

USDA/Rural Development

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News Release

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES GROUND BREAKING FOR CITY OF PRESIDIO FIRE STATION / EMERGENCY FACILITY

Presidio, Texas, March 18, 2004— Bryan Daniel, state director, Texas USDA Rural Development announces a ground breaking ceremony for City of Presidio Fire Station / Emergency Facility located in Presidio, Presidio County, Texas. The City received a \$250,000 grant in fiscal year 2001 and an \$85,000 loan in fiscal year 2002 through the agency's Community Facilities program.

“USDA Rural Development’s Community Facilities program helps rural communities keep pace with the needs of their rising populations,” said Daniel. “Rural residents can utilize our programs to help provide essential public services that will enhance the quality of life for all rural residents. These programs are among many that USDA Rural Development can utilize in our on-going commitment to the future of rural communities.”

The funds will be used to help construct a 5,500 square foot fire station/emergency service facility. The community of approximately 4,200 residents will benefit from the new facility.



City of Presidio Fire Station/Emergency Facility Groundbreaking

Back row, all firemen, left to right: Miguel Gonzales, Beto Armendariz, Memo Hoyer, Abraham Ornelas, Ruben Armendariz, Roland Hernandez

Front row, left to right: Gabe Lozano – Constituent Liaison for U.S. Congressman Henry Bonilla; John E. Perkins – Community Development Specialist, Rural Development, Fort Stockton; Alfred Muniz – Fire Chief; Raul Melendez – Presidio City Councilman; Herminio Arreola – Presidio Cement Plant (contractor)

In Fiscal Year 2003, a total of \$15.2 million in direct and guaranteed loans were obligated. Community Facilities loan funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and public services. These loans and grants are made to public entities and non-profit organizations. Examples of eligible projects include rural healthcare clinics, town halls, fire trucks,

county safety equipment, jaws of life, early warning systems, community centers, libraries, day care centers, and schools.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Fort Stockton Local Office at: (432) 336-7585, Ext. 4.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

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The USDA Rural Development mission area was created in 1994 and includes the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's 53 million rural people.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

