

TWDB Soliciting Input from Stakeholders with Flood-Related Expertise

Responses due by November 21

In response to the devastating July 2025 Hill Country floods, the Texas Legislature passed several bills aimed at improving Texas' preparedness for future flood events, including <u>Senate Bill 3</u> (SB 3), relating to outdoor warning sirens in flash flood-prone areas. Governor Abbott signed SB 3 into law on September 5, 2025.

SB 3 charges the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) with identifying flash flood-prone areas with a history of consistent or severe flooding that warrant outdoor warning sirens within the 30 counties included in the <u>disaster declaration</u> issued by the Governor in July 2025. The bill requires the appropriate municipality or county within those areas identified by the TWDB to install, maintain, and operate an outdoor warning siren system. Such systems are defined to include all components essential to the system's functionality.

Additionally, the TWDB must facilitate the development of best management practices and guidance for the operation of outdoor warning sirens and develop rules relating to requirements for outdoor warning systems in flash flood-prone areas.

Updates will be made to the <u>TWDB website</u> as more resources and information on the implementation of SB 3 become available. Identification of the flash flood-prone areas, development of the best management practices and guidance, and the rulemaking process will include opportunities for public input that will be publicized on the agency's website, social media channels, and through emails.

The TWDB is working to implement SB 3 on a highly accelerated timeline, so **input is needed from stakeholders with flood-related expertise who represent counties, municipalities, and other governmental entities within the 30-county area impacted by SB 3.** The goal of the survey is to learn more about the counties included in the disaster declaration, including

- · what characterizes flash flooding in these areas,
- what outdoor warning siren infrastructure is planned or in place, and
- what information is most critical for inclusion as guidance on outdoor warning siren systems is developed.

The survey closes at 5:00 p.m. Friday, November 21. Your time and prompt attention in completing the survey is greatly appreciated, and please contact <u>flood sirens program@twdb.texas.gov</u> with any questions.

Take the Survey