RESOLUTION 2022-12

Resolution to approve the submittal of a Texas Federal Lands Access Program (TX FLAP) proposal for the full design, and partial construction, of the Bahia Grande Trail

WHEREAS, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Active Transportation and Active Tourism Plan (LRGV Active Plan) was adopted November 2016 and the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Active Transportation Plan (RGVMPO ATP) was adopted December 2020; and

WHEREAS, the RGVMPO ATP recommends increasing mobility across active transportation modes, creating an integrated regional transportation network, allowing users of all ages and abilities to access resources across the region, improve public health and support local economies; and

WHEREAS, the LRGV Active Plan recommends a multi-use trail to connect the Bahia Grande Unit of Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge (US Fish & Wildlife Service) to the Palo Alto National Historical Battlefield Park (National Park Service); and

WHEREAS, the Bahia Grande Trail is approximately 20 miles-long and would connect the cities of Port Isabel and Laguna Vista to Brownsville and Los Fresnos through an extension of the City of Brownsville's Historic Battlefield Trail and the City of Los Frensos' Hike & Bike Trail, providing a safe route for cyclists and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, the project connects people to the South Texas Eco-Tourism Center, public parks and green space, expands outdoor education opportunities for health and well-being and improves access to close-to-home recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Federal Lands Access Program (TX FLAP) 2022 Call for Projects presents an opportunity for funding transportation facilities that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within federal lands; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the RGVMPO Transportation Policy Board agreed by majority vote to approve the submittal of a Texas Federal Lands Access Program (TX FLAP) proposal for the full design, and partial construction, of the Bahia Grande Trail.

Passed and Approved this 29th day of June 2022

The Honorable Eddie Trevino

Cameron County Judge

Chairman of the RGVMPO Policy Board

Pedro "Pete" Alvarez District Engineer

Relu MX

TxDOT – Pharr District

Andrew A. Canon

Executive Director

RGVMPO