

AGENDA ITEM MEMO

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 24, 2021

TO: Board Members

THROUGH: Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator
Ashley Harden, General Counsel
Jessica Peña, Deputy Executive Administrator, Water Supply & Infrastructure

FROM: Reem Zoun, PE, CFM, Director, Flood Planning
James Bronikowski, PE, CFM, Manager, Regional Flood Planning

SUBJECT: Flood Infrastructure Fund Category 1 Request for Extension of Commitment for Selected Projects

ACTION REQUESTED

Consider a three month extension of the commitment period for selected Flood Infrastructure Fund Category 1 projects.

BACKGROUND

Passed by the 86th Texas Legislature and approved by voters through a constitutional amendment, the Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) was created to provide funding for flood mitigation projects. The purpose of the FIF, as outlined in Senate Bill 7 is to assist in financing drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects. FIF projects presented for consideration have been scored and ranked using prioritization criteria outlined in 31 Texas Administrative Code Section 363.404 and further specified in the Flood Intended Use Plan. The prioritized list of projects was approved by the Board on September 17, 2020.

On December 17, 2020, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) approved funding applications for seventeen FIF Category 1 and authorized the Executive Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts for grant funding in an amount not to exceed \$44,693,945 from the 2020 Flood Infrastructure Fund for watershed flood protection planning studies (Category 1).

KEY ISSUES

The selected projects represent those eligible under Category 1 of the 2020 Flood Intended Use Plan. This category of funding was designed to support studies that conduct planning

Our Mission	:	Board Members
Leading the state's efforts in ensuring a secure water future for Texas and its citizens	:	Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman Kathleen Jackson, Board Member
	:	Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator
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of entire watersheds no smaller than Hydrologic Unit Code 10-digit (HUC-10) to better inform the development of strategies using structural and nonstructural measures before a flood event, such as determining and describing problems from or related to flooding, identifying and planning solutions to flooding problems, and estimating the benefits and costs of these solutions. Category 1 projects are eligible to receive a maximum of 100 percent grant funds based on criteria outlined in the Flood Intended Use Plan. Recipients of financial assistance may either use their own funds or borrow FIF funds at zero percent interest for any portion of the remaining project cost.

The seven applicants listed in Table 1 received commitments from TWDB on December 17, 2020. The commitments are set to expire on June 30, 2021. A three month extension of the commitment period for the selected projects is requested to enable the applicants and the agency sufficient time to clarify and finalize executable scopes and budgets and to close these projects prior to this new commitment expiration date in order to avoid the risk of commitment expiration based on the original date.

Table 1 provides a list of the seven projects, their project numbers, commitment numbers, board commitment expiration dates for which a three month extension of the commitment period is requested, FIF grant amount, total project cost and the justification for requested extension.

Table 1 List of FIF category 1 grant projects for extension of the commitment period

	Applicant	Project Number	Commitment Number	Commitment Expiration Date	FIF Grant Amount	Total Project Cost	Purpose
1	Chambers County	40018	G1001277	6/30/2021	\$4,656,000	\$6,208,000	Awaiting response on Agreement Execution Resolution
2	Dallas County	40118	G1001248	6/30/2021	\$5,433,750	\$7,245,000	Pending revision to scope of work and task budget
3	Hays County	40077	G1001285	6/30/2021	\$215,000	\$430,000	Community needs time to acquire approval on Agreement Execution Resolution
4	Iowa Colony	40016	G1001279	6/30/2021	\$150,000	\$300,000	Pending scope of work modification
5	Jefferson County Drainage District #6	40034	G1001280	6/30/2021	\$6,375,000	\$8,500,000	Pending scope of work modification
6	Karnes County	40011	G1001287	6/30/2021	\$618,750	\$825,000	Entity unsure if they are proceeding with project
7	Midland County	40057	G1001282	6/30/2021	\$612,478	\$1,224,956	Pending scope of work modification
	Total				\$18,060,978	\$24,732,956	

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Administrator recommends extending the expiration of the commitment period for three months, to expire on September 30, 2021 for these seven selected projects.