



Regional Council of Governments & Economic Development District serving Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy County

RESOLUTION 2018-05

REQUESTING FURTHER CONSIDERATION FROM FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) REGARDING DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FROM JUNE 2018 FLOODING EVENTS

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 Lower Rio Grande Valley region experienced significant damages and remarkable negative impact from the flooding events of June 2018; and,

WHEREAS, these impacts lead to local, state, and federal declarations of disaster prompting eligibility for recovery and reconstruction assessment and resources; and,

WHEREAS, FEMA's limited assessment yielded only \$18 million dollars in damages to government-owned property, falling short of the federally mandated \$36 million dollar threshold for public property qualification; and,

WHEREAS, through our local comprehensive assessment and attentive documentation we feel justifiably confident regional damages significantly surpasses the mandated threshold.

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

THAT, we profoundly call upon the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to reconsider their assessment findings by:

1. Expanding on their limited onsite assessment by conducting further onsite review of all acknowledged damaged government-owned property.
2. Fully utilizing the immense amount of documentation, photographs, reconstruction estimates, and other corresponding documentation as a factor towards the assessment amount.

3. Honoring a thorough appeal by accurately verifying which specific documented damaged areas do and do not qualify.
4. Permitting the residents, elected officials, and public administrators of the Lower Rio Grande Valley a fair and accurate damage assessment in order to continue the region's growth and economic prosperity as a highly desirable place to live, work, and visit.

Adopted this 26th day of September, 2018



The Honorable Norma G. Garcia, President