



2024 REGIONAL SMALL CITIES COALITION

Annual Conference



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
July 25, 2024

8:30 – 9:00 am

Breakfast & Snacks: *Sponsored by City of Edcouch, Valiant Energy, & USDA*

9:00 – 9:05 am

**Welcome by City of Granjeno – Mayor Yvette Cabrera,
RSCC Chair**

9:05 – 9:15 am

**Community & Economic Development Department Overview
Melisa Gonzales-Rosas, Assistant Director**

Session I:

9:15 – 10:00 am

Watershed Protection Planning (WPP)

- Laguna Madre WPP
Augusto Sanchez, Director of Department of Natural Resources, Cameron County
- Arroyo Colorado WPP
Dr. Jude Benavides, Professor of Hydrology and Environmental Sciences, School of Earth, Environmental and Marine Sciences (SEEMS)/UTRGV
- RGV Watershed Assessment Project
Aaron Chastain, CAP/PAS/FPMS Manager, USACE

RAFFLE

10:05 – 10:20 am

-----BREAK-----

Session II:

10:20 – 10:40 am

**Small Community Initiatives – Julian Alvarez, Senior VP
Lone Star National Bank**

Session III:

10:40 – 11:20 am

Water Resources (Water Supply, Water Quality & RWRAC)

- North & Central Drain Projects
Linda Navarro, Project Manager, RATES

- LRGVDC FIF Project
Dr. Chris Fuller, Chief of Operations, RATES
- American Flood Coalition – Washington D.C. Visit
Mayor Alma Salinas, Sullivan City

11:20 – 11:30 am

-----BREAK-----

Session IV:

11:30 – 12:10 pm

Economic Development

- LRGVDC CEDS Update
Melisa Gonzales-Rosas, C&ED Assistant Director
- Framework for Strategic Planning
Ron Garza, Senior Associate Vice President, Workforce & Economic Development, Division for Governmental and Community Relations, UTRGV
- Economic Development Resources
Mallory McCoy, South Texas Regional Representative
Community Relations Specialist Texas Economic Development and Tourism, *Office of Governor Greg Abbott*

RAFFLE

12:15 – 12:30 pm

Lunch Break (grab lunch from lobby area)
Sponsored By City of Raymondville

Session V:

12:30 – 1:00 pm

Small Community Economic & Community Development:
Steve Pena, Executive Director City of Alton Development Corporation

Session VI:

1:00 – 1:40 pm

Community Development

- LRGVDC Valley Metro
Tom Logan, Director of Regional Transit
- TX GLO - 2022 Resilient Communities Program
Regina Erales, Grant Coordinator, GLO
- UTSA– EDA-Funded Assistance for Small Communities in South TX
Joseph Morones, Project Manager, UTSA
- Regional Solid Waste Management Plan 2022-2042
Melisa Gonzales-Rosas, C&ED Assistant Director

1:40 – 2:00 pm

Closing Remarks & Updates

***FINAL RAFFLE – Donated by Prairie View A&M University
(only Small Cities eligible)***

Special Thanks to our Guests & Sponsors:

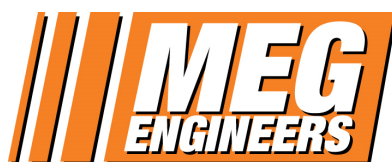
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2024 REGIONAL SMALL CITIES COALITION

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City of Alton
City of Bayview
Town of Combes
City of Donna
City of Edcouch
City of Elsa
City of Granjeno
City of Hidalgo
Town of Indian Lake
City of La Joya
City of La Feria
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