

RESOLUTION

2017-03

**PROVDING SUPPORT FROM THE
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
REAFFIRMING THE ECONOMIC AND
COMMUNITY SIGNIFICANCE OF
THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY REGION**

WHEREAS, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC), the regional Council of Governments serving and representing over 1.3 million residents of Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties; and,

WHEREAS, the LRGVDC advocates for the region's vast economic and community impact while encouraging cooperation among units of government to improve the region's health, safety, and general welfare; and,

WHEREAS, the prosperity and development of the region has centered upon strategic partnerships, such as the vital relationship with the neighboring country of Mexico; and,

WHEREAS, our continued success relies on protecting our joint priorities such as economic, cultural, trade, public safety, and security considerations; and,

WHEREAS, federal programs that provide measurable impact, generate economic opportunities, and sustain local communities are currently under federal budget review for possible elimination; and,

WHEREAS, the cities and counties of the LRGVDC have benefitted from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding which have assisted our communities to either recover from economic displacements or have spurred economic growth and job retention; and,

WHEREAS, the EDA has invested over \$35 million across the region over the past 10 years, including beneficial projects in the areas of public works, economic development planning, economic adjustment implementation, and technical assistance; and,

WHEREAS, the region has been awarded over \$99 million over the past 5 years in CDBG funds to address critical needs such as infrastructure improvements, flood, drainage, water, sewer, streets, housing, public services, and public health services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the cities and counties represented by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council:

THAT, we call upon our region's civic leaders, local elected officials, Texas State Senators, Texas State Representatives, United States Senators and United States Representatives to advocate and support the region's continued prosperity by:

1. Embracing the vital relationship with Mexico to ensure cooperative and strategic planning on matters such as trade, immigration, border security, public safety, and economic development; and
2. Supporting continued funding for the federal programs that provide valuable regional resources such as EDA and the CDBG program; and
3. Remaining committed to the further strengthening the Lower Rio Grande Valley as a significant and resilient region that offers a premier quality of life and a highly desirable place to live, work, and visit.

Adopted and approved this 31st day of May, 2017 at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Board of Directors.



Mayor Tony Martinez
LRGVDC Board President