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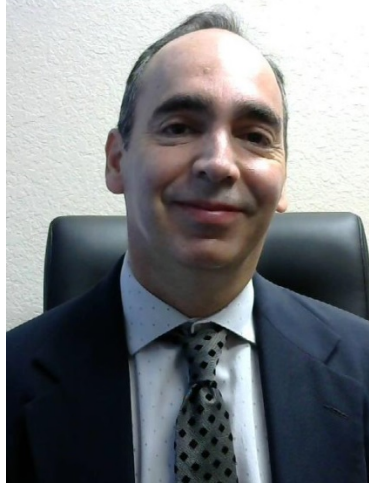
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Media Contact: Irma Garza, City of Harlingen, Public Relations Officer, (956) 216-5030 office or (956) 226-1673 cell

Harlingen Names New Planning & Zoning Director

Harlingen, Texas—The City of Harlingen welcomes Xavier Cervantes as the new Planning & Zoning Director. Cervantes comes to Harlingen from the City of McAllen where he recently served as a Planner II assisting in the processing of rezoning cases, variances, special exceptions and property annexations. He has an extensive background in planning having also served as the Director of Planning for the Cities of San Juan and Donna.

Cervantes earned a Bachelor of Environmental Design and a Master in Urban Planning from Texas A & M University. He is also certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners.



He began his career in Planning in 1995 as the Transportation Planner for the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council. While with the LRGVDC, he served as the project manager for the first Hidalgo County MPO Bicycle Plan.

He also has experience as a Neighborhood Planner and as a historic preservation officer helping McAllen get buildings designated as City landmarks and the establishment of the City's first historic district.

Cervantes is a member of the American Planning Association, The American Institute of Certified Planners, and the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association. His first day on the job was July 24. He takes over for Rodrigo Davila who became the Harlingen Public Works Director on May 1, 2019.

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