



Diana A. Ramirez

Director of Economic Development & Strategic Investments
Travis County

Diana is Director of the Economic Development & Strategic Investments (EDSI) office, established in January 2016. Diana oversees a small, nimble team of 10 and uses external expertise to extend its impact. In addition, she seeks to partner with not only the public sector but the private sector, leveraging public resources to bring private capital to the table.

Diana's team leads the following efforts: redevelopment of underutilized county properties; development and implementation of the first countywide Comprehensive Economic Development strategy that uses a community-driven process to pursue economic equity, inclusion, sustainability, and resilience; development of campus and facility master plans; issuance of conduit debt for affordable housing, health facilities, and other economic development projects; construction of affordable housing projects as general partner and/or general contractor; management of property tax rebate economic development agreements; investment of County funds and hospital district funds (under contract) in accordance with the Texas Public Funds Investment Act; and negotiation and funding of Public Improvement Districts (PIDs).

Under the current COVID-19 pandemic and national response crisis, Diana is standing up a new small business assistance grant program and leading the effort to ensure the county draws down the maximum federal and state funding to provide response, relief and recovery programs that address the health crisis and ensuing economic impacts. She represents Travis County on the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce's Opening Central Texas for Business Task Force.

Diana earned her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master in Public Affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public & International Affairs. She is a member of the GFOA and GFOA of Texas and is a Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO). She is a member of GFOA's national Capital Planning & Economic Development Committee. She has also earned the National Development Council's Economic Development Finance Professional certificate. Diana is a member of the Urban Land Institute – Austin's Affordability Strategic Council and represents the County Judge on Capital City Innovation's Board as ex-officio board member.