



January 10, 2021

OPEN LETTER TO VALLEY ELECTED OFFICIALS REGARDING PLANNED VISIT OF TRUMP TO RGV

Dear Elected Officials:

With the news of the reported visit to the Rio Grande Valley by President Trump, we are called to ask that you speak out against bringing his inciteful rhetoric to our community and demand that this planned trip be cancelled immediately.

Our community along the beautiful Rio Grande represents exactly what Trump's base fears. He will use our community as an example of "what will become of the US" unless he and his "patriots" rail against it. Our home, our culture, our collective being of which we are so unbelievably proud is going to be held up as evidence of a liberal leadership, all that Trump and his base are against.

This planned trip by the President is nothing more than a stunt to stoke the energy of his supporters. There is no official purpose for him to come here now, at a time when Congress has filed articles of impeachment for a second time, on the heels of unbelievable threats to our democracy at his instigation. As such, we call on all elected officials to condemn the planned trip and not to cooperate with the administration and demand the trip be cancelled.

Now is not the time to allow our beloved RGV to be used as the backdrop for further racist violence and threats to our democracy. Further, our hospitals are overwhelmed and our front line healthcare workers are exhausted due to the COVID epidemic, and this appearance would become another super-spreader event due to the Trump team's refusal to wear masks.

We urge you to stand up and take a definitive stance against the threats to our country fueled by President Trump. Our Valley deserves respect, our communities and people deserve to be treated with dignity and to live without divisive rhetoric. Let's show Trump and his supporters we will not allow our community to be tarnished. We deserve to be safe and to continue to show the world how our community works together promoting harmony and peace. Demand the planned trip be canceled!

Sincerely,

Angry Tias and Abuelas
Action South Texas
Cameron County Democratic Women
Citizens Against Voter Abuse
La Union del Pueblo Entero (LUPE)
ACLU of Texas

ARISE
Border Workers United
Proyecto Azteca
Proyecto Juan Diego
Texas Civil Rights Project
Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid