The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Facilities Audit

Report No. 23-REQ-23

March 15, 2023

Office of Audits & Consulting Services



THECB Facilities Audit

Overall Assessment:

The Department of Facilities Planning properly submitted UTRGV's facilities development projects for review, projects were completed within approved parameters, and reported on the annual tracking report when required.

We appreciate the assistance provided by UTRGV's management and other personnel.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background: The Texas Education Code Section 61.0583 requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to conduct audits of educational and general (E&G) facilities of public colleges and universities to verify the accuracy of their facilities inventory, and to confirm that facilities development projects received appropriate review. The Texas Administrative Code (TAC) outlines requirements for which THECB may review projects at institutions of higher education for education and general (E&G) space. For FY 2017 through FY 2022 these requirements were:

- (1) New construction of building and facilities and/or additions to buildings and facilities having an E&G project cost of \$10 million or greater;
- (2) Repair and renovation projects for buildings and facilities having an E&G project cost of \$10 million or greater;
- (3) Improved real property purchases that the institution intends to include in the E&G buildings and facilities inventory if the purchase price is more than \$1,000,000;
- (4) Energy Savings Performance Contract projects; and
- (5) Projects financed by tuition revenue bonds pursuant to TEC §61.0572 and §61.058.

The Coordinating Board performs required reviews on all E&G facilities at higher education institutions on a five-year cycle. To support the Coordinating Board's review, the Office of Internal Audits is required to conduct a "facilities development project" review.

UTRGV's Facilities Planning, under the Division of Finance & Planning, is the department responsible for preparing, submitting, and re-submitting, as applicable, the application for all projects requiring THECB review.

Objective: To determine if UTRGV complied with the THECB rules pertaining to facility development project applications and reviews.

Scope/Period: Facilities development projects from February 2017 through August 2022.



THECB Facilities Audit

APPENDIX I

Criteria & Methodology

Criteria

<u>Texas Education Code Section 61.0583</u> <u>Texas Administrative Code Title 19 Part 1 Chapter 17 Subchapter A Rule §17.20</u>

Methodology

We conducted this audit in conformance with the Institute of Internal Auditor's International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing. Additionally, we conducted this audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. The Office of Audits and Consulting Services is independent per both standards for internal auditors. These standards are also required by the Texas Internal Auditing Act.



THECB Facilities Audit

APPENDIX II

Report Distribution & Audit Team

Report Distribution

Jason Hartley, VP for Operations, Planning & Construction Gerardo Rodriguez, Assistant VP for Strategic Space Planning Mark Saenz, Chief Real Estate Officer UTRGV Internal Audit Committee UT System Audit Office Governor's Office – Budget and Policy State Auditor's Office Legislative Budget Board

Audit Team

Eloy R. Alaniz, Jr., Chief Audit Officer Norma Ramos, Director of Audits Angelica Coello-Pineda, Auditor