



Gaining a Healthy Advantage: Economic Impacts of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Active Plan

Projected benefits of active transportation and outdoor recreation trails proposed in the *Lower Rio Grande Valley Active Transportation and Tourism Plan* for Cameron County, Texas, communities.

291 miles
of trails &
routes

120 miles on-street US Bicycle Route #55

93 miles multi-use trails (75 new, 18 existing)

78 miles paddling trails (68 new, 10 existing)



Mark Lehmann photo

Trails = Active People



In Brownsville, people who live near trails

exercise 22% more

than those who do not.

Active People = Health Care Cost Savings

Yearly health care cost savings from increased physical activity on new multi-use trails.

\$5.9-\$12.3 million

Economic Benefits of the Completed Network



Trail Construction

1,377 full-time jobs
\$44.3 million wages
\$173 million total economic impact



3 million

walkers, hikers, bicyclists & paddlers each year



\$70 million Annual Spending by Out-of-County Visitors

—supporting new & existing local businesses

958 full-time jobs

\$30 million wages

\$100 million total economic impact

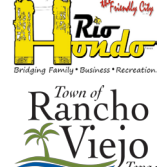
\$8.4 million state & local taxes

\$7.6 million federal taxes

\$1 one-time trail construction investment
= \$8.84 impact from visitor spending over 10 years

From *The LRGV Active Plan Economic Study: Technical Report*. The Harbinger Consultancy, 2017. harbingerconsult.com

Economic Study Supporters





LRGV Active Plan — Economic Impacts of Construction of a 291-Mile Trail Network

Constructing New Trails & Routes = 1,377 Local Jobs, \$44 Million Wages



Multi-Use Trails
57 new miles - \$64 million construction cost



780 jobs, \$25 million wages

\$98 million total impact

\$3.8 million local & state taxes



Paddling Trails
68 new miles - \$2 million construction cost

25 jobs, \$802,000 wages

\$3.1 million total impact

\$120,500 local & state taxes



US Bicycle Route #55
120 miles - \$47 million construction cost

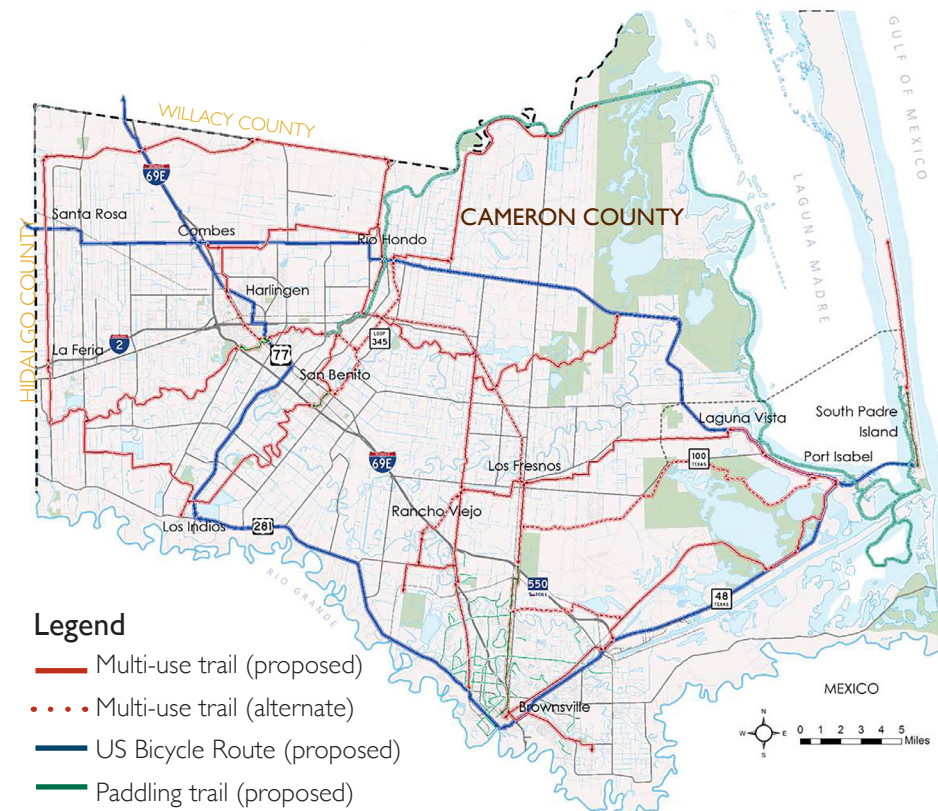


572 jobs, \$18.4 mill. wages

\$72 million total impact

\$2.8 mill. local & state taxes

Proposed LRGV Active Transportation Network



Get Involved

Active Plan Implementation



Ramiro Gonzalez
ramiro.gonzalez@cob.us
956.346.1925

Rose Gowen
rose.gowen@cob.us



rails-to-trails
CONNECTIONS

Katie McKinney Guerin
Katie@railstotrails.org
202.974.5143

Youth Council & Public Lands Connections



Suzanne Dixon
sdixon@npca.org
214.370.9735 x 211

Download the Study — npca.org/LRGV