

Quarter 3, 2021

COG NEWS

Coastal Bend Council of Governments Newsletter



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COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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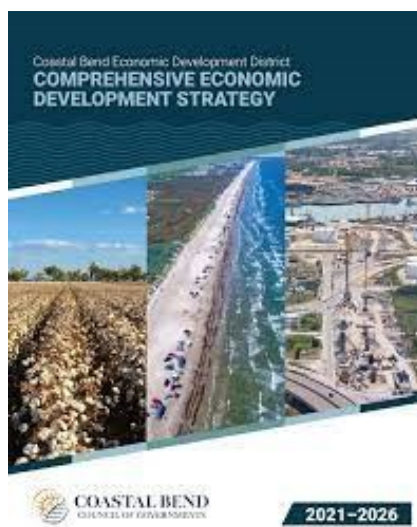


Emily Martinez (center) chats with Jorge Ayala (2nd from left) and his team regarding CBCOG initiatives

SWREDA CONFERENCE

EDA executives and economic development leaders gathered in Rogers, AR to discuss resilience initiatives, legislative trends and growth strategies.

2021 CEDS APPROVED BY EDA



“The Previous CEDS was designed for professional economic developers. This one is designed for Economic Developers but also for Elected Officials, Community Leaders, Industry Leaders, and other Stakeholders . It’s for our community.”

Emily Martinez

Director of

Regional Economic Development

GLO MOD

Method of Distribution Facts

Q: How much was allocated this round?

A: Our region will receive \$179 million

Q: How will the allocation be determined?

A: The GLO will contract with CBCOG to determine the allocation based on local data and public feedback.

Q: Where can the money be spent?

A: In Harvey affected areas: Aransas, Bee, Jim Wells, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties may apply for projects, as well as cities in those counties.

Q: What size project can be funded?

A: The minimum project is \$1,000,000

Q: When will Public Comment start?

A: CBCOG will begin public Comment in Q1 2022

**“Do not resent growing old,
many are denied
the privilege.”
— Irish proverb**



MEET VIOLA MONRREAL

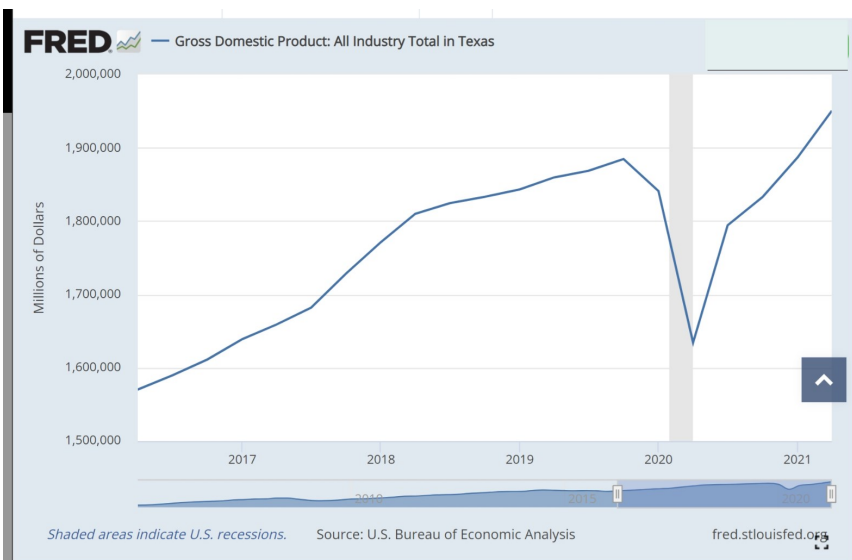
“Seniors can have great quality of life,” says Viola Monrreal, Director of Area Agency on Aging/Aging and Disability Resource Center at CBCOG. “but it may look different than it did when they were in their 40s and 50s.”

“Our goal is to support independent living for older adults by assuring availability of high quality, efficient, community services for seniors, and persons of any age living with disabilities”

Monrreal leads a team of more than 15 full time and part-time experts in all facets of senior services from benefits counseling, caregiver education and training, ombudsman, information and referral resource specialists, congregate and home delivered, evidence based programs and dementia experts. Her team was critical in earning Corpus Christi the Dementia Friendly City designation this year.

“It’s a privilege to work with this team” she says. “They have to cover a huge geographic area-many of our seniors and persons with disabilities of any age live in very remote rural communities, with very few resources”

To do that, Monrreal manages over 30 funding streams to serve her Consumers. Monrreal’s budget makes up the lion’s share of CBCOG’s funding. “CBCOG makes a difference in so many lives through these resources” she says. “It makes a difference.”



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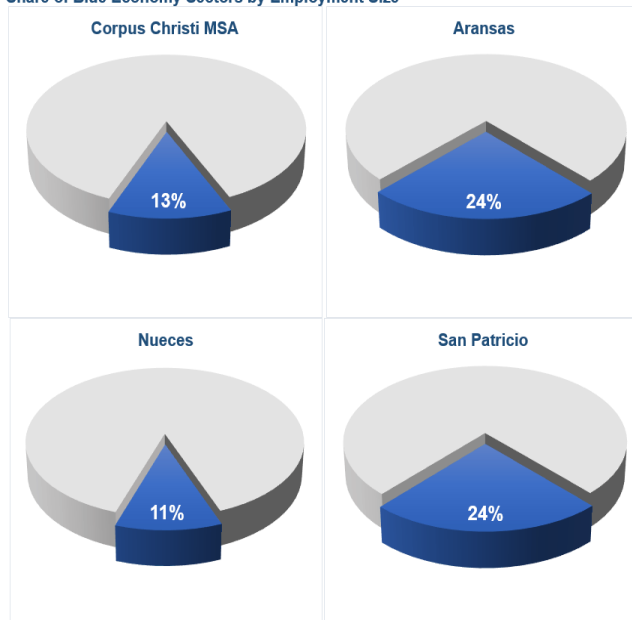
RRP RESILIENCE TRAINEES PLAN ACTION



The resilience training funded by the Earl C. Sams foundation to train community leadership continued with sessions on action planning. Members of the American Flood Coalition presented strategies to prevent flooding and protect habitat. Participants developed plans to bring to their communities. Above, Skip Stiles from Wetlands Watch listens as Sharon Lewis, Environmental Affairs Manager with the City of Corpus Christi, shares her experience with flooding.

South Texas' Blue Economy

Share of Blue Economy Sectors by Employment Size



Sources: NOAA, ENOW; Bureau of Economic Analysis; and author's calculations.

South Texas is poised to leverage Gulf Coast resources as drivers of economic growth, including oysters and offshore wind energy.

Source <https://stedc.tamucc.edu/>



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CBCOG & CBC MOU

To promote regional access to post secondary education and trade credentials in the rural areas, CBCOG signed an MOU with Coastal Bend College. CBCOG is actively seeking funding for multi-purpose community buildings in rural communities from EDA and other sources. CBC agrees to provide on site courses and other resources to underserved areas.

"This partnership with CBCOG aligns perfectly with our 5 C's: Communication, Community, Cooperation, Collaboration, Civility. CBCOG is an ideal ambassador for Coastal Bend College throughout the region. Graduates of Coastal Bend College will be impacting economic development in the Coastal Bend for generations."

- Dr. Justin Hoggard, President Coastal Bend College



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