

**TO:** Board Members

**THROUGH:** Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator  
John T. Dupnik, P.G., Deputy Executive Administrator, Water Science and Conservation  
Todd Chenoweth, General Counsel  
Rebecca Trevino, Chief Financial Officer

**FROM:** Kathy Hopkins, Mitigation Specialist, Grant Coordination  
Saul Nuccitelli, P.E., Director, Flood Science and Community Assistance

**DATE:** December 5, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Local Match for Federal Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018 Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants

## **ACTION REQUESTED**

Consider allocating \$7,013,767 from the Flood Infrastructure Fund for use as the local match requirement for the awarded Flood Mitigation Assistance grants for Federal Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018 and authorizing the Executive Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts or contract amendments to include these funds.

## **BACKGROUND**

The 86th Texas Legislature passed several bills entrusting the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) with new responsibilities related to funding flood mitigation projects and planning for future flood events. The legislature passed Senate Bill 7 and Senate Bill 500, which made a one-time transfer of \$793 million from the Economic Stabilization or “Rainy Day” Fund to the Flood Infrastructure Fund. One of the authorized uses of the funds is to make grants available to provide matching funds to enable the eligible political subdivisions to participate in a federal program for a flood project.

The TWDB administers the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program in Texas and serves as the point of contact for the distribution of federal grants for mitigation planning and project implementation.

<a href="#">Our Mission</a>	:	<a href="#">Board Members</a>
To provide leadership, information, education, and support for planning, financial assistance, and outreach for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas	:	Peter M. Lake, Chairman   Kathleen Jackson, Board Member   Brooke T. Paup, Board Member
	:	Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator

On May 17, 2018 (for the Federal Fiscal Year 2017 Flood Mitigation Assistance funding cycle) and October 3, 2019 (for the Federal Fiscal Year 2018 Flood Mitigation Assistance funding cycle), the Board authorized the Executive Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts as approved and directed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. A total of 26 subapplications from the Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program were selected for funding during these two cycles.

### **KEY ISSUES**

For the Federal Fiscal Year 2017 and 2018 Flood Mitigation Assistance funding cycles, the required local match for the 26 subapplications totals \$7,013,767. These subapplications fund flood projects for elevation and acquisition of flood prone structures, drainage projects, or planning and development of flood mitigation projects. The Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program can require up to a 25 percent local match in order to receive the Federal funds. Frequently, subapplicants lack the financial resources to meet the local match requirement and will pass the local match requirement onto the property owners being mitigated under the grant program. Further, either the subapplicants or the property owners are often unable to provide the local match due to the financial burden associated with continual recovery efforts from flood losses and are unable to continue to participate in the grant leaving structures at risk. In these cases, federal dollars go unused or reallocated to other states. Using the Flood Infrastructure Fund for the local match will ease the financial burden on subapplicants and property owners, ensuring flood mitigation efforts address the long-term risks flood losses and the continual development of a more flood resilient Texas.

Attachment A provides the current contracting status of the FEMA-selected subapplications or subgrants by funding year. Of the 26 Flood Mitigation Assistance subapplications, 10 subgrants have been awarded by FEMA and the TWDB contracts have been executed. The remaining 16 subapplications have not been awarded by FEMA; thus, the TWDB contracts have not been executed. If authorized, the 10 executed TWDB contracts shall be amended and the 16 pending contracts shall include language stating that the local match funds are being provided by the TWDB through the Flood Infrastructure Fund.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Executive Administrator recommends approval to allocate \$7,013,767 from the Flood Infrastructure Fund for use as the local match requirement for the awarded Flood Mitigation Assistance grants for Federal Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018 and to negotiate and execute contracts or contract amendments to include these funds.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Contract Status for Fiscal Year 2017 and 2018 Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants

Attachment A

Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants  
 Contract Status for Funding Years 2017 and 2018  
 (as of December 3, 2019)

Funding Year	Subapplicant	FEMA Awarded	TWDB Contract Executed	Federal Funding (\$)	Local Match (\$)
2017	Bevil Oaks, City of	Yes	Yes	4,108,561.00	1,238,203.00
2017	El Lago, City of	Yes	Yes	259,376.00	0.00
2017	Fort Worth, City of	Pending	Pending	515,500.00	34,500.00
2017	Hardin County	Yes	Yes	2,721,501.96	0.00
2017	Harris County Flood Control District	Yes	Yes	10,487,076.34	416,537.00
2017	Houston, City of	Pending	Pending	\$93,750.00	31,250.00
2017	Jersey Village, City of	Yes	Yes	3,355,447.63	276,499.37
2017	Longview, City of	Yes	Yes	297,536.30	20,610.70
2017	McAllen, City of	Yes	Pending	1,048,818.75	349,606.25
2017	Nassau Bay, City of	Yes	Yes	1,392,247.20	0.00
2017	Nassau Bay, City of	Yes	Yes	2,833,332.00	356,928.00
2017	Orange, City of	Yes	Yes	244,696.00	0.00
2017	Teague, City of	Yes	Pending	386,067.31	42,896.37
2018	Friendswood, City of	Pending	Pending	2,282,567.00	0.00
2018	Hardin County	Pending	Pending	382,567.00	0.00
2018	Houston, City of	Pending	Pending	1,246,648.00	0.00
2018	Houston, City of	Pending	Pending	5,015,377.00	339,969.44
2018	Houston, City of	Pending	Pending	11,170,967.00	248,246.35
2018	Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Pending	Pending	3,184,500.00	1,061,500.00
2018	Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Pending	Pending	1,119,900.00	373,300.00
2018	Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Pending	Pending	533,850.00	177,950.00
2018	Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Pending	Pending	3,030,435.00	1,010,145.00
2018	Jersey Village, City of	Pending	Pending	782,003.00	96,047.00
2018	Jersey Village, City of	Pending	Pending	100,000.00	500,000.00
2018	Nassau Bay, City of	Pending	Pending	3,513,411.00	439,578.14
2018	Paris, City of	Pending	Pending	189,500.00	0.00
<b>Total (Rounded)</b>				<b>\$60,295,635.00</b>	<b>\$7,013,767.00</b>