PRIORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024

City of McAllen
City of Edinburg
City of Mission
Metropolitan Statistical Areas

FEBRUARY 2024

PREPARED FOR:
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Acknowledgments

This report was developed by the City of McAllen in conjunction with the partnering municipalities of the Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) that include the City of Edinburg and the City of Mission. The report was generated to meet requirement deliverables of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

EPA Disclaimer:

Please note "this project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under assistance agreement Grant Number 02F39801 to the City of McAllen. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the EPA, nor does the EPA endorse trade names or recommend the use of commercial products mentioned in this document".

Definitions and Acronyms

CCAP	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan
CEJST	Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
CPRG	Climate Pollution Reduction Grant
FLIGHT	Facility Level Information on Greenhouse Gases Tool
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
LGGIT	Local Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool
LIDAC	Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities
LRGDC	Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Areas
NEI	National Emissions Inventory Tool
PCAP	Priority Climate Action Plan
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
UTRGV	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

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1.0 Introduction

The City of McAllen continues its valued partnership with the neighboring municipalities of the City of Edinburg and the City of Mission. Through this municipality team designated as the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), the Cities have joined collaborative efforts for participation in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program. The McAllen MSA was awarded a CPRG – Planning Grant in 2023, and plans to incorporate stakeholder involvement through City departments, residents and business owners, local and state government agencies, universities, and community organizations in the development of a Climate Action Plan for the MSA region. For this endeavor, the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA will be seeking consultant services during the next phase of the CPRG – Planning Grant consisting of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan deliverable.

1.1 CPRG OVERVIEW

The U.S. EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grant for the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) is being spearheaded by the City of McAllen. The McAllen MSA objectives for participating with the CPRG – Planning Grant included (1) Conduction of an initial review of existing municipality programs, services, and operations for their role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the MSA, and (2) Formal solicitation for Grant Consultant Services to provide professional expertise in delivering an emissions study, an emission reduction and carbon management plan, and stakeholder engagement activities for final development of a Climate Action Plan. For the first deliverable of the CPRG – Planning Grant, a Priority Climate Action Plan, McAllen initiated networking with its partnering Cities to establish internal connections with City Departments and external connections with local stakeholders to share environmental approaches for greenhouse gas emissions reduction in the MSA Region.

1.2 PCAP Overview and Definitions

Through the process of completing the Priority Climate Action Plan, the McAllen MSA reviewed recommended resources and tools from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and City departments. Resource selection was based on discussions with the MSA City partnerships and networking coordination with community stakeholders, as the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Final utilizing of the EPA's Local Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool produced a very preliminary Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory that would serve as a base for the next phase of the CPRG - Planning Grant, implementation of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan. The following outline presents the four requirements of the Priority Climate Action Plan and a defined purpose for the McAllen MSA's plan report.

- **GHG Inventory -** (*Development of an initial greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the MSA utilizing EPA's LGGIT)*
- **GHG Reduction Measures -** *(Review and selection of programs for their potential in reducing greenhouse gas emissions for climate pollution reduction in the MSA)*
- **Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis -** *(A preliminary benefit analysis to aid in the environmental approach for implementing projects that will directly benefit low income and disadvantaged communities within the MSA, and also ensure provision of the maximum benefits for the region)*
- **Review of Authority to Implement for each measure -** (*The MSA will follow City protocol for obtaining required approvals from designated jurisdictions for the implementation of programs selected for climate pollution reduction).*

1.3 Scope of the PCAP

The McAllen-Edinburg-Mission Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the tri-cities of McAllen, Edinburg, and Mission and is located in Hidalgo, Texas within a region known as the Rio Grande Valley. The City of McAllen has been designated as the principal city leading the CPRG for the MSA.

Table 1: MSA Boundary and Estimated 2023 Population

MSA CITY	AREA (Sq. Mi.)	POPULATION
McAllen	65.1	145,790
Edinburg	44.72	104,294
Mission	34.1	87,551

As noted in Table 1, all three Cities encompass approximately 143.92 square miles and include a population estimated at 337,635 for 2023. However, according to the EPA CPRG Planning Grants Program Guidance for States-Municipalities-Air Agencies, the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX Metro Area is estimated at 870,781 based on the 2020 population. The City of McAllen Stormwater Management Plan of 2019 describes the MSA within the Western Gulf Coastal Plan ecoregion, specifically the Lower Rio Grande Valley. This ecoregion is characterized by its relatively flat topography and grassland natural vegetation. The area is characterized by a humid, subtropical, continental climate with hot summers and mild winters. The average maximum temperature in the area occurs in August (96.2°F); the average minimum temperature occurs in January (48.2°F) with an annual average temperature of 73.7°F. Rainfall is the predominant type

of precipitation. It is distributed throughout the year, and reaches a distinct peak in fall. Average inches of rain per year is 26 inches.

Through the combined efforts of the MSA Cities, the focus of the Priority Climate Action Plan was towards setting a base outline for the next step of the Planning Grant, creating a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan with an extensive stakeholder involvement and a comprehensive emissions study.

1.4 Approach to Developing the PCAP

The Priority Climate Action Plan began with City staff reviewing the CPRG - Planning Grant requirements and researching existing department and organizational plans within the tri-cities, as well as local and state government agencies for climate pollution reduction approaches. The below list contains existing plans reviewed for the PCAP.

- TCEQ's Border 2025: United States – Mexico Environmental Program
- Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, (LRGVDC), Community & Economic Development Initiatives
- City of McAllen Stormwater Management Plan 2019
- City of McAllen's Envision McAllen 2040 Comprehensive Plan
- City of McAllen's Strategic Business Plan
- City of McAllen's Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- City of Edinburg's Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- City of Mission's Parks and Recreation Open Space Master Plan
- South Texas Industrial Assessment Center UTRGV – Water Plant Assessment Report TR0031
- South Texas Industrial Assessment Center UTRGV – Energy Assessment Report TR0033

Review of the plans provided guidance for selection of greenhouse gas emissions measures and opportunity in utilizing stakeholder engagement responses and suggestions collected through development of the plans. Stakeholder engagement recommendations obtained within the City plans were referenced in the PCAP, and will be used as a foundation for citizen and community surveys to incorporate into the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.

The next activities consisted of a meeting with the three City liaisons and connecting with proposed collaborations, as mentioned in the MSA Workplan submitted by the City of McAllen Grants Department. Staff reached out to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Harlingen Branch, regarding Border 2025, and to the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley to

connect with departments undertaking research projects in climate pollution reduction, as the UTRGV School of Earth, Environmental, and Marine Sciences, the Manufacturing & Industrial Engineering Department, and the UTRGV Center for Advanced Manufacturing Innovation & Cyber Systems.

During this process, staff identified established programs and services within the Cities that supported greenhouse gas emission reduction: McAllen Metro, Tree City USA status, and Recycle Right! and other programs that perhaps weren't considered environmentally sustainable, but through proposed green modifications could assist with greenhouse gas emissions reduction in the MSA.

Table 2: LGGIT Source Categories of Existing City Programs

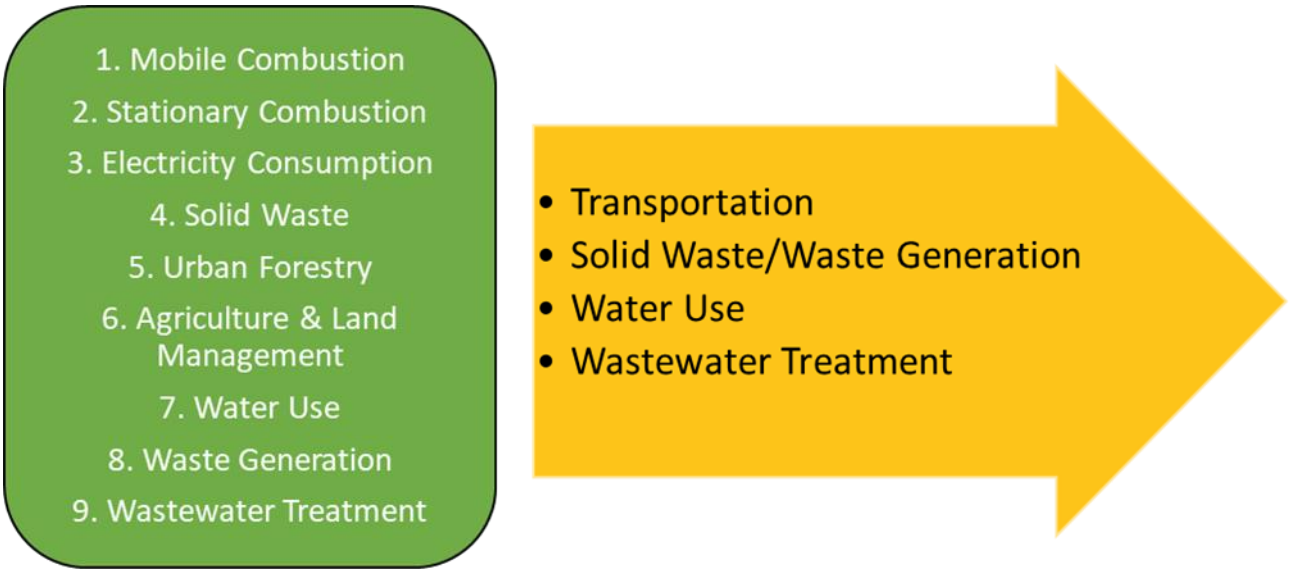
LGGIT Source Categories	Existing City Program
Mobile Combustion	• *Metro McAllen – (Electric Bus Fleet)* • *Hidalgo County/McAllen, Edinburg, Mission Hike and Bike Trail Network* • *McAllen BCycle/RGVBCycle*
Electricity Consumption	• *City Facility Energy Efficient LED Lighting*
Solid Waste/Waste Generation	• *Keep McAllen Beautiful Litter Prevention Awareness* • *Keep Mission Beautiful Recycling* • *McAllen Regional Recycling Program* • *McAllen Nature's Organic Compost* • *Edinburg Recycling Program* • *Edinburg Landfill - LFG High BTU Project*
Urban Forestry	• *McAllen Tiny Forest Program* • *McAllen Tree City USA*
Water Use	• *McAllen, Edinburg, Mission Water Conservation*
Wastewater Treatment	• *McAllen Reclaim Water System*

Finally, an internal City Department survey was conducted by the City of McAllen. The six-question survey collected feedback from City departments on current departmental programs that assisted with greenhouse gas emission reduction, pilot studies in climate pollution reduction, and interest in future implementation of climate pollution reduction programs.

Twenty-eight City departments participated in the survey. The internal survey compiled results indicated the top three choices for current department programs that assisted with greenhouse gas emission reduction as Water Conservation – 52.63%, Transportation Management – 47.37%, and Urban Forestry, Wastewater Treatment, and Solid Waste all tied in third at 31.58%. For pilot studies in climate pollution reduction, tiny forest program, electric fleet, and solar lighting were emphasized. And lastly, for interest in future implementation of climate pollution reduction programs, Transportation Management led at 33.33%, Water Conservation, Renewable Energy, Urban Forestry, and Solid Waste tied in second at 14.29%, and Wastewater Treatment coming in third at 9.52 %.

Review of the existing City programs, networking connections with UTRGV, and internal City survey results aided discussions between the tri-cities and their respective City departments in deciding programs that would benefit the MSA in greenhouse gas emission reduction. This led to the selection of four source categories to focus on identifying, prioritizing, and selecting measures for the PCAP, in conjunction with the preliminary Greenhouse Gas Emissions inventory. The four categories of Transportation, Solid Waste, Water, and Wastewater are displayed in Figure 1.

Figure 1: EPA's Local GHG Inventory Tool – Source Categories



It is the MSA's intention to continue collaboration within the municipalities of McAllen, Edinburg, and Mission and expand to local county and state agency stakeholders for the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan, as the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, UTRGV, and the County of Hidalgo. The MSA will be proceeding with commissioning a consultant for development and implementation of a Climate Action Plan. It is expected that through the consultant's expertise, a regional approach to the MSA's Climate Action Plan with achievable goals for a more sustainable McAllen-Edinburg- Mission MSA will be created.

2.0 PCAP Elements

For the Priority Climate Action Plan of the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA, City staff generated a plan summary containing an initial GHG Inventory, GHG Reduction Measures, a Low-income and Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis, and a Review of Authority to Implement. The summary provides a base outline for the next phase of the CPRG – Planning Grant.

2.1 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory

Scope

The preliminary greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission Metropolitan Areas incorporated the geographical boundaries of the MSA, approximately 143.92 square miles. Currently, the MSA has not implemented a climate action plan nor has any of the three cities completed a greenhouse gas emissions inventory. As such, the preliminary GHG inventory relied on utilization of the recommended EPA resources, in particular the Local Greenhouse Gas Tool.

Data Review

MSA data calculated through the LGGI Tool resulted from submitted facts and figures provided by the McAllen and Edinburg City Departments. Other data inputted stemmed from two main resources, the EPA's Flight Tool and National Emissions Inventory 2020 Tool. Preliminary data included both available city and county numbers. Challenges in data collection and assessments for the initial GHG Emissions Inventory consisted of time constraints and staff knowledge with researching a plethora of resources and initiating data protocol. It was recognized that a secondary review of the PCAP initial inventory data would be required for validation. It is the intention of the MSA to complete this validation process through a consultant. Their expertise will expand the inventory findings towards setting comprehensive mitigation targets and tracking performance as part of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.

GHG Accounting Method

Referencing the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Inventories, the LGGIT classified the data accounting method as Location Based for calculating the Direct Emissions Scope 1 and the Indirect Emissions Scopes 2 and 3. A City-induced framework method was also utilized for emission inventory of activities taking place within the MSA geographic boundary. Data collection was based on a cooperative method between the three cities and dependent on data availability, formal protocol of inclusions, and deliverability deadlines. After consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic, the MSA selected a reporting base year of 2021 for their Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory.

GHG Emission Results

Using the Local Greenhouse Gas Tool, the MSA's basic GHG inventory built on city and county data input for the LGGIT Source Categories of Mobile Combustion, Stationary Combustion, Electricity Consumption, Solid Waste, Urban Forestry, Agriculture & Land Management, Water Use, Waste Generation, and Wastewater Treatment. The GHG inventory included anthropogenic emission estimates for the primary greenhouse gases of $C0_2$, Carbon Dioxide, CH_4, Methane, and N_2O, Nitrous Oxide. The GHG emission initial inventory results were generated from county data for the Direct Emissions Scope 1 Sources of Stationary Combustion and Mobile Combustion. For the Direct Emissions Scope 1 Sources of Solid Waste, MSA data was utilized, and for the Direct Emissions Scope 1 Source of Wastewater Treatment, only the City of McAllen data was completed. Indirect Emission Scope 2 Sources of Electricity Use utilized county data. Lastly, as previously mentioned regarding inventory challenges, Indirect Emissions Scope 3 Sources of Water, Agriculture & Land Management, Urban Forestry, and Waste Generation did not have sufficient available data that could be converted to the calculated methods of units within the time delivery. In the same predicament was data availability for compiling results of HGCs, Hydrofluorocarbons, PFCs, Perfluorocarbons, and SF_6, Sulfur Hexafluoride. It is anticipated for a complete and extensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory to be available with development of the MSA's Comprehensive Climate Action Plan through the selected consulting firm. GHG Emission results for Scope 1 and Scope 2 Sources in MT CO_2e totaled 7,290,762 for CO_2, 16,100 for CH_4, and 45,289 for N_20. And, the calculated total for all three greenhouse gas emissions was 7,352,150 $MTCO_2e$.

Table 3: McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA – Direct and Indirect Emissions Inventory Results

DIRECT EMISSIONS	**GHG EMISSIONS (MT CO_2e)**						
SOURCE - (SCOPE 1)	CO_2	CH_4	N_20	HGCs	PFCs	SF_6	TOTAL
Stationary Combustion							
Residential	90,201	224	45	NE	NE	NE	90,470
Commercial/Institutional	190,449	472	95	NE	NE	NE	191,016
Industrial	488,941	1,213	244	NE	NE	NE	490,398
Mobile Combustion							
Residential	2,387,764	3,411	33,059	NE	NE	NE	2,424,233
Commercial	536,512	865	803	NE	NE	NE	538,180
Industrial	190,720	1,514	0	NE	NE	NE	192,233
Solid Waste	106,855	355	NE	NE	NE	NE	107,210
Wastewater Treatment	NE	173	1,216	NE	NE	NE	1,389
INDIRECT EMISSIONS	**GHG EMISSIONS (MT CO_2e)**						
SOURCE - (SCOPE 2)	CO_2	CH_4	N_20	HGCs	PFCs	SF_6	TOTAL
ELECTRICITY USE							
Residential	1,457,879	3,479	4,342	NE	NE	NE	1,465,701
Commercial/Institutional	1,316,498	3,142	3,921	NE	NE	NE	1,323,561
Industrial	524,942	1,253	1,564	NE	NE	NE	527,759
SOURCE - (SCOPE 3)							
Water	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
Agriculture & Land Management	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
Urban Forestry	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
Waste Generation	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
TOTAL EMISSIONS	7,290,762	16,100	45,289	NE	NE	NE	7,352,150

(NE – Not estimated in preliminary inventory)

2.2 GHG Reduction Measures

The proposed selection of quantified GHG reduction measures emerged from a combined discussion effort within the MSA municipalities and UTRGV, in conjunction with the review of existing city and local sustainable plans and programs. For instance, Keep McAllen Beautiful, an affiliate of Keep Texas Beautiful, carries the mission of developing and expanding public awareness to residents, employees, and visitors of McAllen on litter prevention, proper waste disposal, and the preservation of McAllen's natural beauty. Also, referenced in the MSA's CPRG

Grant Workplan were the following community development, environmental services, and transportation goals of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council's 2019-2024 Regional Strategic Plan.

Community Development Goals

- F. "Preserve the abilities of municipalities and jurisdiction to implement locally-beneficial policies and infrastructure development with regards to factors such as building codes, green preservation, housing policy, annexation, and zoning regulation".

Environmental Services Goals

- A. "Encourage innovative and sustainable projects and programs which promote environmentally sustainable development".
- B. "Promote recycling and waste reduction through development of effective disposal systems for sewage, solid waste, tires, brush and hazardous materials".
- C. "Support bi-national water conservation measures and improve awareness and understanding of water quality and water quantity issues, and how these issues collectively relate to flood management, drainage infrastructure, water quality standards, and economic development".
- D. "Address flood management and drainage infrastructure strategies as a region by emphasizing collaboration and partnerships, especially when creating new and future projects".

Transportation Goals

- B. "Further adopt and implement multi-modal transportation infrastructure, policies and resources such as sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, pedestrian paths, rideshare systems, and transit corridors to develop healthier, safe, livable communities".
- E. Ensure environmental sustainability, energy conservation and preservation of natural resources through coordinated state and local planning and economic development."

Consequently, choice selection of the greenhouse gas emission reduction measures embodied these existing City and local programs and projects. It is the hope that through additional engagement with LRGVDC, UTRGV, and KMB, along with all municipality departments and local county community stakeholders that a regional sustainable effort will be attained in meeting the set measurable goals of the following greenhouse gas reduction measures.

Category A

GHG Reduction Measure - Transportation

- *Support transportation management programs to encourage public transit use, regional bike share programs, and pedestrian modes for walkable communities*
  ***Anticipated measurable**: Number of partnerships, pedestrian participation, miles of public modes, annual ridership.*
- *Increase City Transit Fleet to electric capacity 2% by 2030.*
  ***Anticipated measurable**: Number of electrical vehicles in fleet, route efficiency.*

Category B

GHG Reduction Measure – Electricity

- *Evaluate installation of renewable energy, energy efficiency measures, and energy storage systems at 20% of municipal facilities by 2030.*
  ***Anticipated measurable**: Number of municipal facilities evaluated, number of municipal facilities with installation energies, employee benefit analysis, cost savings from energy efficiencies.*

Category C

GHG Reduction Measure – Solid Waste

- *Enhance solid waste programs to reduce or divert waste 10% by 2030 through improved production practices, improved collection services, increased reuse or recycling rates, and through technology advancements.*
  ***Anticipated measurable**: Tonnage of waste collected and recycled, type of solid waste programs implemented and/or modified, number of participation alliances, and program efficiency rates.*

Category D

GHG Reduction Measure – Urban Forestry

- *Expand education, training, and resources for existing urban forestry programs to increase urban tree canopy 10% by 2030.*
  ***Anticipated measurables**: Number of educational trainings, number of participants, square footage of tree planting areas, number of trees planted, percentage of tree canopy acreage increase per year, types and number of partnerships involvement.*

Through the MSA Workplan analysis, the Transportation GHG Reduction Measure took into consideration the two electric buses currently in use by McAllen Metro, along with the City of McAllen, City of Edinburg, and City of Mission coordination with Hidalgo County on expansion of the Hike and Bike Trails program. The City of Edinburg's Water Plant and Energy Assessment Reports by the South Texas Industrial Assessment Center UTRGV inspired proposals for GHG Reduction Measure of Electricity to increase overall energy efficiencies at the water treatment plants and all City facilities. While, the GHG Reduction Measure for Solid Waste reflected on the current Cities' recycling programs, including the composting product – Nature's Organics, and regional litter awareness programs, and the City of Edinburg Landfill and Edinburg Renewables, LLC. partnership for expansion of the City's current collection and extraction system. Through the Tree City USA status initiated by Keep McAllen Beautiful partnerships with Quinta Mazatlan and McAllen Parks and Recreation, measurable accomplishments in 2021 included establishment of a Tree Board, a community tree ordinance in place, and a community forestry program with an annual expenditure per capita of $4.78. Two hundred and fifty-one (251) trees were planted, and two thousand, seven hundred and thirty-five (2,735) trees were pruned. Also, the urban forestry program partnership between Quinta Mazatlan, McAllen Public Utility, McAllen Parks and Recreation, and UTRGV created the Tiny Forest Program. All five projected GHG Reduction Measures were selected from existing City programs and to be elevated within the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan. Implementation agencies for the five measures would be through the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA and highly anticipated collaborations with local, county, and regional organizations:

- Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
- Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
- County of Hidalgo
- University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Keep McAllen Beautiful.

Metrics for tracking progress will be addressed through the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan as project management outlines measures for scope, time, and cost components. Anticipated measurables may be subject to modifications as recommended through the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan development by the consultant.

2.3 Low Income Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis

As noted in the MSA CPRG – Planning Grant Workplan Summary, "Because of the proximity to the Mexican border, the Cities of McAllen, Edinburg and Mission are primarily Hispanic and have

a median income lower than state and national levels. As per the 2020 Decennial Census, McAllen was comprised of 86.6% Hispanic, Mission was 88.5%, Edinburg was 88.4% while the State of Texas was 39.3% and the national was listed as 18.7%. In contrast, the Median Household Income (based on 2021 1-Year ACS Estimates) was $57,359 for McAllen, $57,749 for Mission, $47,596 for Edinburg, $66,963 for Texas and $69,717 for the nation. As such, it can be deduced that reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and/or any benefits from plan development will positively impact disadvantaged communities."

In undergoing the benefits analysis for the MSA, the EPA's Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool was applied. The McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA qualifies as a low-income and disadvantaged community with twenty-one Census Tracts identified as falling within the City of McAllen. As the MSA continues with development of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan, review of additional tracts within the City of Edinburg and the City of Mission will be identified for inclusion in the stakeholder engagement protocol and to ensure that the low-income and disadvantaged communities within the MSA are receiving the maximum benefits possible from the selected GHG measures in the categories of transportation, electricity, solid waste and urban forestry.

Table 4: Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool for Hidalgo Texas

Census tract 2010 ID	Population
48215020501	5556
48215020503	11739
48215020504	7746
48215020600	2128
48215020701	11289
48215020723	5211
48215020724	4068
48215020725	4326
48215020726	7679
48215020802	6962
48215020804	4800
48215020903	5390
48215020904	4978
48215021000	6485
48215021100	2658
48215021201	3041
48215021202	5279
48215023504	10234
48215024000	17384
48215024105	9771
48215024106	12663

Categories of Burden recognized by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool for the identified twenty-one Census Tracts of the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission Metropolitan Statistical Areas included: (1) *Climate Change*, (2) *Energy*, (3) *Health*, (4) *Housing*, (5) *Legacy Pollution*, (6) *Transportation*, and (7) *Workforce Development*.

Potential community benefits in the selected GHG measures stem from the existing City programs like the Hike and Bike Trail networks, transportation and pedestrian modes, tree canopy along City trails, litter prevention, beautification and recycling programs, and electricity modification on City facilities that will encourage community engagement and participation. Goals of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan will use methods and collaborative efforts identified in the Citizen Participation Plans to maximize community engagement through in-person meetings, community surveys, and working with community organization liaisons at community centers. The overall potential maximum benefits through the GHG reduction measures is to provide a more healthy, sustainable lifestyle for all who work, visit, and reside in the MSA area.

2.4 Review of Authority to Implement

Implementation procedures for the MSA's greenhouse gas reduction measures will correspond to each MSA's city jurisdiction formal protocols. Each city will adhere as required to each City Commission's authority, referencing City Code of Ordinances, to undergo the necessary approval process and to guide in meeting deliverables for the CPRG – Planning Grant. All grant proposals for new programming, masterplan development, funding mechanisms, obtainment of memorandums of understanding and/or memorandums of agreements for local stakeholder partnership involvement will ensure provision of all three municipalities' approvals before proceeding. Final approval for implementation being the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan for the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA.

3.0 Next Steps

During the next twelve months of the CPRG – Planning Grant for the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA, milestones to be completed comprise of (1) a continued intragovernmental cooperation between the MSA cities and their own city departments for a better understanding of the environmental approaches needed to address overall emissions, and (2) hiring of a consultant for development and implementation of a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan for the MSA. This would expand on the MSA's Priority Action Plan for verification of the initial emission inventory and yield a comprehensive emissions inventory, study, and assessment that will support community engagement through surveys and use of the municipalities' Citizen Participation Plan

for maximized stakeholder input. The MSA looks forward to generating a regional community effort for encouraging sustainability measures in the cities and county that will reduce climate pollution and provide potential benefits for all who work, reside, and visit the MSA region.

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EPA's Facility Level Information on Greenhouse Gases Tool (Flight Tool)
https://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgp/main.do

EPA's Local Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool: Community Module
https://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/local-greenhouse-gas-inventory-tool

EPA's Quantified Climate Action Measures Directory – State Directory
https://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/quantified-climate-action-measures-directory-state-directory

Greenhouse Gas Protocol. Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Inventories. An Accounting and Reporting Standard for Cities Version 1.1.
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