



El Paso County Agenda Item Details

Item Title: County Judge's Office - County Judge's Report for travel to Taiwan the week of March 14-21 related to Economic Development

Submitted By: Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge

Department: County Judge's Office

Department Phone Number: 915-273-3591

Subject: Accept the report from the County Judge regarding travel to Taiwan the week of March 14-21, 2025, related to Economic Development.

Background: On March 10, 2025, the Commissioners requested a report following the County Judge's trip to Taiwan. This report outlines the events and outcomes of meetings throughout the trip.

Fiscal Impact: Fiscal Impact Historical

Fiscal Impact Projected

Long Account Number: Amount:

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Budget or Unbudgeted Match:

Recommendation: Accept the report from the County Judge regarding travel to Taiwan the week of March 14-21, 2025, related to Economic Development.

Prior Action: NA

Strategic Plan: Goal:

null

Objective:

Strategic Plan Information:

**Estimated Time Needed
For This Item:**

Taiwan Business Mission Summary
Taipei, Taiwan
March 14 – 21, 2025

Borderplex Alliance signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with The Import Export Association of Taipei (IEAT). The MOU outlines areas of cooperation between IEAT and the Borderplex Alliance with regards to trade promotion, business information exchange, and business delegation visits between El Paso and Taiwan. IEAT has 6000 members, 1400 of which are manufacturing companies. El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego provided opening remarks at the MOU signing ceremony.

El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego and the Borderplex Alliance met with The State of Texas Taiwan Office (STTO). The STTO promotes the State of Texas to Taiwan based companies that wish to relocate or expand business in the U.S. The Judge offered El Paso County's support in the STTO's efforts to attract companies to the El Paso Region. The Borderplex Alliance is currently working with two Taiwanese companies interested in the El Paso Region. The company leads were forwarded to the Borderplex Alliance by the STTO.

El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego participated in the annual Smart Cities Summit Expo. The Summit invites communities from around the world to present and a discuss programs and ideas to improve communities. Judge Samaniego provided a presentation on El Paso County's adoption of artificial intelligence. The panel included communities from the United States, Mexico, Central America, and Europe.

El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego and the Borderplex Alliance met with four Taiwanese advanced manufacturing companies interested in locating operations in El Paso County. Meetings were held with executive level company officials. The Borderplex Alliance provided a regional presentation. The discussions that followed included project details, El Paso County's business environment, and support. Judge Samaniego invited the company's senior executives to visit El Paso County and offered the County's support for their projects. The companies have short listed other U.S. communities in addition to El Paso County and anticipate making a final site decision in Q2/Q3 2025.

El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego and the Borderplex Alliance met with the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT). The meeting included the AIT's United States promotion team. The team assists Taiwanese businesses looking to relocate or expand in the United State by connecting them to communities and economic development organizations. The Borderplex Alliance has a long-standing relationship with AIT. The AIT has assisted the Borderplex Alliance by coordinating Taiwan business delegation visits to the El Paso Region. Judge Samaniego invited the AIT to visit El Paso County and offered his support for Taiwanese companies interested in the El Paso Region.

El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego and the Borderplex Alliance met with the Taiwan Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA). The meeting included the MOEA Director General and executive staff. The Borderplex Alliance provided a regional presentation. The discussion centered on the assets in El Paso County including workforce sources, educational institutions, and utility infrastructure. Also discussed were incentives programs offered by El Paso County and the State of Texas. Judge Samaniego offered the County's support for Taiwanese companies interested in locating operations in El Paso County.