

Rio Hondo News

• FEBRUARY 2026

• ISSUE NO.1

• PAGE 1

Editor Ben Medina

THE CITY OF RIO HONDO AND CAMERON COUNTY COMPLETED AN ALL-INCLUSIVE PARK STRUCTURE UPGRADE FOR ALL CHILDREN TO ENJOY. THE NEW PLAY AREA INCLUDES TWO NEW SLIDES, SWINGS, AN ALL-INCLUSIVE MERRY-GO-ROUND, SOFT TURF, MUSICAL CHIME, AND DRUMS. THE SOCCER FIELD AND TRACK RECEIVED NEW LIGHTING AS PART OF THE PROJECT.



THE CITY IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION TO INSTALL A SECOND WATER LINE UNDER THE ARROYO COLORADO RIVER. THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED BY \$380,000 FROM THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD. THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REVIEWED THIS PROJECT AND PERMITTED IT AFTER TWO YEARS. RESIDENTS WEST OF THE ARROYO COLORADO RIVER CAN BE ASSURED THAT WATER WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES.



City of Rio Hondo received a new 2025 Ford Explorer that will join the city's police fleet. Funding provided by the Office of Governor Criminal Justice Grant.



Rio Hondo News

• FEBRUARY 2026

• ISSUE NO.1

• PAGE 2



IN OTHER NEWS

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Police Department is fully staffed with six officers and Chief Julian Longoria. The City continues to provide above and beyond police protection to citizens and local businesses.

WATER AND SEWER

The City is improving the water plant by improving the filtering system and electrical equipment. The elevated tank will be repaired and a Scada system will be installed.

CITY HALL

City Hall has been power-washed, and new lighting has been installed. All interior and exterior lighting will be replaced with energy-saving bulbs that will save tax dollars. The Texas State Energy Conservation Office funds this project.

The Civic Center will be getting new windows, lighting, and new doors as part of this energy-saving project.

FUTURE PROJECTS

- New sewer line replacements throughout the city.
- Water improvements
- Sewer improvements
- Police Alert Program
- Security Cameras for critical infrastructure

Rio Hondo Residents Input Needed



The City of Rio Hondo will develop a city-wide Comprehensive Plan starting in March, and citizen input is very much needed. This document is a guide for the future of Rio Hondo. We will advise you of the meeting times.

Rio Grande News

• FEBRUARY 2026

• ISSUE NO.1

• PAGE 3

The City Administrator and the Library Staff hosted a Christmas lunch for our special children. They were treated to games, lunch, and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Santa, who gave them gifts. It was a wonderful time and will be repeated.



The City in Conjunction with Cameron County held pictures with Santa. The Children had a great jolly time.



From the desk of the Administrator:

February 10, 2026

TO THE CITIZENS OF RIO HONDO

Dear Citizen:

I am writing this letter to address a matter that has affected not only me but also those who know and support me.

Recently, I was the subject of serious allegations that, while completely false, understandably caused concern and confusion. I want to inform you that after a thorough investigation by the proper legal authorities, all charges against me are without merit and have been officially dismissed. I have been fully cleared of any wrongdoing.

Though the process was painful and disruptive, I am grateful for the truth prevailing. I appreciate those who stood by me and trusted in my character during this difficult time. To those who may have had doubts or concerns, I understand, and I hope this confirmation from the legal system restores your confidence in me.

My commitment to this community remains as strong as ever. I will continue to contribute positively, uphold my values, and work to rebuild any trust that may have been shaken.

If you have any questions or would like to speak with me directly, I welcome open and honest conversation. As you see from this new letter, I never hesitate to do my best for the City of Rio Hondo. Please email me at bmedina@riohondo.us.

Thank you for your time, your understanding, and for allowing me the opportunity to share the truth.

With sincerity,

Ben Medina, Jr.
Rio Hondo City Administrator

Next Issue Highlights.....

**Finding Private Robinson
A Local HERO**

