

*Elia Garcia*  
Mayor  
  
*Rene Rodriguez*  
At Large  
  
*Cesar Nevarez*  
District 1/Mayor ProTem



*Ralph Duran*  
District 2  
  
*Victor Perez*  
District 3  
  
*Yvonne Colon-Villalobos*  
District 4  
  
*Adriana Rodarte*  
City Manager

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
CITY OF SOCORRO**

.....  
THE FACILITY IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE AND ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES ARE AVAILABLE. REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATION FOR INTERPRETIVE SERVICES MUST BE MADE 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THIS MEETING. PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT (915) 858-2915 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE OF MEETING BY VIRTUAL SERVICES**

IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDER OF THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR ISSUED MARCH 16, 2020, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO WILL CONDUCT THE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY MAY 26, 2020, AT 6:00 PM BROADCASTED FROM CITY CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL CHAMBERS, 860 RIO VISTA RD., SOCORRO, TEXAS VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE AND LIVE STREAMED IN ORDER TO ADVANCE THE PUBLIC HEALTH GOAL OF LIMITING THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE PHYSICALLY PRESENT AT OUR LOCATION (ALSO CALLED "SOCIAL DISTANCING") TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19). THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICAL PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE LOCATION DESCRIBED ABOVE.

THIS WRITTEN NOTICE, THE MEETING AGENDA, AND THE AGENDA PACKET, ARE POSTED ONLINE AT [HTTP://CI.SOCORRO.TX.US/CITY-CLERK-PUBLIC-NOTICE](http://ci.socorro.tx.us/city-clerk-public-notice) THE PUBLIC CAN ACCESS THE MEETING BY CALLING TOLL FREE-NUMBER 844-854-2222 ACCESS CODE 323610.

THE PUBLIC MUST CALL IN 844-854-2222 ACCESS CODE 323610 BY 5:30 PM MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME (MST) ON MAY 26, 2020 TO SIGN UP FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND THE AGENDA ITEM THEY WISH TO COMMENT ON. THE PUBLIC THAT SIGNED UP TO SPEAK WILL BE CALLED UPON BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER DURING THE MEETING.

.....

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence
3. Establishment of Quorum

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

4. **Public Comment** (The maximum time for public comment will be 30 minutes and three minutes will be allotted for each speaker. Government Code 551.042 allows for responses by city council to be a statement of specific factual information given in response to the inquiry; or a recitation of existing policy in response to the inquiry; or a decision to add the public comment to a future agenda.)

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

**ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA, INCLUDING THOSE ON THE ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA, WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE ROUTINE AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON THESE ITEMS UNLESS CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS REMOVE SPECIFIC ITEMS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA TO THE REGULAR AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO THE TIME THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTE ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA TO THE REGULAR AGENDA WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AFTER ACTING ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

**ANY MATTERS LISTED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AND THE REGULAR AGENDA MAY BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT THE OPTION OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO CITY COUNCIL FOLLOWING VERBAL ANNOUNCEMENT, IF AN APPROPRIATE EXCEPTION TO THE OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENT OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT IS APPLICABLE.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

5. *Excuse* absent council members.

*Olivia Navarro*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**CITY MANAGER**

6. **Discussion and action** on approving a request to El Paso County to provide the City of Socorro funding made available through the CARES Act following Governor Abbott's May 11, 2020 allotment plan to distribute funding for cities that did receive a direct allocation.

*Adriana Rodarte*

The City Council of the City of Socorro may retire into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Section 3.08 of the City of Socorro Charter and the Texas Government Code, Sections 551, Subchapter D to discuss any of the following: (The items listed below are matters of the sort routinely discuss in Executive Session, but the City Council of the City of Socorro may move to Executive Session any of the items on this agenda, consistent with the terms of the Open Meetings Act.) The City Council will return to open session to take any final action and may also, at any time during the meeting, bring forward any of the following items for public discussion, as appropriate.

Section 551.071 CONSULTATIONS WITH ATTORNEY  
Section 551.072 DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY  
Section 551.073 DELIBERATION REGARDING PROSPECTIVE GIFT  
Section 551.074 PERSONNEL MATTERS  
Section 551.076 DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY  
Section 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS

***Discussion on the following:***

7. ***Discussion and action*** on advice received from City Attorney in closed session, and action to approve real estate transaction; authorize filing or settlement of legal action; authorize employment of expert witnesses and consultants, and employment of special counsel with respect to pending legal matters. *Adriana Rodarte*
8. ***Discussion and action*** on qualifications of individuals for employment and for appointment to Boards & Commissions, job performance of employees, real estate acquisition and receive legal advice from City Attorney regarding legal issues affecting these matters. *Adriana Rodarte*
9. ***Discussion and action*** regarding pending litigation and receive status report regarding pending litigation. *Adriana Rodarte*

***10. Adjourn***

**DATED THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2020**

By: 

**Mayela Granados, Executive Assistant for Olivia Navarro, City Clerk**

I, the undersigned authority, hereby certify that the above notice of the meeting of the City Council of Socorro, Texas is a correct copy of the notice and that I posted this notice at least Seventy-two (72) hours preceding the scheduled meeting at the City Administration Building, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., in Socorro, Texas.

**DATED THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF MAY 2020**

By: 

**Mayela Granados, Executive Assistant for Olivia Navarro, City Clerk**

Agenda posted: 05/22/2020 at 1:00pm

Removed: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Elia Garcia**  
Mayor

**Rene Rodriguez**  
At Large

**Cesar Nevarez**  
District 1 / Mayor Pro-Tem



**Ralph Duran**  
District 2

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**Yvonne Colon - Villalobos**  
District 4

**Adriana Rodarte**  
City Manager

May 22, 2020

**TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**FROM:** Alejandra Valadez, Grants Coordinator, City of Socorro

**SUBJECT:**

**Discussion and action** on approving a request to El Paso County to provide the City of Socorro funding made available through the CARES Act following Governor Abbott's allotment plan for cities under 500,000 population that did not receive a direct allocation.

### **SUMMARY**

On May 11, 2020, Governor Abbott released a letter addressed to County and City Leaders detailing how \$1.85 billion dollars will be distributed at a \$55 per capita allotment to counties under 500,000 population, and cities within those counties, that did not receive direct allocations from the U.S. Treasury. Because El Paso County received a \$27.4 million-dollar direct allocation from the U.S. Treasury, the City of Socorro is not eligible to receive funding through Governor Abbott's \$55 per capita allotment. The City of Socorro must work with El Paso County to receive a \$1.9 million allocation as per Governor Abbott's allotment of \$55 per capita.

### **STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE**

On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic. This designation was quickly followed by a National Emergency Declaration by President Trump on March 13th, a state-wide Major Disaster Declaration by Texas Governor Abbott and a local Disaster Declaration by El Paso County Judge Samaniego on March 25<sup>th</sup>, and a local Disaster Declaration for the City of Socorro signed by Mayor Elia Garcia on March 16th.

On March 27, 2020, the federal government approved over \$2 trillion dollars in assistance to governments, businesses, and individuals via the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The State of Texas received a maximum \$11.24

billion-dollar allocation based on the funding formula provided in the CARES Act. The CARES Act mandated that 45% of the total \$11.24 billion state allocation should be made available to state and local governments. Of the \$11.24 billion state allocation, \$3.2 billion dollars were directly sent to 6 cities and 12 counties in Texas with a population greater than 500,000. Because of this, the City of El Paso received a \$119 million direct allocation, and El Paso County received a \$27.4 million direct allocation.

On May 11, 2020, Governor Abbott released a plan for distributing \$1.85 billion in CARES Act funding to counties under 500,000, and cities within those counties, that did not receive a direct allocation. Through this plan, eligible cities and counties will receive funding at a \$55 per capita allotment.

Because El Paso County already received a \$27.4 million direct CARES Act allocation, the City of Socorro is not eligible to receive funds via Governor Abbott's funding distribution plan. Those cities with a population under 500,000 that **did not** receive a direct payment from the U.S. Treasury but which are located in a county that **did** receive a direct payment are advised to work with their respective counties for Coronavirus Relief Funding.

As of May 17, 2020, the City of Socorro has incurred approximately \$83,869 in COVID-19 expenses related to personal protective equipment, disinfectant and sanitizing supplies, and disinfection services for its City facilities. Although the situation is very fluid and there are many variables to consider (such as the length of the pandemic, increase/decrease in COVID-19 positive cases, and the demand and cost of PPE and disinfectant supplies), it is expected that the City of Socorro may incur between \$200,000 and \$900,000 in COVID-19 expenses over the next 12 months.

As such, the City of Socorro must work with El Paso County to receive a \$1.9 million CARES Act allocation as per Governor Abbott's allotment of \$55 per capita.

	Allotment	<a href="#">January 1, 2019 population estimates</a>	Total
Socorro	\$55 per capita	34,887	\$1,918,785

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

**Account Code (GF/GL/Dept):** N/A

**Funding Source:** N/A

**Amount:** N/A

**Quotes (Name/Commodity/Price):** N/A

**Co-op Agreement (Name/Contract#):** N/A

### **ALTERNATIVE**

Not approve – The City will not request a \$1.9 million CARES Act allocation as per Governor Abbott’s allotment of \$55 per capita from El Paso County.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**APPROVE** - The City of Socorro will request a \$1.9 million CARES Act allocation for the City of Socorro as per Governor Abbott’s allotment of \$55 per capita from El Paso County.

### **REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION**

1. City Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
2. CFO \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
3. Attorney \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



STATE OF TEXAS

May 11, 2020

Dear County and City Leaders:

Thank you for your continued work to combat the coronavirus and address the ancillary effects of that fight in your communities. These are tremendously difficult times for all Texans. Please know that the elected representatives in your state government are working continuously to protect the health and safety of this state, mitigate the economic ramifications of COVID-19, and build a path towards recovery.

As you are keenly aware, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide much needed resources to help governments, businesses, and individuals respond to the current pandemic. President Trump signed the CARES Act into law and his administration continues to provide guidance on the numerous avenues of federal funding the legislation provides. Within the CARES Act, the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) was created to provide financial resources to state and local governments. As it relates to the CRF, Texas has received approximately \$11.24 billion from the United States Department of Treasury (Treasury) for direct coronavirus related expenses based on the funding formula provided in the CARES Act.

Consistent with the CARES Act, 45 percent of the total \$11.24 billion state allocation—approximately \$5.06 billion—will be made available to local governments. Of that \$5.06 billion, Treasury has directly sent just over \$3.2 billion to the six cities and 12 counties in Texas with a population greater than 500,000. That leaves approximately \$1.85 billion that the state can make available to the cities and counties in the rest of the state.

***Counties below 500,000 population and the Cities within them***

The 242 counties, and each of the cities within those counties, that did not receive direct allocations from Treasury are eligible to apply to the state for a per capita allocation from the \$1.85 billion. Cities with a population less than 500,000 located in counties with a population exceeding 500,000 are addressed later in this letter. County allocations will be calculated based on the population in the unincorporated areas of the county. We encourage cities and counties to work together to address expenses that cross jurisdictional lines.

The first allocation from the \$1.85 billion in local funds will be made available to these cities and counties on a \$55 per capita allotment. Twenty percent of each jurisdiction's allocation will be available immediately upon certification to the State that grant terms will be followed. Importantly, Treasury has provided strict guidelines for local governments to receive funds. Treasury affirmed that the State can transfer funds to local governments "provided that the transfer qualifies as a necessary expenditure incurred due to the public health emergency and meets the other criteria of section 601(d) of the Social Security Act. Such funds would be subject to recoupment by the Treasury Department if they have not been used in a manner consistent with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act." Treasury has also instructed that "funds may not be used to fill shortfalls in government revenue to cover expenditures that would not otherwise qualify as an eligible expenditure." Also, all costs must be incurred before December 30, 2020, to qualify for funding.

Once jurisdictions provide documentation on the initial funding, they will then be able to access the remainder of their allocation on a reimbursement basis. The unallocated funds will be reserved for local expenses as future outbreaks and the long-term impacts of COVID-19 are better known.

#### ***Cities below 500,000 population within Counties exceeding 500,000 population***

The direct Treasury disbursements to the 12 counties were calculated based on their population, less the total population inside cities larger than 500,000 that reside within those counties. In the same way that cities and counties across the rest of the state will be provided funding on a per capita basis, and are encouraged to work together to address expenses that cross jurisdictional lines, the 12 counties that received direct funding from Treasury based on the total number of residents in their counties (excluding those in the six largest cities) are expected to use their funds to address expenses incurred by incorporated areas with a population less than 500,000 that are located in those counties as well as the needs of residents in unincorporated areas of those counties. Each of the incorporated areas located in a county that received a direct allocation from Treasury should seek funding for COVID-19 expenses directly from that county.

#### ***How to Apply***

The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) will administer the reimbursement process for the CRF. TDEM is partnering with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension to provide individual assistance to each of you throughout the process, and that work is already underway. All of the information to apply for the CRF, as well as guidance about eligible uses, can be found at the following website: [www.tdem.texas.gov/crf](http://www.tdem.texas.gov/crf). Questions can also be emailed to TDEM at [CRF@tdem.texas.gov](mailto:CRF@tdem.texas.gov).

Thank you again for your work on behalf of your residents. All Texans expect government to work in a unified fashion to address this unprecedented situation, and we will continue to do so. We understand there will be numerous questions, and we are committed to working through them with you. In the meantime, please refer to the TDEM website for guidance.

Sincerely,



Governor Greg Abbott



Lt. Governor Dan Patrick



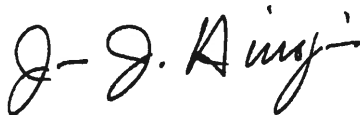
Speaker Dennis Bonnen



Senator Jane Nelson  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee



Representative Giovanni Capriglione  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee



Senator Juan Chuy Hinojosa  
Vice-Chair, Senate Finance Committee



Representative Oscar Longoria  
Vice-Chair, House Appropriations Committee

Place	Jan 2019 Population Est.	Relative Population	\$55 Per Capita	20% of Allocation
<b>Anderson County</b>	<b>57,735</b>	36,318	\$1,997,490	\$399,498
Elkhart	1,314	1,314	\$72,270	\$14,454
Frankston	1,221	1,221	\$67,155	\$13,431
Palestine	18,882	18,882	\$1,038,510	\$207,702
	<b>21,417</b>			
<b>Andrews County</b>	<b>18,705</b>	4,052	\$222,860	\$44,572
Andrews	14,653	14,653	\$805,915	\$161,183
	<b>14,653</b>			
<b>Angelina County</b>	<b>86,715</b>	35,532	\$1,954,260	\$390,852
Burke	764	764	\$42,020	\$8,404
Diboll	5,378	5,378	\$295,790	\$59,158
Hudson	5,051	5,051	\$277,805	\$55,561
Huntington	2,201	2,201	\$121,055	\$24,211
Lufkin	37,047	37,047	\$2,037,585	\$407,517
Zavalla	742	742	\$40,810	\$8,162
	<b>51,183</b>			
<b>Aransas County</b>	<b>23,510</b>	11,114	\$611,270	\$122,254
Aransas Pass	733	733	\$40,315	\$8,063
Fulton	1,419	1,419	\$78,045	\$15,609
Rockport	10,244	10,244	\$563,420	\$112,684
	<b>12,396</b>			
<b>Archer County</b>	<b>8,553</b>	2,649	\$145,695	\$29,139
Archer City	1,929	1,929	\$106,095	\$21,219
Holliday	1,792	1,792	\$98,560	\$19,712
Lakeside City (Archer)	1,094	1,094	\$60,170	\$12,034
Megargel	198	198	\$10,890	\$2,178
Scotland	523	523	\$28,765	\$5,753
Windthorst	368	368	\$20,240	\$4,048
	<b>5,904</b>			
<b>Armstrong County</b>	<b>1,887</b>	653	\$35,915	\$7,183
Claude	1,234	1,234	\$67,870	\$13,574
	<b>1,234</b>			
<b>Atascosa County</b>	<b>51,153</b>	25,280	\$1,390,400	\$278,080
Charlotte	1,842	1,842	\$101,310	\$20,262
Christine	435	435	\$23,925	\$4,785
Jourdanton	4,532	4,532	\$249,260	\$49,852
Lytle	2,394	2,394	\$131,670	\$26,334
Pleasanton	10,794	10,794	\$593,670	\$118,734
Poteet	3,482	3,482	\$191,510	\$38,302
Lytle	2,394	2,394	\$131,670	\$26,334
	<b>25,873</b>			
<b>Austin County</b>	<b>30,032</b>	15,479	\$851,345	\$170,269
Bellville	4,523	4,523	\$248,765	\$49,753
Brazos Country	494	494	\$27,170	\$5,434
Industry	337	337	\$18,535	\$3,707
San Felipe	874	874	\$48,070	\$9,614

Place	Jan 2019 Population Est.	Relative Population	\$55 Per Capita	20% of Allocation
<b>Young County</b>	<b>18,010</b>	5,363	\$294,965	\$58,993
Graham	8,950	8,950	\$492,250	\$98,450
Newcastle	559	559	\$30,745	\$6,149
Olney	3,138	3,138	\$172,590	\$34,518
	<b>12,647</b>			
<b>Zavala County</b>	<b>11,840</b>	4,570	\$251,350	\$50,270
Crystal City	7,270	7,270	\$399,850	\$79,970
	<b>7,270</b>			
<b>Zapata County</b>	<b>14,179</b>	14,179	\$779,845	\$155,969
			<b>\$584,532,630</b>	<b>\$116,906,526</b>
<b>Data Source</b> for county data is taken from the U.S. Census Vintage 2019 population estimates as used by the U.S. Treasury. This data can be found at the following link: <a href="https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-">https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-</a>				
<b>Data Source</b> for other jurisdiction population numbers are taken from the Texas Demographic Center's 2019 population estimates. This data can be found at the following link: <a href="https://demographics.texas.gov/Data/TPEPP/Estimates/">https://demographics.texas.gov/Data/TPEPP/Estimates/</a>				



City of Socorro, Texas

# COVID-19 Update

May 21, 2020



City of Socorro,  
Texas



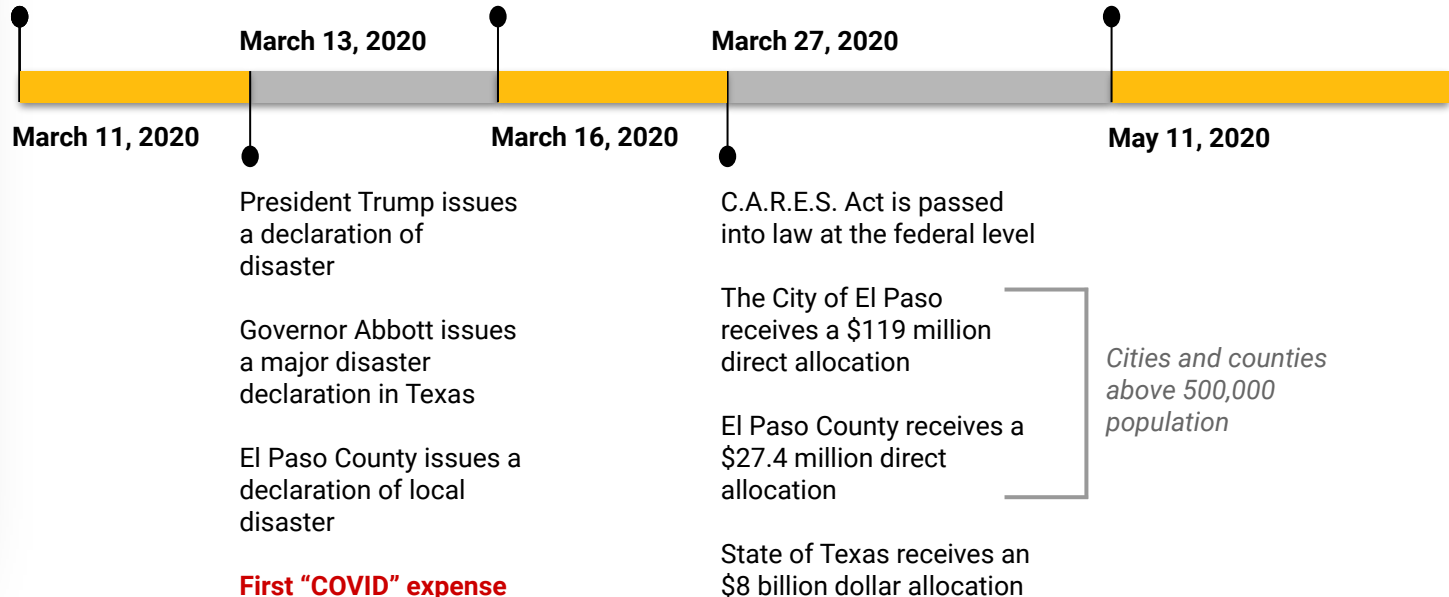
*A City With a Mission*

# Timeline

World Health Organization  
declares COVID-19 a  
Worldwide Pandemic

**City of Socorro** issues  
a declaration of local  
disaster

Governor Abbott issues plan  
for distributing \$1.85 billion  
to counties, and each of the  
cities within those counties,  
that did not receive a direct  
allocation on a \$55 per  
capita allotment





City of Socorro,  
Texas



*A City With a Mission*

# CARES Act Funding Distributions\*

Texas - \$11.2 billion\*\*

*\$3.2 billion distributed to cities and counties above 500,000 population*

City of El Paso  
\$119 million direct allocation

County of El Paso  
\$27.4 million direct allocation

State of Texas  
\$8 billion direct allocation

The City of Socorro is **not eligible** to receive the \$55 per capita allocation because El Paso County already received a \$27.4 million direct allocation

*\$1.85 billion now available at a rate of \$55 per capita to counties and cities below 500,000 population, who did not receive a direct allocation*

Harker Heights, Texas  
Pop. 32,534  
\$1.8 million allocation

Texarkana, Texas  
Pop. 38,816  
\$2.1 million allocation

\*Based on US Census Bureau population data

\*\*45% available to local governments (~\$5.05 billion)



City of Socorro,  
Texas



# COVID-19 Expenses to Date

- COVID-19 expenses from March 13, 2020 to date are approximately \$83,869:
  - \$51,521 of which are related to PPE, disinfectant supplies, and disinfection services
  - \$31,348 of which are related to payroll expenses (wages, overtime, and hazard pay)



City of Socorro,  
Texas



# Projected COVID-19 Expenses

Although the situation is very fluid, it is important to plan for potential costs for the next 12 months.

## Changing variables to consider:

- Continued increase in COVID-19 cases in El Paso County
- Texas Reopening Phases may lead to increase in cases and prolong the need for COVID-19 -related expenses
- Increased demand for PPE from businesses reopening may drive up PPE costs
- Potential for a second wave of COVID-19 cases in the fall



City of Socorro,  
Texas



# Projected COVID-19 Expenses

Projected COVID-19 Expenses may range from \$200,000 to \$900,000 in the next 12 months to include:

- PPE, disinfectant supplies and disinfection services
- Costs related to personnel responding to COVID-19 emergency



**Thank you!**