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## AGENDA ITEM MEMO

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** August 15, 2024

**TO:** Board Members

**THROUGH:** Bryan McMath, Interim Executive Administrator  
Ashley Harden, General Counsel  
Matt Nelson, Deputy Executive Administrator, Office of Planning

**FROM:** Temple McKinnon, Director, Water Supply Planning  
Katie Dahlberg, Manager, Projections and Socioeconomic Analysis

**SUBJECT:** Contract Authorization for Projections Research

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Consider authorizing the Executive Administrator to execute an interagency contract in a total amount not to exceed \$300,000 for a population and water demand projections research project.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is tasked with developing population and water demand projections for the state's regional and state water plans. After six cycles of regional water planning, the shift to utility-based planning to improve the resolution of the plan which resulted in the addition of hundreds of municipal water user groups, a detailed review of the TWDB's population and municipal water demand projection methodologies is needed. With increasingly more dense urban areas, declining population of some utilities (especially in rural areas), shifting intra-state migration, and limitations on water use data, research is needed to assess the accuracy of the methodologies used in past planning cycles and determine if changes and improvements to such methodologies are necessary or would be beneficial to the planning process and the regional water planning groups.

### **KEY ISSUES**

Findings from this research would be applied to the development of the 2031 Regional and 2032 State Water Plans.

An interagency agreement with the University of Texas' Bureau of Economic Geology will be utilized to conduct the proposed work.

<b>Our Mission</b>	<b>Board Members</b>
Leading the state's efforts	Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman   L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Board Member
in ensuring a secure	
water future for Texas	Bryan McMath, Interim Executive Administrator

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Executive Administrator recommends approval of this item to improve our data methodologies for water supply plan development.