

COG NEWS

Coastal Bend Council of Governments



COASTAL BEND
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS

Portraits of former CBCOG chairs adorns the wall of the newly upgraded Conference Room.

Education to Employment Collaborative

Coastal Bend Council of Governments was named a partner in the Education to Employment grant awarded by the Trellis Foundation. The Collaboration is headed by Dr. Janet Cunningham at Education to Employment. CBCOG's role is to outreach and coordinate events and services in Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells and San Patricio counties.

"Workforce Development is Economic Development,"

says Emily Martinez,

Director of Regional Economic Development, CBCOG.

"The Trellis Foundation Grant gives us the resources to bring services directly to our rural counties. This partnership will benefit the entire region."

EDA Investment

Funding Infrastructure in the Coastal Bend

Q: How much was allocated?

A: More than \$33 Million has been committed since Hurricane Harvey .

Q: What projects have been funded?

A: EDA financed Road Improvements, Marina Improvements, as well as investments in Arts, Education and Workforce.

Q: Where was the money spent?

A: Aransas, Kleberg, Nueces and San Patricio Counties have funded projects

Q: Will EDA be investing additional funds?

A: EDA announced an additional \$3 Billion nationwide. We have several projects in the region that will apply for the funds.



MEET EMILY MARTINEZ

“Economic Development is yeoman's work,” says Emily Martinez, Director of Economic Development at CBCOG. “Everyone wants the big companies and big attractions, but without critical infrastructure investment, the jobs won't come.”

Martinez has spent the last 14 years in Economic Development, first with the City of Corpus Christi, then with the Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation and now with CBCOG, where she has been Director of Economic Development since September of 2020.

“Our role at CBCOG is to represent and advocate for the entire region in funding and infrastructure projects.” She says. “We can do the heavy lifting that individual entities don't have the bandwidth to do on their own.

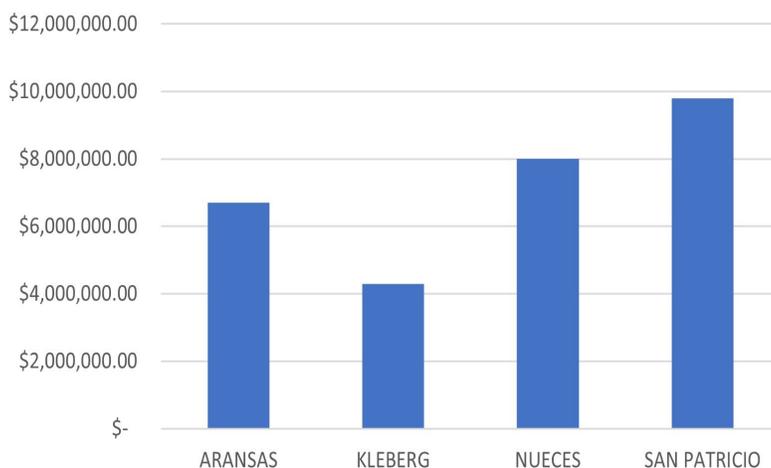
Martinez holds a Masters in Public Administration and a Bachelors in Political Science from Texas A&M Corpus Christi. She is a member of the Texas Lyceum and serves on many state and local Boards.



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EDA INVESTMENTS SINCE HARVEY

EDA Funded Projects Since Harvey (August 2017)



Source: www.usaspending.gov

RRP TRAINS RESILIENT LEADERS

The Regional Resilience Partnership, the venture between CBCOG and TAMUCC, was awarded a grant from the Earl C. Sams foundation to train community leadership on how to build a resilient citizenry. The program featured Disaster Experts from around the country to work with County Judges and other leaders to develop action plans and strategies to bounce back from the next crisis.



Disaster expert JR Sanderson traveled from South Carolina to work with participants.



Duval County Judge Gilbert Saenz focuses on strategies to build resilience. Zoom Attendees included Brooks County Judge Eric Ramos and Refugio County Judge Robert Blaschke.



INGELSIDE KEEPS TEXAS BEAUTIFUL

CBCOG FACILITATES PARTNERSHIP

CBCOG Environmental Team announces a game changing collaboration with H-E-B. Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB), through its Keep Texas Recycling program, is proud to offer funding as part of the H-E-B Community Recycling Grant Program. Created in 2021, this program seeks projects that will help communities build sustainable recycling opportunities and increase public education and awareness around waste reduction and recycling. Funding for this grant opportunity is provided by H-E-B/Central Market. The City of Ingleside was awarded \$100,000 towards their new citizen collection and recycling center.





Caregivers Trained

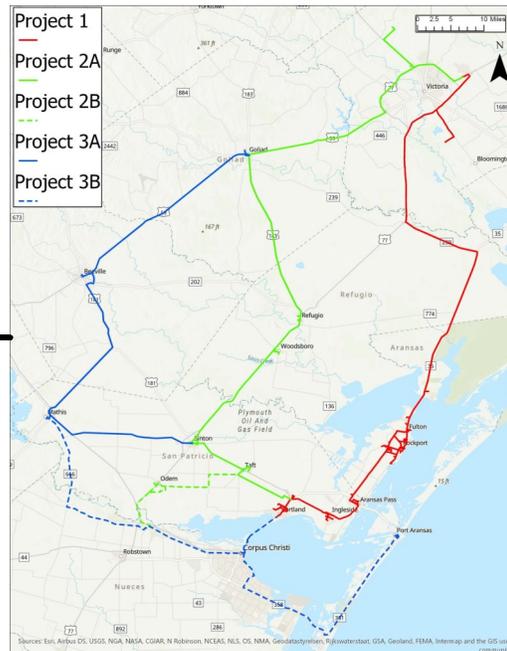
AAA Serves Our Community

A total of 72 people attended Care Provider Training about Alzheimer's and related dementia communication strategies

Broadband Stakeholder Meeting

Coastal Bend Council of Governments serves as a facilitator for regional collaboration on important infrastructure issues. CBCOG hosted stakeholders from around the region to discuss the feasibility of building a regional broadband backbone to better prepare for future emergencies along the Coastal Bend and Golden Crescent regions. Increased broadband infrastructure will increase public safety, develop local workforce capabilities and improve economic development.

President Biden Proposes \$100 Billion for Broadband Infrastructure
USA Today April 3, 2021



Three proposed routes.



Refugio County Judge Robert Blaschke examines proposed routes.

