

## **RESOLUTION 2011-36**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS AFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO THE GOALS OF THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION PREPARED BY THE REGIONAL PLANNING CONSORTIUM OF RIO SOUTH TEXAS**

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission of the City of La Feria recognizes that regional planning and cooperation can provide an effective response to many challenges facing small communities and their residents in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, as well as to the larger region and its residents overall;

**WHEREAS**, as evidence of its commitment to regional cooperation, the City of La Feria actively participates in the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, the Rio Grande Valley Partnership, the Small Cities Coalition, the Harlingen-San Benito Metropolitan Planning Organization, as well as other organizations;

**WHEREAS**, the challenges facing the City of La Feria, its residents and all of the communities and residents in the Lower Rio Grande Valley include affordable access to higher education and job training opportunities and safe, decent and affordable housing that is proximate to good-paying employment;

**WHEREAS**, in the face of continued rapid population growth and urbanization occurring in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, regional planning and cooperation offers an effective means to promote the continued economic vitality of the region and increased prosperity of our residents and protection of our natural resources and quality of life;

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. The City of La Feria affirms its commitment to the goals of the Federal Sustainable Communities Partnership (The Partnership) between the U.S. Department of Transportation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

2. The City of La Feria supports the application by the Regional Planning Consortium of Rio South Texas for funding from the 2011 Federal Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program to create a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development that includes the six livability principles defined by The Partnership:

- A. **Provide more transportation choices.** Develop safe, reliable and economical transportation choices to decrease household transportation costs, reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote public health.

- B. **Promote equitable, affordable housing.** Expand location- and energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races and ethnicities to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.
- C. **Enhance economic competitiveness.** Improve economic competitiveness through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services and other basic needs by workers as well as expanded business access to markets.
- D. **Support existing communities.** Target federal funding toward existing communities – through such strategies as transit-oriented, mixed-use development and land recycling – to increase community revitalization, improve the efficiency of public works investments, and safeguard rural landscapes.
- E. **Coordinate policies and leverage investment.** Align policies and funding to remove barriers to collaboration, leverage funding, and increase the accountability and effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices such as locally generated renewable energy.
- F. **Value communities and neighborhoods.** Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in healthy, safe and walkable neighborhoods – rural, urban or suburban

3. The City of La Feria authorizes the execution of a partnership agreement with all other organizations assisting in the efforts to create a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development. Furthermore, by the Mayor or City Manager on the City's behalf.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City hereby pledges continued support for the Regional Planning Consortium of Rio South Texas throughout the planning process.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Commission of the City of La Feria, Texas on this the 13<sup>TH</sup> day of September 2011.

**APPROVED:**

  
Lori Weaver, Mayor Pro Tem

**ATTEST:**

  
Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
Richard S. Talbert, City Attorney