



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 1, 2026

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**McAllen and Reynosa Honor Ten Years of Shared Success**  
*City leaders celebrated a decade of collaboration, cultural exchange, and shared growth*

McAllen Mayor Javier Villalobos and Reynosa Mayor Carlos Peña, joined by city leaders from both sides of the border, signed a Reaffirmation of Sister City Agreement to commemorate 10 years of binational cooperation. This historic occasion highlights a decade of shared progress and mutual benefit fostered by this enduring partnership.

Since its establishment on April 27, 2016, the agreement has served as a blueprint for bridging both communities through dynamic collaboration in culture, social initiatives, education, business, and the exchange of best practices. This visionary partnership has strengthened and enriched both sides of the border, laying the foundation for continued success.

“Today is about celebrating our Sister City relationship with Reynosa. Ten years ago, McAllen and Reynosa formalized our status as Sister Cities, but in truth, our roots have been intertwined for generations. In McAllen, we are proud to continue building meaningful partnerships across the border,” said McAllen Mayor Javier Villalobos.

Following the signing ceremony, both mayors led a ribbon-cutting for “Latidos del Noreste,” a captivating photography exhibit capturing Reynosa’s urban transformation. Through vibrant muralism and public art, the exhibit powerfully portrays the city’s evolving border identity.

“Our Sister City Program continues to deepen our binational ties and position our region for shared success. Welcoming Reynosa reflects not only the goodwill between our communities, but a strategic partnership that expands access to global trade networks, investment, and job creation opportunities many regions can only aspire to,” said McAllen City Manager Isaac J. Tawil. “The McAllen–Reynosa mega-region stands as one of the most dynamic economic corridors in North America, home to one of the busiest land ports of entry on the continent. While we are separated by an international boundary, we are united by a common purpose: to drive prosperity, create jobs and elevate quality of life on both sides of the border.”

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The Department of International Relations plays a critical role in advancing McAllen’s global footprint by cultivating partnerships that fuel economic growth, cultural exchange, and innovation. “Our diplomacy work ensures that collaboration translates into tangible opportunities for our community,” said Director of International Relations, Daniella Plata.

Over the past several years, McAllen and Reynosa have made meaningful progress in strengthening collaboration, and we are committed to building on that momentum, keeping lines of communication open and unlocking new opportunities for sustainable, long-term growth.

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**About the City of McAllen**

Founded in 1904 and incorporated in 1911, the City of McAllen has grown from a small agricultural community into one of the most vibrant and fastest-growing cities along the U.S.–Mexico border. Known as the “City of Palms,” McAllen serves as a hub for international trade, retail, tourism, and culture in the Rio Grande Valley. Today, the city employs more than 2,600 dedicated public servants across 41 departments, delivering essential services to a community of more than 150,000 residents. McAllen city leaders remain committed to transparent governance, fiscal responsibility, and enhancing quality of life through innovation, infrastructure, and community engagement. For more information, visit [www.mcallen.net](http://www.mcallen.net) and follow us on social media @cityofmcallen