

Proclamation

City of Mission



WHEREAS, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley is celebrating its 10th anniversary in August 2025; and

WHEREAS, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley is an award-winning institution that has conveyed more than 60,000 degrees since opening its doors in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Significant accomplishments during the university's first decade of operation include adding 42 new bachelor's, master's, doctoral, and professional degree programs and an increase in research expenditures of nearly 600 percent; ongoing student success is reflected in the university's record-breaking enrollment, retention, and graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, This exemplary institution made historic strides in medical education when it opened the only school of medicine in South Texas in 2016, and it has since expanded quality health care services in the region with 25 clinical care sites throughout the Rio Grande Valley; and

WHEREAS, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley opened the state's first School of Podiatric Medicine in 2022 and will further expand student opportunities with the opening of the region's first comprehensive academic cancer and surgery center in 2025 and the state's second School of Optometry in 2027; and

WHEREAS, In 2021, the university's Student Government Association executed a student referendum that would enhance campus life by adding a Division I Football Championship Subdivision team and other programs, and in the fall of 2025, the football team will kick off its inaugural season and establish the first Division I college football program at the university and in the region; and

WHEREAS, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley has earned national acclaim for its commitment to value, social mobility, and economic impact and has been ranked the number one university in Texas in 2023 and 2024 by Washington Monthly magazine and the number one best public university in Texas for value and social mobility by The Wall Street Journal.

NOW THEREFORE, we the City Council of the City of Mission do hereby commemorate the 10th anniversary of The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and extend to its leaders, faculty, and staff congratulations on a decade of success and best wishes for the future.

PROCLAIMED on this the 28th day of July, 2025.

Norie Gonzalez Garza, Mayor

Jessica Ortega, Councilwoman

Ruben Plata, Mayor Pro Tem

Marissa Ortega Gerlach, Councilwoman

Alberto Vela, Councilman