



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
November 4, 2020

DETENTION PONDS IN HIDALGO COUNTY AND WATER DELIVERIES FROM MEXICO WILL BE DISCUSSED AT NOVEMBER 18 MEETING VIA WEBINAR

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has scheduled a public meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Citizens Forum (LRGCF) for **Wednesday, November 18, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. CST via webinar**. The purpose of the forum is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community regarding Commission projects and related activities.

David Fuentes, Commissioner Precinct 1, Hidalgo County, will discuss the Delta Region Water Management Project. The regional project will provide increased flood control for the most populated areas of Hidalgo County, Texas and establish a process to reclaim the water for municipal and/or irrigation use. This project is proposed to be constructed in three phases and includes an off-line storm water detention pond/reservoir and treatment facility at three locations: Delta Reservoir (Phase 1), Santa Cruz Reservoir (Phase 2), and Carlton Barth Reservoir (Phase 3).

Hidalgo County's population is expected to increase by 120 percent by 2070, creating a municipal water supply deficit that is projected to be approximately 171,000 acre-feet. By reclaiming the storm water in the area, Hidalgo County Drainage District No.1 has found a new water source that can be sustainable while mitigating the flood hazard for the most populated

areas of the region.

Sally Spener, USIBWC Secretary, will discuss the 1944 Water Treaty which requires Mexico to deliver Rio Grande water to the United States from six Mexican tributaries in cycles of five years. The most recent five-year cycle just concluded on October 24, 2020. Spener will discuss the treaty requirements, Mexico's deliveries during the course of the cycle, and the agreement that provided for a final water transfer by Mexico to fulfill its treaty obligations. Spener will also discuss the Commission's plan to improve the predictability and reliability of Rio Grande water deliveries to users in the United States and Mexico.

To join our Teams Meeting, click [here](#). Click on "Join Meeting". If you do not have Teams installed on the device you will use to attend the meeting, it will work through any internet browser. If possible, it may be helpful for you to test connectivity on your own prior to the meeting by clicking on the Join link and ensuring your camera and microphone are functioning. Or join by phone: Call- in number: **915-320-4718** | Conference ID: **172 717 877#**

For those connecting via phone, the presentations will be available before the start of the meeting [here](#). Look for the links for the 11/18/2020 meeting. If you would like to speak during public comment, then please sign up ahead of time by contacting Lori Kuczanski at lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov or 915-494-6027 by noon on November 18.

A complete agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 956-565-3150 or e-mail lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov.

News media may contact:

Lori Kuczanski
Cell: (915) 494-6027
Lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov

LOWER RIO GRANDE CITIZENS FORUM
Wednesday, November 18, 2020
3:00 – 5:00 p.m. CST

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<https://go.usa.gov/x7b5B> and click on “Join Meeting”. If you do not have Teams installed on the device you will use to attend the meeting, it will work through any internet browser. If possible, it may be helpful for you to test connectivity on your own prior to the meeting by clicking on the Join link and ensuring your camera and microphone are functioning.

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Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions** –Carlos Sanchez, Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **Delta Region Water Management Project**—David L. Fuentes, Hidalgo County Commissioner, Precinct 1
- **Mexico’s Rio Grande Water Deliveries to the United States**—Sally Spener, Secretary, USIBWC
- **Public Comment** (To make public comment, RSVP to lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov by noon on November 18
- **Board Discussion**
- **Suggested Future Agenda Items**

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time. For information, call 956-565-3159 or e-mail lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov