

**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF BORDER WALLS IN  
HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS**

**WHEREAS**, the overwhelming majority of Hidalgo County residents adamantly oppose border walls; and

**WHEREAS**, the billions of dollars that have been requested for new border walls could be better spent on improved infrastructure, social service programs, and other needs in Hidalgo County; and

**WHEREAS**, proposed levee-border walls in Hidalgo County would run through Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge and Bentsen Rio Grande Valley State Park, natural areas which are important for native wildlife and are the centerpieces of the Hidalgo County's burgeoning ecotourism industry; and

**WHEREAS**, proposed levee-border walls in Hidalgo County would repeatedly cut through the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, fragmenting habitat that is critical to the continued survival of endangered ocelots in South Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the location of the proposed border wall would cut off large swaths of land and divide privately-owned property, much of which has been owned by families for generations; and

**WHEREAS**, trade with our Mexican neighbors substantially contributes to the economy in Hidalgo County; and

**WHEREAS**, the communities in Hidalgo County consistently rank among the safest in the United States.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hidalgo County Drainage District Board of Directors expresses its opposition to any border walls built in our County because they would not make us safer but would detract from the economic well-being of the County and from the quality of life of our residents.

**Approved this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2017.**