

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Eighth Coast Guard District
Hale Boggs Federal Building

500 Poydras Street, Room 1313
New Orleans, LA 70130-3310
Staff Symbol: (dpp)
Phone: (504) 671-2128
Fax: (504) 671-2133
D8DPBALL@uscg.mil

March 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE (03-24)

Bridge Permit Application for the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge Expansion, a New Fixed Four Lane Highway Bridge over the Rio Grande River, Mile 154.6 Connecting Pharr, Hidalgo County Texas with Reynosa Mexico

All interested parties are notified that the Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District has received application materials January 9, 2024 from the City of Pharr, Texas for approval of the enclosed location and plans to build a new fixed four line highway bridge over the Rio Grande River, mile 154.6, Hidalgo County, Texas.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Rio Grande River, Mile 15.4, Hidalgo County, Texas.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The City of Pharr, Texas is proposing to build a new four lane fixed bridge highway that connects Pharr, TX with Reynosa, Mexico. The road and bridge will be used by all vehicle types and will be built adjacent and north of the existing international bridge. The current bridge will remain in place and in use after the new bridge is built. The new bridge will be 15, 770 feet long and 57 feet wide.

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

The proposed replacement bridge will have clearances as described in the table below. These clearances are an increase from current clearances over this section of the waterway at or near this mile.

| | Existing (Remains in Place) | Proposed New Bridge |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Vertical | 39.82 ft. feet above Mean High Water | 39.82 feet above Mean High Water |
| Horizontal | 90.76 feet | 90.76 feet |

Elevations are referenced as NAVD88 datum

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS: The United States Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead federal agency for satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). An Environmental Assessment/Finding of no Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) dated November 2023 was issued pursuant to NEPA as amended. The U.S. Coast Guard has tentatively determined that the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the public or environment. Documents are available for review electronically, Monday through Friday by appointment from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., subject to building rules at the Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Camp Street, Room 1313, New Orleans, LA.

The bridge is located in the floodplain. Bridge piers will be built outside of channel banks and should pose no hazard to navigation, including during 100-year flood events.

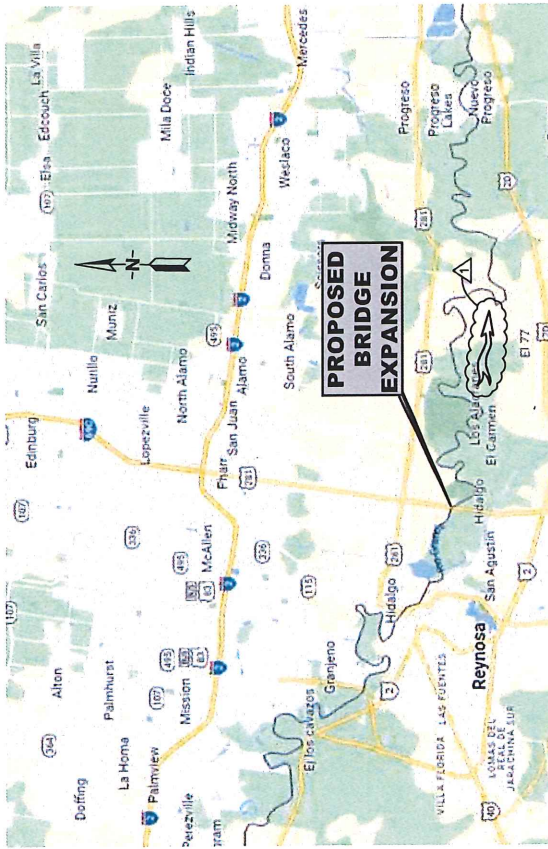
SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:

Interested parties are requested to comment or express their views in writing on the proposed navigation clearances, placement of a bridge protection system and other navigational safety issues, including the need for clearance gauges.

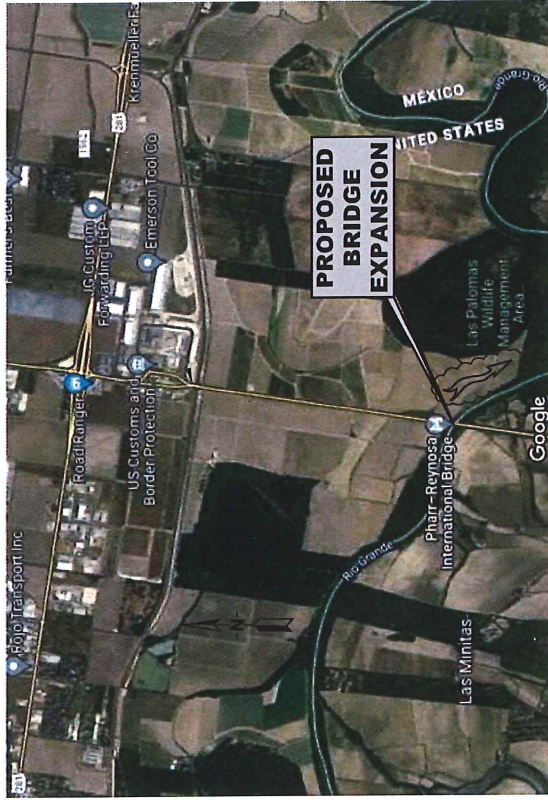
Interested parties are also requested to express their views on the proposed bridge project's possible environmental impacts, including impacts on minority and/or low income populations.

Comments will be received at the Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Administration Branch, at the address given in the letterhead through April 19, 2024. Plans of the proposed project are included in this public notice.

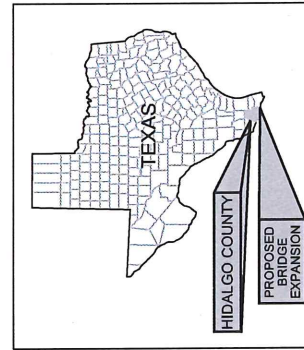
DOUG BLAKEMORE
Chief, Bridge Administration Branch
Eighth Coast Guard District
By direction of the District Commander



VICINITY MAP



LOCATION MAP



LOCATION MAP

| REV. NO. | DATE | DESCRIPTION | BY |
|----------|---------|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 7/26/24 | REVISION PER USE COMMENTS | SAM |



CITY OF PHARR - REYNOSA
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE
RIO GRANDE RIVER, MILE 154.6

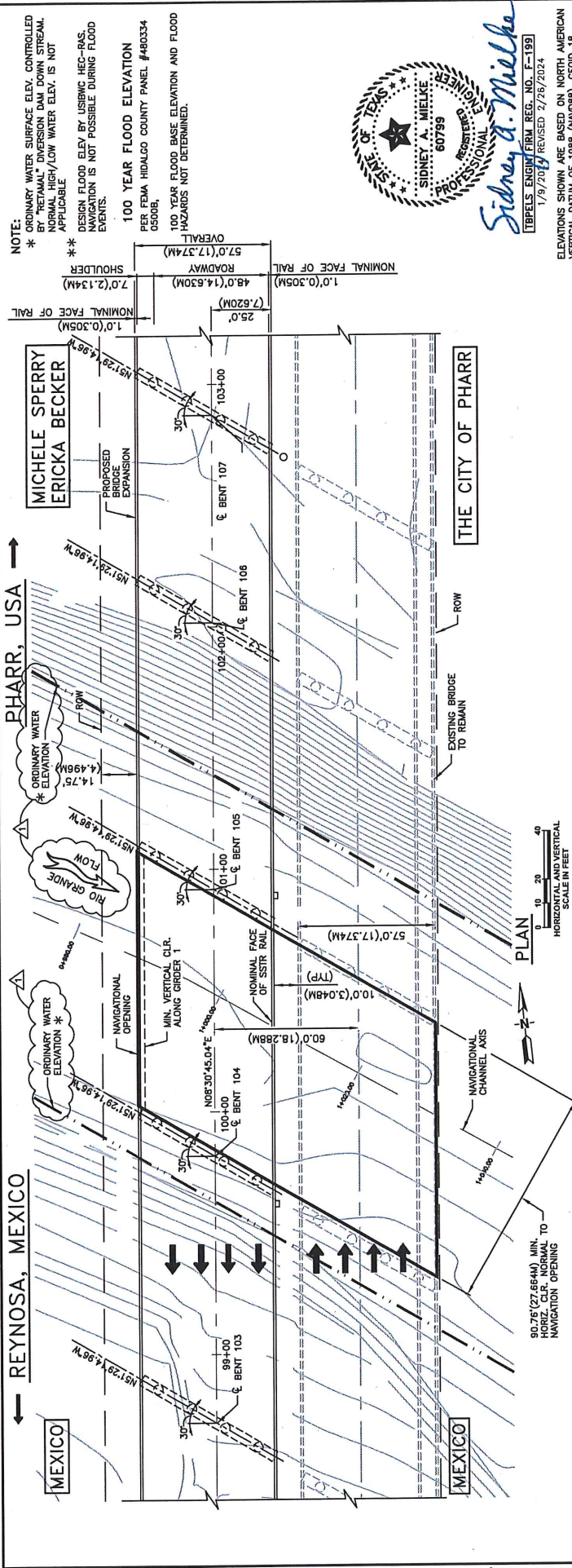
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
BRIDGE PERMIT PLANS

| CITY | COUNTY | STATE | DATE | LOCATION | SHEET |
|-------|---------|-------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|
| PHARR | HIDALGO | TEXAS | | IN PHARR AT SOUTH END OF US 281 | 1 OF 3 |
| | | | 7/3/24 | | |



Sidney A. Mielke
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
STATE OF TEXAS
LICENSE NO. 60799
1/9/2014 - REVISED 2/26/2024

THIS BRIDGE HAS BEEN DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
LOADING AND DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS,
INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR VESSEL COLLISION.



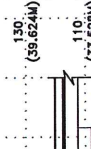
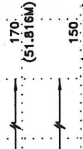
NOTE:
 * ORDINARY WATER SURFACE ELEV. CONTROLLED BY "RETAINAL" DIVERSION DAM DOWN STREAM. NORMAL HIGH/LOW WATER ELEV. IS NOT APPLICABLE.
 ** DESIGN FLOOD ELEV BY USIBWC HEC-RAS. NAVIGATION IS NOT POSSIBLE DURING FLOOD EVENTS.
 *** 100 YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION PER FEMA HIDALGO COUNTY PANEL #480334 0500B, 100 YEAR FLOOD BASE ELEVATION AND FLOOD HAZARDS NOT DETERMINED.



Sidney A. Mielke
 TBPBELS ENGINEERING FIRM REG. NO. E-1191
 1/9/2017 REVISED 2/28/2024

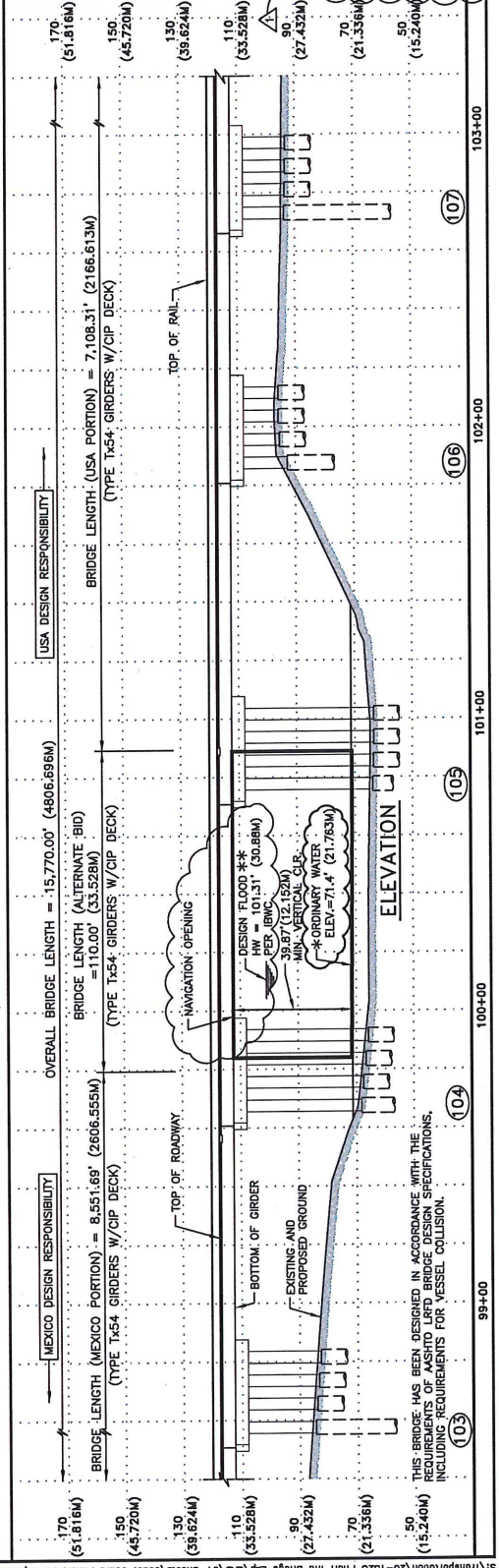
ELEVATIONS SHOWN ARE BASED ON NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988 (NAVD88), GRID 16.

| REV. NO. | DATE | DESCRIPTION | BY |
|----------|---------|----------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 2/28/24 | REVISION PER USIB COMMENTS | SAM |

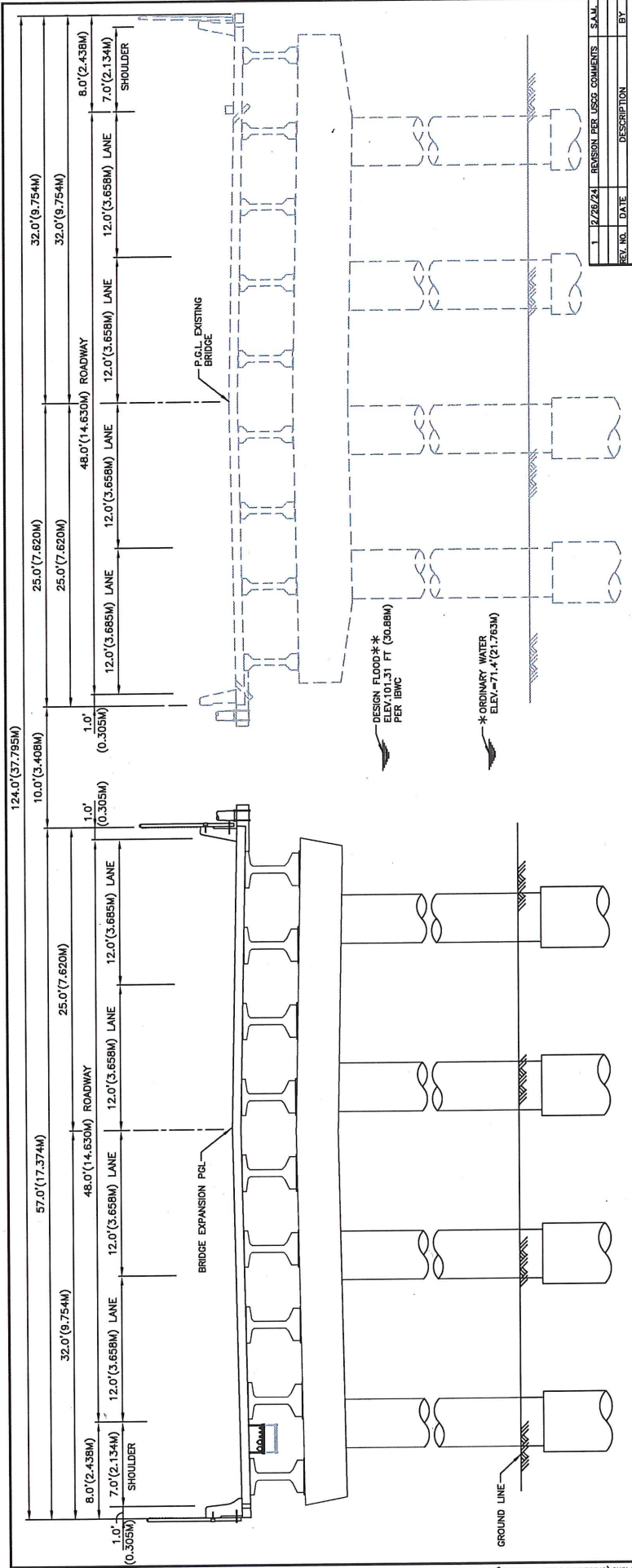


CITY OF PHARR - REYNOSA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE RIO GRANDE RIVER, MILE 154.6
 UNITED STATES COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT PLANS

| CITY | COUNTY | STATE | COUNTRY | SHEET |
|-------|---------|-------|---------------------------------|--------|
| PHARR | HIDALGO | TEXAS | IN PHARR AT SOUTH END OF US 281 | 2 OF 3 |



THIS BRIDGE HAS BEEN DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF AASHTO LFD BRIDGE DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS, INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR VESSEL COLLISION.



TYPICAL SECTION



NOTE:
 * ORDINARY WATER SURFACE ELEV. CONTROLLED BY RETAINING DIVERSION DAM DOWN STREAM. APPROXIMATE HIGH/LOW WATER ELEV. IS NOT APPLICABLE
 ** DESIGN FLOOD ELEV. BY USIBWC HEC-RAS. NAVIGATION IS NOT POSSIBLE DURING FLOOD EVENTS.
 100 YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION PER FEMA HIDALGO COUNTY PANEL #460334 6506B.
 100 YEAR FLOOD BASE ELEVATION AND FLOOD HAZARDS NOT DETERMINED.



Sidney A. Mielke
 TBP&E ENGINEERING FIRM REG. NO. E-199
 2/9/2024 REVISED 7/26/2024

ELEVATIONS SHOWN ARE BASED ON NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988 (NAVD88), GEDD 18.

THIS BRIDGE HAS BEEN DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF AASHTO LRFD BRIDGE DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS, INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR VESSEL COLLISION.

| REV. NO. | DATE | DESCRIPTION | BY |
|----------|---------|----------------------------|--------|
| 1 | 2/26/24 | REVISION PER USGC COMMENTS | S.A.M. |

SEA
 STRUCTURAL
 ENGINEERING
 ASSOCIATES
 1000 WEST 10TH STREET, SUITE 100
 DENVER, CO 80202



| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|--------|
| CITY OF PHARR - REYNOSA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE RIO GRANDE RIVER, MILE 154.6 | | | |
| UNITED STATES COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT PLANS | | | |
| BY | COUNTY | STATE | SHEET |
| PHARR HIDALGO TEXAS | | | 3 OF 3 |
| DATE | IN PHARR AT SOUTH END OF US 281 | | |
| 1/23/24 | | | |