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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Mayor Joel Villarreal Delivers State of the City Address**

**Rio Grande City, Texas (January 20, 2016)** — Mayor Joel Villarreal delivered his first State of the City address on January 20, 2016 at South Texas College Starr County Campus Auditorium. In his address, the Mayor outlined the city’s accomplishments over the past year, which included the purchase of a new city hall building, in east Rio Grande City. Mayor Villarreal attributed Rio Grande City’s strong financial and economic position to local efforts.

“Through the collaboration of residents, the business community, civic organizations, and other local governments, we’ve seen achievements in the past year that helped make our city stronger than ever,” said Mayor Villarreal.

He emphasized the importance of shopping local as he discussed the city’s sales tax revenue. “The more we “Shop Rio”, the better investment for our future,” he said.

Mayor Villarreal’s State of the City included news about future city projects such as:

- A new ½ million gallon elevated water tank on Garcia St.
- A \$1.7 million drainage improvement investment to support the development of a mixed retail site.
- Added street lighting for public safety.
- Health inspections by City Code Enforcement.
- A proposed Fire/Police Station.
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Mayor Villarreal invited further discussion on city projects by encouraging Rio Grande City residents to visit with city leaders and departments.

He also spoke about the Rio Grande City’s steady tax rate and raising the bar for other revenues to support city growth. Mayor Villarreal emphasized how the Rio Grande City is a service organization driven by the needs of its residents.

“Everyday, 159 dedicated men and women work tirelessly to maintain and enhance the services and quality of life that our residents deserve and expect.” he said.

For more information about Rio Grande City and the State of the City presentation, visit RGC TV at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), visit [www.cityofrgc.com](http://www.cityofrgc.com) or call (956) 487-0672.

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Photo Caption: Mayor Villarreal delivers State of the City Address