- WORLD CLASS BIRDWATCHING, INCLUDING APLOMADO FALCON, RED-CROWNED PARROT, AND OVER A DOZEN OTHER BIRD SPECIES FOUND NOWHERE ELSE IN THE UNITED STATES
- BARRIER ISLANDS AND BEACHES, PROVIDING HABITAT TO SEA TURTLES AND BROWN PELICANS
- ONE OF THE ONLY POPULATIONS OF OCELOTS IN THE UNITED STATES

### ACTIONS TO SUPPORT A NATURE-BASED ECONOMY

- CULTIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND DEDICATE
   FUNDING TO SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN NATURAL
   AND CULTURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION AND
   TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE
- FOCUS MITIGATION INVESTMENTS FOR ROAD AND PIPELINE PROJECTS INTO PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL TREASURES
- EXPAND THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE VISION TO THE ENTIRE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY
- SUPPORT COMMUNITY ADOPTION OF THE CAMERON COUNTY GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE VISION AND THE ACTION PLAN
- EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY ON THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES, AND OCELOTS
- ESTABLISH A COORDINATED MARKETING
   PROGRAM TO PROMOTE CAMERON COUNTY
   AS A PREMIER ECOTOURISM DESTINATION



PRESERVING AND LINKING OUR NATURAL & CULTURAL TREASURES

PROMOTING ECOTOURISM AND ACTIVE RECREATION FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS



THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE VISION WAS SUPPORTED BY OVER 40 STAKEHOLDERS IN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY REGION. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

HTTP://WWW.CONSERVATIONFUND.ORG/PROJECTS/GREEN-INFRASTRUCTURE-VISION-FOR-CAMERON-COUNTY-TEXAS







## STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE VISION

PROTECT KEY INHOLDINGS AND ADDITIONS TO OUR NATIONAL TREASURES

- LAGUNA ATASCOSA NATIONAL WILDLIFE
   REFUGE / BAHIA GRANDE
- 2 LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
- 3 PALO ALTO BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK
- 4) SOUTH PADRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE

### HIGHLIGHT AND LINK ANCHOR NATURAL AND CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

- 5 BOCA CHICA BEACH STATE PARK
- 6 BROWNSVILLE RESACA RESTORATIONS
- 7 HARLINGEN ARROYO COLORADO WORLD BIRDING CENTER
- 8 HUGH RAMSEY STATE PARK
- 9 LA FERIA NATURE CENTER
- 10 RESACA DE LA PALMA WORLD BIRDING CENTER
- 11 SABAL PALM SANCTUARY
- 12 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND WORLD BIRDING CENTER
- 13 TEXAS TROPICAL TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY

#### **IMPLEMENT THE ACTIVE PLAN CATALYST PROJECTS**

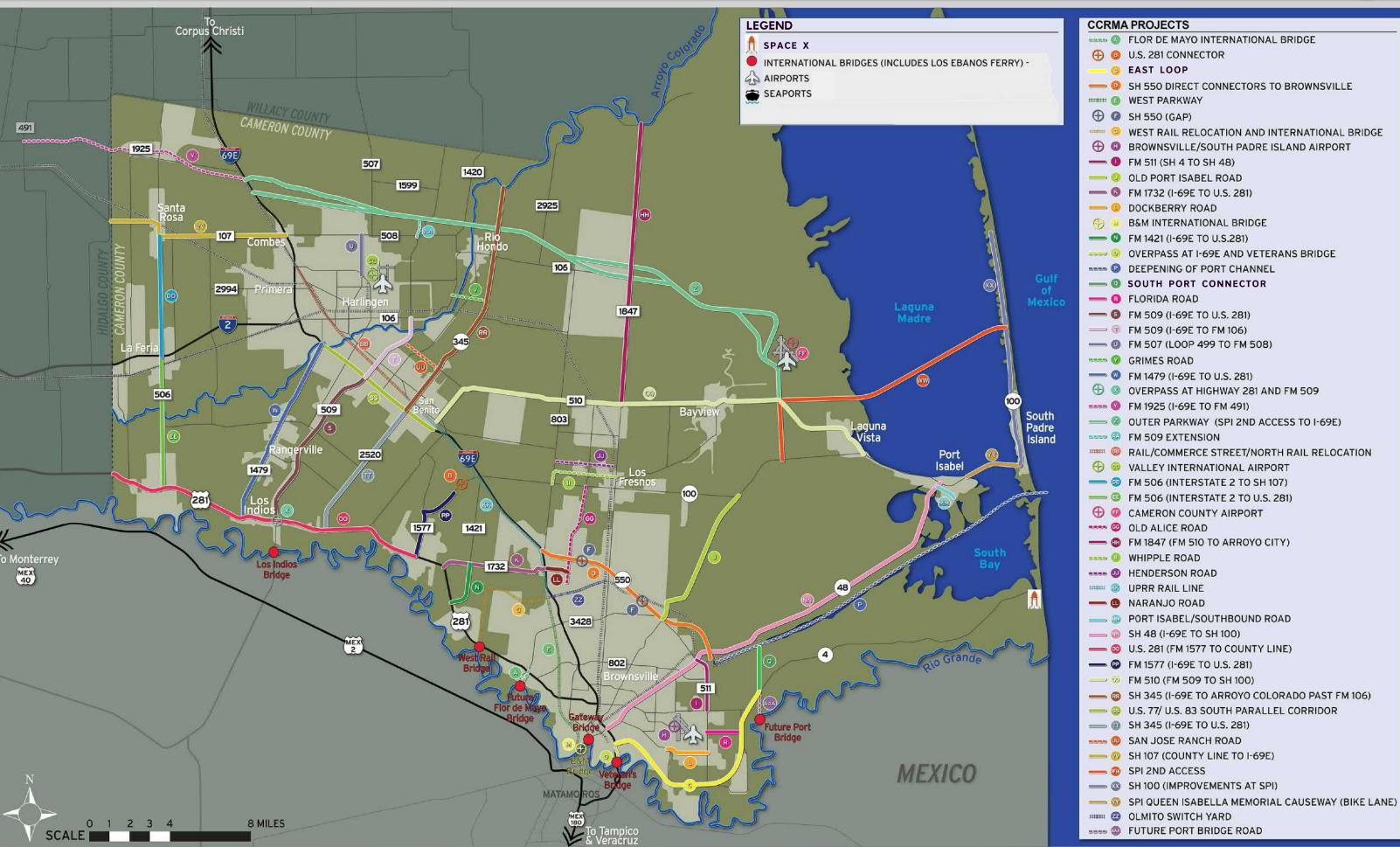
(75 MILES OF HIKE-BIKE AND PADDLING TRAILS)

- (14) ARROYO COLORADO PADDLING TRAIL
- 15 ARROYO-RESACA MULTI-USE TRAIL (HARLINGEN TO SAN BENITO)
- 16 BATTLEFIELD EXTENSION MULTI-USE TRAIL TO LOS FRESNOS
- 17 LAGUNA MADRE U.S. BICYCLE ROUTE 55
- 18 PALO ALTO TO BAHIA GRANDE MULTI-USE TRAIL
- 19 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND MULTI-USE TRAIL



## SYSTEM MAP

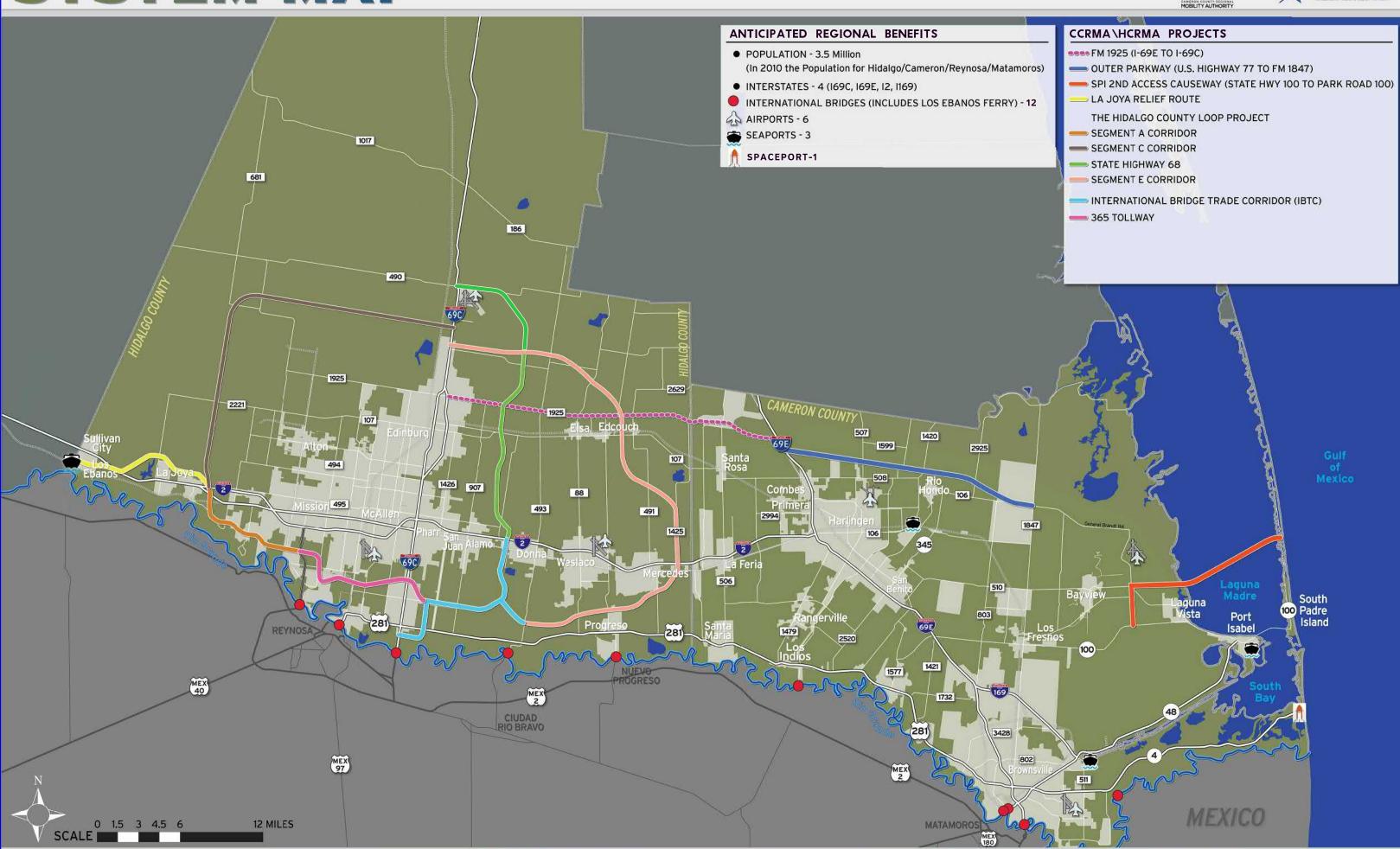




## SYSTEM MAP







### **CCRMA Project List**

Since our creation in 2004, the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (CCRMA) has made significant progress to find new and innovative solutions to reduce congestion, improve connectivity, and facilitate economic development within Cameron County. The CCRMA works with the numerous cities in Cameron County and its neighbor to the South, the State of Tamaulipas, to improve mobility at a much more rapid pace. The CCRMA also works very closely with the Texas Department of Transportation on several ongoing projects in Cameron County. The CCRMA has the authority to undertake projects related to highways, rail, air, and seaport.

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (UNDER CONSTRUCTION)		
Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost
South Port Connector (SPC)	The Southern Connection to the Port of Brownsville. The new location roadway connects to SH 4 and consists of 2-12 ft lanes with 12 ft shoulders.	\$27.0 Million
West Rail Trail Project	The project creates a 6.5-mile-long pedestrian and bicycle mobility corridor through the City of Brownsville.	\$8.0 Million
South Parallel Corridor Phase II	The 2nd phase of the South Parallel Corridor project is from FM 509 to FM 2520.	\$10.0 Million
Transportation Projects (Under Construction) Subtotal		\$45.0 Million

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (SHOVEL READY)		
Project Name Project Description Estir Cos		
SH 550 Gap II Project	The SH 550 Gap 2 is the final Gap Project in the completion of the SH 550/I 169 from I69E to the Port of Brownsville. The SH 550 Gap 2 Project limits are from 0.2 miles south of FM 1847 to 1.13 miles east of Union Pacific Railroad. This will provide the Port of Brownsville and Interstate highway to their main entrance.	\$21 Million



Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost
Old Alice Road Project	Coad Currently, Old Alice Road consists of sections that are unpaved and paved. The proposed improvements are to reconstruct and widen the existing roadway to provide for a paved four lane urban roadway with shoulders and sidewalks within the existing right-of-way. The 5-mile road project will provide connectivity to the Cities of Brownsville and Los Fresnos.	
Transportation Proj	ects (Shovel Ready) Subtotal	\$38.75 Million

PORT PROJECTS (SHOVEL READY)		
Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost
Veterans International Bridge Primary Lane Expansion Project	The Veterans International Bridge is a partnership between Cameron County and the City of Brownsville. Interstate 69E starts at the Veterans International Bridge and this project would facilitate the movement of passenger vehicles between Brownsville and Matamoros. The project construction plans are complete and approved by GSA, CBP and TxDOT. Letting April 27, 2022.	\$15 Million
Port Projects (Shovel Ready) Subtotal		\$15 Million

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (UNDER DESIGN)		
Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost
U.S. 77/I-69E Project	This collaborative multi-county project will extend existing U.S. 77 from Corpus Christi to Brownsville to Interstate standards. This potential project is under consideration as a multi-modal Corridor.	\$269 Million
East Loop Project	The East Loop Project consists of a 10-mile-long segment with the construction of a four to six-lane roadway from SH 4 to 169E (U.S. 77/83) and the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates.	\$100 Million



Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost
FM 509 Project	FM 509 will be constructed to add new four lane divided highway from FM 508/FM 509 intersection to FM 1579. The Project will be approximately 3 miles.	
Mountain Bike Trail	Enhancements to existing mountain bike trail at the Pedro "Pete" Benavides County Park, Cameron County Texas.	\$.1 Million
Isla Blanca Toll Booths	Toll booth for Cameron County Beach Access.	\$.3 Million
West Blvd Roadway Project	As a component of the 6.5-mile West Rail Trail project, the roadway project proposes to create a 2-mile urban roadway section that would also accommodate pedestrian and bicycle mobility corridor through the City of Brownsville.	\$6 Million
Transportation Proje	ects (Under Design) Subtotal	\$383.4 Million

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (PLANNING STAGES)		
Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost
SPI 2nd Access Project	The Second Access Project will include a bridge approximately 8 miles long to South Padre Island will involve a second crossing on a new location to South Padre Island to provide a much-needed alternate route from the island to the mainland, as well as facilitate evacuation of South Padre in the event of a hurricane or other natural disaster.	\$500 Million
Outer Parkway Project	The Outer Parkway Project is approximately 21.5 miles long and includes the construction of a new four lane tolled divided highway from I69E (U.S. 77) near the North Cameron County Line to FM 1847.	\$200 Million
Commerce Street Project	CCRMA has been working with Cameron County, the City of Harlingen, and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) to install a new track connection to align the UPRR Harlingen Subdivision track at Jefferson Street directly across Commerce Street to connect to the UPRR Brownsville Subdivision. This new connection would result in the retirement of approximately 1.7 miles of the Harlingen Subdivision between U.S. 77 Sunshine Strip and Jefferson Avenue, which includes removal of seven (7) at-grade road crossings at Adams Avenue,	\$6 Million
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Project Name	Project Description	
	Washington Avenue, Lela Street, Ona Street, Orange Heights Road, Markowsky Avenue, and Commerce Street south of U.S. 77 Sunshine Strip.	
I-69 Connector	The interim facility would consist of a Super 2 highway with 2–12-foot travel lanes in each direction with an additional lane built to one side of the facility at alternate locations for directional passing lanes with a 300' ROW footprint for future transportation needs. The ultimate facility (which will be considered at a future date) would consist of an urban freeway with 2–12-foot travel lanes in each direction with a center barrier and 2–12-foot lane frontage roads with 4' inside and 10' outside shoulders.	\$495 Million
Morrison Road Project	This is a new location road from FM 1847 to FM 511. When complete, Morrison Road will go from FM 3248 to FM 511. This project will provide connectivity to a large retail area in Brownsville and reduce congestion on several major roads.	
Whipple Road Project	This road will be improved from FM 1847 to FM 1575. The right-of-way is in place to do the necessary improvements.	
281 Connector Project	The 281 Connector Project is approximately 7.5 miles long and includes the construction of a four-lane divided highway from U.S. 281 to 169E (U.S. 77/83).	\$140 Million
Dana Road	This road will be improved from FM 802 to FM 3248. The right-of-way is in place to do the necessary improvements. Includes a small bridge structure.	\$20 Million
South Parallel Corridor III	The 3rd and final phase of the South Parallel Corridor project is proposed from FM 2520 to FM 1577.	\$10 Million
Transportation Pro	jects (Planning Stages) Subtotal	\$1.394 Billion

PORT PROJECTS (PLANNING STAGES)		
Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost
Flor de Mayo International Bridge	New Port of Entry located at Flor de Mayo will provide access to US 281 and MEX 2, allowing travelers to avoid congested urban areas on both sides on the US/Mexico border.	\$40 Million



Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost
Port Projects (Pla	nning Stages) Subtotal	\$40 Million

	TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS		
Project Name	Project Description	Estimated Cost	
Cameron County International Bridges	Electronic Toll Collection System.	\$1.8 Million	
Cameron County Coastal Parks	Electronic Toll Collection System.	\$1.8 Million	
Cameron County Parks	Wi-Fi Connectivity.	\$.5 Million	
Technology Project	s Subtotal	\$4.1 Million	

ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COSTS – ALL TYPES	\$1,920,250,000
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