

KEY ISSUES

One of the issues in the Wimberley flood was the lack of an effective early warning system, something the Board heard about at a Work Session focused on flood issues on December 14, 2015. This is an issue shared by other communities in Texas, especially those in “Flash Flood Alley”, an area that extends from Del Rio through San Antonio, New Braunfels, San Marcos, Austin, Temple, and Waco through Dallas and Fort Worth. In response to these concerns, the Executive Administrator proposes that this year’s request includes, in addition to the development of flood protection plans, a request for applications which will complement and enhance TWDB’s existing efforts related to the installation of weather data points, development of real-time, online flood and weather information, and increased floodplain management resources to local entities.

The Executive Administrator proposes that up to \$2,000,000.00 be available for political subdivisions to fund projects related to early warning systems, development and implementation of local strategies for responding to floods, and flood protection planning. Funding for the last two years has been at \$900,000 a year and was limited to studies that evaluate providing protection from flooding through structural and non-structural measures. By using funding from the Disaster Contingency Account, the agency can achieve a higher level of funding to achieve an expanded level of planning and support the goals identified in the MOU with the Office of the Governor.

This grant has a 50 percent cost match by the political subdivisions that may be reduced to a 25 percent match if the political subdivision has an unemployment rate exceeding the state average by 50 percent or more, and which have per capita income which is 65 percent or less of the state average for the last reporting period available. In-kind services may be substituted for any part of local share, if such services are directly in support of the planning effort, are properly documented, and approved in advance by the board.

Staff will present recommended applications at a future Board meeting for approval.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Administrator recommends approval of this item.

This recommendation has been reviewed by legal counsel and is in compliance with applicable statutes and Board rules.

Attachment A: Summary of Recent Flood Protection Planning Grants

**ATTACHMENT A
FLOOD PROTECTION PLANNING GRANTS**

Funding Year/Entity Approved	Funding Approved	Project Description	Due Date	Current Status
FY 2015	<u>\$900,000</u>			
City of Georgetown	\$332,500	Phase 2 of the 2014 funded study to evaluate the North Fork San Gabriel River and South Fork San Gabriel River. Flood problems will be identified and mitigation alternatives will be evaluated.	5/31/2018	Study is proceeding.
Brazos River Authority	\$275,234	Phase 2 of the 2014 funded study to look at tributaries of the Lower Brazos River watershed in greater detail.	3/31/2018	Study is proceeding.
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA)	\$162,700	Phase 3 of the GBRA drainage studies. Phase 1 funded in 2011 and phase 2 funded in 2013/2014. Phase 3 will evaluate tributaries located in the upper watershed area of Hays County in greater detail.	5/31/2018	Study is proceeding.
City of Hurst	\$61,500	A drainage analysis of the Valley View Branch watershed will be performed to identify flood problems and evaluate mitigation alternatives.	1/31/2017	Study is proceeding.
City of Waco	\$68,066	This will be Phase 1 of a City Master Drainage Plan to perform drainage analysis of creeks within the City to develop a watershed based stormwater drainage plan to identify flood problem areas and mitigation alternatives.	8/31/2017	Study is proceeding.
FY 2014	<u>\$900,000</u>			
City of Georgetown	\$200,000	Drainage analysis of creeks within the City to develop a stormwater master drainage plan which would identify flood problem areas and mitigation alternatives.	2/28/2017	Study is proceeding.
Brazos River Authority	\$514,783.50	Comprehensive hydrologic and hydraulic models of the Lower Brazos River watershed will be developed to analyze the feasibility of various flood reduction alternatives.	5/31/2017	Study is proceeding.
City of Conroe	\$135,216.50	Drainage analysis to develop a comprehensive system of hydrologic/hydraulic models to evaluate flooding problems and mitigation alternatives.	10/31/2016	Study is proceeding.
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority	\$50,000	Additional funding requested for Phase 2 of FY2011 study in order to evaluate Soil Conservation Service dams in several minor creeks and how these structures impact flows within the watershed.	10/31/2016	This analysis is being incorporated into the results of the Corps of Engineers study of the watershed. Project is proceeding.

FLOOD PROTECTION PLANNING GRANTS (Continued)

Funding Year/Entity Approved	Funding Approved	Project Description	Due Date	Current Status
FY 2013	<u>\$847,738</u>			
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority	\$397,738	Phase 2 of FY2011 study; drainage analysis of specific watersheds which are tributary to the Guadalupe River	10/31/2016	Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority has extended the agreement with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and project is proceeding.
Orange County Drainage District	\$200,000	Drainage analysis of Cow Bayou and Adams Bayou	12/31/2015	Study complete and final report has been approved.
City of Edinburg	\$250,000	A Master Drainage Plan developed for City	7/31/2015	Study complete and final report has been approved.
FY 2012	<u>\$1,000,000</u>			
Harris County Flood Control District	\$750,000	Evaluation of flood overflows from Cypress Creek watershed into the contributing area of Addicks Reservoir	8/31/2015	Study complete and final report has been approved.
Upper Brushy Creek Water Control and Improvement District	\$67,000	Drainage analysis of several small tributaries which were not included in the FY2011 study's scope of work	12/30/2014	Study is complete and data to be implemented into new floodplain map under Cooperating Technical Partner program with FEMA.
Waller County	\$141,000	Additional phase of project activities to the FY2010 study and in cooperation with Harris County Flood Control District study	6/30/2015	Study complete and final report has been approved.
Fort Bend County	\$42,000	Phase 2 of FY2010 study of the Gapps Bayou watershed	11/30/2013	Study complete and final report has been approved.
FY 2011	<u>\$1,000,000</u>			
Upper Brushy Creek Water Control & Improvement District	\$360,000	Drainage analysis of the Brushy Creek watershed to the District down stream jurisdictional boundary near Hutto. TWDB and the District are working in cooperation with FEMA to share data to develop new Flood Risk maps for the San Gabriel River/Brushy Creek.	3/30/2015	Study is complete and data to be implemented into new floodplain map under Cooperating Technical Partner program with FEMA.
City of Sherman	\$166,500	Drainage analysis of Post Oak Creek watershed	9/30/2013	Study complete and final report has been approved.
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority	\$352,262	Phase 1 of a drainage analysis of the main stem of the Guadalupe River from Canyon Lake through Victoria County. Study is in partnership with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.	10/31/2016	Study is proceeding. Flooding risks have been evaluated and mitigation alternatives are being developed.
City of Marble Falls	\$100,000	Drainage analysis of Backbone Creek and Whitman Branch watersheds	3/31/2014	Study complete and final report has been approved.
Fort Bend County	\$21,238	Phase 1 of a drainage analysis of the Gapps Bayou watershed	9/30/2012	Study complete and final report has been approved.