



PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST

BOARD DATE: March 31, 2026

Team Manager: Kevin Smith

ACTION REQUESTED

Consider approving by resolution a request from the City of Mercedes (Hidalgo County) for \$19,014,647 in financial assistance consisting of \$11,780,000 in financing and \$7,234,647 in principal forgiveness from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for planning, design, and construction of water system improvements project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve No Action

BACKGROUND

The City of Mercedes (City) is located 40 miles northwest of Brownsville. The City provides water and wastewater services to a population of approximately 16,648 residents and approximately 5,717 water and 5,288 wastewater connections.

PROJECT NEED AND DESCRIPTION

The City of Mercedes (City) needs improvements and upgrades to three primary parts of its water system, including its treatment plant, storage, and waterlines. The City's water treatment plant has been upgraded and improved six times between 1998 and 2021, however the City reports frequent outages at the treatment plant due to equipment failures. The City has two 0.75 million gallons per day elevated storage tanks (ESTs) that are 22 and 28 years old that are scheduled to be rehabilitated. No major upgrades have been made to the waterlines in the City's distribution system. The City estimates an average of 23 water breaks per month and that it loses approximately 68.5 million gallons of water per year, which amounts to 8.7 percent of water treated in the system.

The City proposes to address the problems with its water treatment plant by adding a new multi-disc screw press, in-line groundwater well filtration system, raw water intake screens, backwash pumps, a generator, and a sludge thickener clarifier. The City also proposes to rehabilitate the plant's catwalk, and make surface repairs for three clearwells. The City will also rehabilitate its EST with replacements to both external and internal structures, along with recoating and replacement of warning lights for aircraft. Improvements to the distribution system include replacement of 3,080 feet of 16-inch water main, 4,750 feet of 12-inch water main, and the addition of 2,000 feet of new water distribution lines, approximately 5 percent of the total system.

COMMITMENT PERIOD: SIX (6) MONTHS TO EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Task	Schedule Date
Closing	June 15, 2026
Engineering Feasibility Report Completion (End of Planning Phase)	September 30, 2026
Design Phase Completion	September 1, 2027
Start of Construction	January 1, 2028
Construction Completion	January 1, 2030

KEY ISSUES

The City qualifies for \$7,234,647 in principal forgiveness as a disadvantaged community through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

LEGAL/SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- Executed principal forgiveness agreement
- Return of surplus funds

Attachments:

1. Financial Review
2. Project Budget
3. Resolution (26-)
4. Water Conservation Review
5. Location Map

Financial Review City of Mercedes

Attachment 1

Risk Score: 2B

Audit Reviewed: FY 2024

Key Indicators

Indicator	Result	Benchmark
Population Growth, Average Annual 2010-2020	City: 0.43%	State: 1.49%
Top 10 Customers % of Total Revenue	14%	10-15%
Median Household Income as % of State	56%	100%
Household Cost Factor	2.29%	1.51-2.00%
Days of Cash on Hand (3-year Average)	104 days	30-149 days
Net Fixed Assets/ Annual Depreciation	22 years	12-24 years
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.97x	1.0x
Debt-to-Operating Revenues	3.27x	4.00-5.99x
Unemployment Rate (December 2025)	County: 6.40%	State: 3.90%
Working Capital Ratio	0.52	> 1.0

Key Risk Score Strengths

- The City maintains a debt service coverage ratio that meets the required coverage, demonstrating sufficient revenue generation to cover its current debt obligations.
- The City maintains a debt to operating revenues ratio of 3.27x, indicating that the utility system carries debt equal to a little over three years of current annual revenue.
- The City maintains days of cash on hand at 104 days and a cash balance ratio of 33.53 percent, indicating that the City has been increasing their available cash on hand.

Key Risk Score Concerns

- Despite a median household income below the state and household cost factor above the benchmark, the City has decreased their accounts receivable by approximately 10 percent and total liabilities by approximately eight percent from fiscal year 2023 to fiscal year 2024.
- The population growth of the City is below the benchmark over the past ten years; however, regional water plan projections expect the region to grow by approximately 64 percent by 2050. The City has increased its utility system revenue by approximately seven percent from the previous fiscal year.

PLEDGE

Legal Pledge Name	Ad Valorem Tax and Utility System Revenues
Type of Pledge	<input type="checkbox"/> Tax <input type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax & Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Contract <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Revenue Pledge Level	<input type="checkbox"/> First <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Second <input type="checkbox"/> Third <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

RATES AND CHARGES

Average Residential Use	Gallons/Month	Current Rates	Projected Rates	Current Household Cost Factor	Projected Household Cost Factor
Water	8,896	\$34.58	\$34.58	2.29	2.29
Wastewater	8,799	\$31.68	\$31.68		

TAXES

	2025 Tax Year Rate	Max Projected Tax Rate (Year 2025)	Maximum Allowable Rate	3-Year Avg Current Tax Collections	Assessed Valuation
Maintenance & Operation	\$0.5152	\$0.5152	\$1.50	94%	\$1,060,216,723
Interest & Sinking	\$0.2698	\$0.2698			
Total Tax Rate	\$0.7850	\$0.7850			

Cost Savings

Based on a 20-year maturity schedule and current interest rates, the City could save approximately \$2,442,789 over the life of the financing. The City is also saving \$7,234,647 in principal forgiveness.

Project Data Summary

Responsible Authority	City of Mercedes
Program	DWSRF
Commitment Number	L1002355, LF1002356
Project Number	63112
List Year	2023
Type of Pledge	Combo Tax and Revenue
Pledge Level (if applicable)	Second Lien
Legal Description	\$11,780,000 City of Mercedes, Texas Combination Tax and Subordinate Lien Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Proposed Series 2026, \$7,234,647 Principal Forgiveness Agreement
Tax-exempt or Taxable	Tax-Exempt
Refinance	No
Outlay Requirement	Yes
Disbursement Method	Escrow
Outlay Type	Outlay = Escrow Release
Qualifies as Disadvantaged	Yes
State Revolving Fund Type	Equivalency
Financial Managerial & Technical Complete	Yes
Phases Funded	Planning, Design, and Construction
Pre-Design	Yes
Project Consistent with State Water Plan	Yes
Water Conservation Plan	Adopted
Overall Risk Score	2B

PROJECT TEAM

Team Manager	Financial Analyst	Engineering Reviewer	Environmental Reviewer	Attorney
Kevin Smith	Arnoldo Rubio	Kyleigh Dixon	Lauren Dill	Michael Perez

ISSUE BEING EVALUATED
FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY
City of Mercedes

\$11,780,000 City of Mercedes, Texas Combination Tax and Subordinate Lien Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Proposed Series 2026

Dated Date: 6/15/2026	Source: DWSRF-EQUIVALENCY
Delivery Date: 6/15/2026	Rate: 2.89%
First Interest: 8/15/2026	IUP Year: 2023
First Principal: 2/15/2027	Case: Tax and Revenue
Last Principal: 2/15/2047	Admin.Fee: \$230,980
Fiscal Year End: 09/30	Admin. Fee Payment Date: 6/15/2026
Required Coverage: 1.0	Total Assessed Valuation: \$1,060,216,723

FISCAL YEAR	CURRENT TAX RATE	TAX REVENUES WITH COLL. @ 94%	PROJECTED NET SYSTEM REVENUES	PROJECTED TOTAL REVENUES	CURRENT DEBT SERVICE	\$11,780,000 ISSUE				TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	TOTAL DEBT COVERAGE
						PRINCIPAL PAYMENT	INTEREST RATE	INTEREST PAYMENT	TOTAL PAYMENT		
2026	0.2698	\$2,701,995	\$2,416,313	\$5,118,308	\$1,532,899	-	-	\$50,896	\$50,896	\$1,583,795	3.23
2027	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,849,846	\$450,000	1.59%	301,798	751,798	2,601,643	1.97
2028	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,974,385	455,000	1.61%	294,557	749,557	2,723,942	1.88
2029	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	2,001,618	460,000	1.63%	287,146	747,146	2,748,763	1.86
2030	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,948,933	470,000	1.73%	279,331	749,331	2,698,264	1.90
2031	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,945,993	480,000	1.86%	270,802	750,802	2,696,795	1.90
2032	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,971,223	485,000	1.98%	261,536	746,536	2,717,759	1.88
2033	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,982,573	495,000	2.08%	251,587	746,587	2,729,159	1.88
2034	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,160,038	505,000	2.21%	240,858	745,858	1,905,897	2.69
2035	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,168,434	520,000	2.34%	229,194	749,194	1,917,628	2.67
2036	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,168,621	530,000	2.52%	216,432	746,432	1,915,053	2.67
2037	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,146,350	545,000	2.66%	202,506	747,506	1,893,856	2.70
2038	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	1,149,768	560,000	2.77%	187,501	747,501	1,897,269	2.70
2039	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	879,728	575,000	2.85%	171,551	746,551	1,626,280	3.15
2040	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	888,959	590,000	2.93%	154,714	744,714	1,633,673	3.13
2041	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	890,281	605,000	2.99%	137,026	742,026	1,632,307	3.14
2042	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	897,495	625,000	3.06%	118,419	743,419	1,640,913	3.12
2043	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	900,508	645,000	3.11%	98,826	743,826	1,644,334	3.11
2044	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	905,520	665,000	3.15%	78,323	743,323	1,648,843	3.10
2045	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	909,469	685,000	3.18%	56,958	741,958	1,651,426	3.10
2046	0.2698	2,701,995	2,416,313	5,118,308	914,246	705,000	3.20%	34,786	739,786	1,654,032	3.09
2047	0.2698	2,701,995	2,469,899	5,171,894	916,778	730,000	3.22%	11,753	741,753	1,658,531	3.12
				\$113,674,495	\$29,103,664	\$11,780,000		\$3,936,497	\$15,716,497	\$44,820,161	

AVERAGE (MATURITY) LIFE	11.58 YEARS
NET INTEREST RATE	2.886%
COST SAVINGS	\$2,442,789
AVERAGE ANNUAL REQUIREMENT	\$714,386

Disclaimer: This is a working document and is provided as a courtesy. All information contained herein, including the proposed interest rate, is subject to change upon further review of the TWDB in accordance with 31 Texas Administrative Code Chapters 363, 371, 375, or 384, as applicable. The TWDB does not function as a financial advisor to anyone in connection with this financing. The information contained in this document is used by TWDB staff to analyze the application for financing is illustrative only and does not constitute any guaranty of future rates. The TWDB makes no claim regarding the applicability of the information at closing, at which time actual rates will be set.



Project Budget Summary
City of Mercedes
63112 - City of Mercedes Water System Improvements

Budget Items	TWDB Funds	Total
Construction		
Construction	\$13,868,667.00	\$13,868,667.00
Subtotal for Construction	\$13,868,667.00	\$13,868,667.00
Basic Engineering Services		
Construction Engineering	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00
Design	\$1,800,000.00	\$1,800,000.00
Planning	\$375,000.00	\$375,000.00
Subtotal for Basic Engineering Services	\$2,300,000.00	\$2,300,000.00
Special Services		
Application	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Environmental	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Geotechnical	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Inspection	\$160,000.00	\$160,000.00
Permits	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Project Management (by engineer)	\$325,000.00	\$325,000.00
Surveying	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Testing	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Subtotal for Special Services	\$700,000.00	\$700,000.00
Fiscal Services		
Bond Counsel	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
Financial Advisor	\$325,000.00	\$325,000.00
Issuance Costs	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Loan Origination Fee	\$230,980.00	\$230,980.00
Subtotal for Fiscal Services	\$645,980.00	\$645,980.00
Contingency		
Contingency	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00
Subtotal for Contingency	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00
Total	\$19,014,647.00	\$19,014,647.00

A RESOLUTION OF THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD
APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$19,014,647 TO THE CITY OF MERCEDES
FROM THE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND
THROUGH THE PROPOSED PURCHASE OF
\$11,780,000 CITY OF MERCEDES, TEXAS COMBINATION TAX AND SUBORDINATE
LIEN REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION,
PROPOSED SERIES 2026
AND
\$7,234,647 IN PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS

(26 -)

Recitals:

The City of Mercedes (City), located in Hidalgo County, has applied for financial assistance in the amount of \$19,014,647 from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to finance the planning, design and construction of certain water system improvements identified as Project No. 63112.

The City seeks financial assistance from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) through the TWDB's proposed purchase of \$11,780,000 City of Mercedes, Texas Combination Tax and Subordinate Lien Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Proposed Series 2026 (Obligations), together with all authorizing documents, and the execution of a Principal Forgiveness Agreement in an amount of \$7,234,647, as is more specifically set forth in the application and in recommendations of the TWDB's staff.

The City has offered a pledge of ad valorem taxes and a subordinate lien on the net revenues of the City's combined water and wastewater utility system as sufficient security for the repayment of the Obligations.

The commitment is approved for funding under the TWDB's pre-design funding option, and initial and future releases of funds are subject to 31 TAC § 371.13.

Findings:

1. The revenue or taxes pledged by the City will be sufficient to meet all the Obligations assumed by the City, in accordance with Texas Water Code § 15.607.
2. The application and assistance applied for meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300f *et seq.*, as well as state law, in accordance with Texas Water Code § 15.607.
3. The term of the Obligations does not exceed the expected useful life of the project proposed by the City.
4. The City has adopted and implemented a water conservation program for the more efficient use of water that will meet reasonably anticipated local needs and

conditions and that incorporates practices, techniques, or technology prescribed by the Texas Water Code and TWDB's rules.

5. The TWDB has approved a regional water plan for the region of the state that includes the area benefiting from the project and the needs to be addressed by the project will be addressed in a manner consistent with the approved regional and state water plans, as required by Texas Water Code § 16.053(j).
6. The City has completed a current water audit required by Texas Water Code § 16.0121 and 31 TAC § 358.6 and filed it with the TWDB in accordance with Texas Water Code § 16.053(j).
7. The City meets the definition of "Disadvantaged Community" in 31 TAC § 371.1(24) and is therefore eligible for principal forgiveness in the amount of \$7,234,647.

NOW, THEREFORE, based on these findings, the TWDB resolves as follows:

A commitment is made by the TWDB to the City of Mercedes for financial assistance in the amount of \$19,014,647 from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund through the TWDB's proposed purchase of \$11,780,000 City of Mercedes, Texas Combination Tax and Subordinate Lien Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Proposed Series 2026 and the execution of a Principal Forgiveness Agreement in the amount of \$7,234,647. This commitment will expire on September 30, 2026.

The commitment is conditioned as follows:

Standard Conditions:

1. This commitment is contingent on a future sale of bonds by the TWDB or on the availability of funds on hand as determined by the TWDB. If the financial assistance is funded with available cash-on-hand, the TWDB reserves the right to change the designated source of funds to bond proceeds issued for the purpose of reimbursing funds used to provide the financial assistance approved in this Resolution.
2. This commitment is contingent upon the issuance of a written approving opinion of the Attorney General of the State of Texas stating that all the requirements of the laws under which the Obligations were issued have been complied with; that the Obligations were issued in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas; and that the Obligations are valid and binding obligations of the City.
3. This commitment is contingent upon the City's compliance with all applicable requirements contained in 31 TAC Chapter 371.
4. The Obligations must provide that the City agrees to comply with all the conditions set forth in the TWDB Resolution.
5. The Obligations must provide that the Obligations can be called for early redemption on any date beginning on or after the first interest payment date that is 10 years from

the dated date of the Obligations at a redemption price of par together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

6. The City, or an obligated person for whom financial or operating data is presented to the TWDB in the application for financial assistance either individually or in combination with other issuers of the City's Obligations, or obligated persons, will, at a minimum, regardless of the amount of the Obligations, covenant to comply with requirements for continuing disclosure on an ongoing basis substantially in the manner required by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in 17 CFR § 240.15c2-12 (Rule 15c2-12) and determined as if the TWDB were a Participating Underwriter within the meaning of the rule, this continuing disclosure undertaking being for the benefit of the TWDB and the beneficial owners of the City's Obligations, if the TWDB sells or otherwise transfers the Obligations, and the beneficial owners of the TWDB's bonds if the City is an obligated person with respect to those bonds under SEC Rule 15c2-12.
7. The Obligations must contain a provision requiring the City to levy a tax or maintain and collect sufficient rates and charges, as applicable, to produce system funds in an amount necessary to meet the debt service requirements of all outstanding obligations and to maintain the funds established and required by the Obligations.
8. The Obligations must include a provision requiring the City to use any financial assistance proceeds from the Obligations that are determined to be remaining unused funds, which are those funds unspent after the original approved project is completed, for enhancements to the original project explicitly approved by the Executive Administrator, or, if no enhancements are authorized by the Executive Administrator, requiring the City to submit a final accounting and disposition of any unused funds.
9. The Obligations must include a provision requiring the City to use any financial assistance proceeds from the Obligations determined to be surplus funds in a manner approved by the Executive Administrator. Surplus funds are funds remaining after completion of the project and completion of a final accounting.
10. The Obligations must contain a provision that the TWDB may exercise all remedies available to it in law or equity, and any provision of the Obligations that restricts or limits the TWDB's full exercise of these remedies shall be of no force and effect.
11. Proceeds of this commitment are public funds. Therefore, the Obligations must include a provision requiring that these proceeds shall be held at a designated state depository institution or other properly chartered and authorized institution in accordance with the Public Funds Investment Act, Government Code, Chapter 2256, and the Public Funds Collateral Act, Government Code, Chapter 2257.
12. Proceeds of this commitment must not be used by the City when sampling, testing, removing, or disposing of contaminated soils or media at the project site, except for an LSLR project or associated activity directly connected to the identification, planning, design, and replacement of lead service lines or for an EC project to address PFAs or any contaminant listed on EPA's Contaminant Candidate Lists. The

Obligations must include an environmental indemnification provision wherein the City agrees, and agrees to cause its construction contractors, to indemnify, hold harmless and protect the TWDB from any and all claims, causes of action, or damages arising from activities performed by the City or its construction contractors, including their officials and employees, in connection with the project, to the extent permitted by law.

13. Before closing, the City shall submit documentation evidencing the adoption and implementation of sufficient system rates and charges or the levy of an interest and sinking tax rate (if applicable) sufficient for the repayment of all system debt service requirements.
14. Before closing, and if not previously provided with the application, the City shall submit executed contracts for engineering and, if applicable, financial advisor and bond counsel contracts for the project that are satisfactory to the Executive Administrator. Fees to be reimbursed under the contracts must be reasonable in relation to the services performed, reflected in the contract, and acceptable to the Executive Administrator.
15. Before closing, when any portion of the financial assistance is to be held in escrow or in trust, the City shall execute an escrow or trust agreement, approved as to form and substance by the Executive Administrator, and shall submit that executed agreement to the TWDB.
16. The Executive Administrator may require the City to execute a separate financing agreement in form and substance acceptable to the Executive Administrator.
17. The TWDB retains the option to purchase the Obligations in separate lots or on an installment basis, with delivery of the purchase price for each installment to be paid against delivery of the relevant installment of Obligations as approved by the Executive Administrator.
18. The Obligations must provide that the City will comply with all applicable TWDB laws and rules related to the use of the financial assistance.
19. The Obligations must provide that the City must comply with all conditions as specified in the final environmental finding of the Executive Administrator when issued including the standard emergency discovery conditions for threatened and endangered species and cultural resources.
20. The Obligations must contain a provision requiring the City to maintain insurance coverage sufficient to protect the TWDB's interest in the project.
21. The City must immediately notify TWDB, in writing, of any suit against it by the Attorney General of Texas under Texas Penal Code § 1.10(f) (related to federal laws regulating firearms, firearm accessories, and firearm ammunition).

22. The Obligations must provide that the City will submit annually an audit prepared by a certified public accountant in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
23. Before closing, the City shall submit to the escrow agent a closing memo signed by the Executive Administrator.

Tax-Exempt Conditions:

24. The City's bond counsel must prepare a written opinion that states that the interest on the Obligations is excludable from gross income or is exempt from federal income taxation. Bond counsel may rely on covenants and representations of the City when rendering this opinion.
25. The City's bond counsel opinion must also state that the Obligations are not "private activity bonds." Bond counsel may rely on covenants and representations of the City when rendering this opinion.
26. The Obligations must include a provision prohibiting the City from using the proceeds of this financial assistance in a manner that would cause the Obligations to become "private activity bonds" within the meaning of section 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (Code) and the Treasury Regulations promulgated under section 141 (Regulations).
27. The Obligations must provide that no portion of the proceeds of this commitment will be used, directly or indirectly, in a manner that would cause the Obligations to be "arbitrage bonds" within the meaning of section 148(a) of the Code and Regulations, including to acquire or to replace funds which were used, directly or indirectly, to acquire Nonpurpose Investments (as defined in the Code and Regulations) which produce a yield materially higher than the yield on the TWDB's bonds that are issued to provide financing for this commitment (Source Series Bonds), other than Nonpurpose Investments acquired with:
 - a. proceeds of the TWDB's Source Series Bonds invested for a reasonable temporary period of up to three (3) years after the issue date of the Source Series Bonds until the proceeds are needed for the facilities to be financed;
 - b. amounts invested in a bona fide debt service fund, within the meaning of section 1.148-1(b) of the Regulations; and
 - c. amounts deposited in any reasonably required reserve or replacement fund to the extent the amounts do not exceed the least of maximum annual debt service on the Obligations, 125% of average annual debt service on the Obligations, or 10 percent of the stated principal amount (or, in the case of a discount, the issue price) of the Obligations.
28. The Obligations must include a provision requiring the City take all necessary steps to comply with the requirement that certain amounts earned on the investment of

gross proceeds of the Obligations be rebated to the federal government to satisfy the requirements of section 148 of the Code. The Obligations must provide that the City must:

- a. account for all Gross Proceeds, as defined in the Code and Regulations, (including all receipts, expenditures, and investments) on its books of account separately and apart from all other funds (and receipts, expenditures and investments) and retain all records of the accounting for at least six years after the final Computation Date. The City may, however, to the extent permitted by law, commingle Gross Proceeds of its financing with other money of the City, provided that the City separately accounts for each receipt and expenditure of the Gross Proceeds and the obligations acquired with them;
 - b. calculate the Rebate Amount, as defined in the Code and Regulations, with respect to its financing, not less frequently than each Computation Date, in accordance with rules set forth in section 148(f) of the Code, section 1.148-3 of the Regulations, and the rulings under these sections. The City shall maintain a copy of the calculations for at least six years after the final Computation Date;
 - c. as additional consideration for the making of this commitment, and to induce the making of the commitment by measures designed to ensure the excludability of the interest on the TWDB's Source Series Bonds from the gross income of the owners for federal income tax purposes, pay to the United States the amount described in paragraph (b) above within 30 days after each Computation Date; and
 - d. exercise reasonable diligence to assure that no errors are made in the calculations required by paragraph (b) and, if an error is made, to discover and promptly to correct the error within a reasonable amount of time including payment to the United States of any interest and any penalty required by the Regulations;
29. The Obligations must include a provision prohibiting the City from taking any action that would cause the interest on the Obligations to be includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes.
 30. The Obligations must provide that the City will not cause or permit the Obligations to be treated as "federally guaranteed" obligations within the meaning of section 149(b) of the Code.
 31. The transcript must include a No Arbitrage Certificate or similar Federal Tax Certificate setting forth the City's reasonable expectations regarding the use, expenditure and investment of the proceeds of the Obligations.
 32. The Obligations must contain a provision that the City will refrain from using the proceeds provided by this TWDB commitment or the proceeds of any prior bonds to

pay debt service on another issue more than 90 days after the date of issue of the Obligations in contravention of the requirements of section 149(d) of the Code (relating to advance refundings).

33. The transcript must include evidence that the information reporting requirements of section 149(e) of the Code will be satisfied. This requirement may be satisfied by filing an IRS Form 8038 with the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, the applicable completed IRS Form 8038 or other evidence that the information reporting requirements of section 149(e) have been satisfied must be provided to the Executive Administrator within fourteen (14) days of closing. The Executive Administrator may withhold the release of funds for failure to comply.
34. The Obligations must provide that neither the City nor a related party will acquire any of the TWDB's Source Series Bonds in an amount related to the amount of the Obligations to be acquired from the City by the TWDB.
35. The City's federal tax certificate shall provide that the weighted average maturity of the Obligations purchased by the TWDB does not exceed 120% of the weighted average reasonably expected economic life of the Project.

State Revolving Fund Conditions;

36. The City shall submit outlay reports with sufficient documentation on costs on a quarterly or monthly basis in accordance with TWDB outlay report guidelines.
37. The Obligations must include a provision stating that all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors for projects shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a similar character in the locality in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, and the U.S. Department of Labor's implementing regulations. The City, all contractors, and all sub-contractors shall ensure that all project contracts mandate compliance with Davis-Bacon. All contracts and subcontracts for the construction of the project carried out in whole or in part with the financial assistance made available shall insert in full in any contract in excess of \$2,000 the contracts clauses as provided by the TWDB.
38. The Obligations must include a provision stating that the City shall provide the TWDB with all information required to be reported in accordance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, Pub. L. 109-282, as amended by Pub. L. 110-252. The City shall obtain a Unique Entity Identification Number and shall register with System for Award Management (SAM) and maintain current registration at all times during which the Obligations are outstanding.
39. The Obligations shall provide that all financial assistance proceeds will be timely and expeditiously used, as required by 40 CFR § 35.3135(d), and shall provide that the City will adhere to the approved project schedule.
40. The Obligations and Principal Forgiveness Agreement must contain a covenant that the City will abide by all applicable construction contract requirements related to the

use of iron and steel products produced in the United States, as required by 31 TAC § 371.4 and related State Revolving Fund Policy Guidelines.

41. The Obligations and Principal Forgiveness Agreement must contain a covenant that the City shall abide by the prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment as required by 2 CFR § 200.216.
42. The Obligations and Principal Forgiveness Agreement must contain a covenant that the City will abide by all applicable requirements related to the Build America, Buy America Act, Public Law 117-58 and 2 CFR part 184.

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Conditions;

43. The City shall pay at closing an origination fee approved by the Executive Administrator of the TWDB pursuant to 31 TAC Chapter 371.
44. Before closing, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, must make a determination, the form and substance of which is satisfactory to the Executive Administrator, that the City has demonstrated the necessary financial, managerial, and technical capabilities to proceed with the project or projects to be funded with the proceeds of these Obligations.

Pledge Conditions;

45. The Obligations must contain a provision that provides as follows:
 - a. if system revenues are actually on deposit in the Interest and Sinking Fund in advance of the time when ad valorem taxes are scheduled to be levied for any year, then the amount of taxes which otherwise would have been required to be levied and collected may be reduced to the extent and by the amount of revenues then on deposit in the Interest and Sinking Fund; or
 - b. if the subordinate lien revenues are based upon budgeted amounts:
 - i. the Obligations must include a requirement that the City transfer and deposit in the Interest and Sinking Fund each month an amount of not less than 1/12th of the annual debt service on the Obligations until the amount on deposit in the Interest and Sinking Fund equals the amount required for annual debt service on the Obligations; further, that the ordinance authorizing the issuance of the Obligations must include a requirement that the City shall not transfer any funds from the City's pledged system revenues to any fund other than the Interest and Sinking Fund until an amount equal to the annual debt service on the Obligations for the then-current fiscal year has been deposited in the Interest and Sinking Fund;
 - ii. the Obligations must include a requirement that for each year the Obligations are outstanding, and before the time taxes are to be levied

for that year, the City shall establish, adopt, and maintain an annual budget that provides for either the monthly deposit of sufficient subordinate pledged revenues or tax revenues or both, the monthly deposit of any other legally available funds on hand at the time of the adoption of the annual budget, or a combination of these, into the Interest and Sinking Fund for the repayment of the Obligations; and

- iii. the Obligations must include a requirement that the City shall at all times maintain and collect sufficient rates and charges in conjunction with any other legally available funds so that after payment of the costs of operating and maintaining the system, it produces revenues in an amount not less than 1.10 times debt service requirements of all outstanding Obligations of the City and other obligations of the City which are secured in whole or in part by the pledged revenues, for which the City is budgeting the repayment of the Obligations, or the City shall provide documentation which evidences the levy and collection of an ad valorem tax rate dedicated to the Interest and Sinking Fund, in conjunction with any other legally available funds, sufficient for the repayment of debt service requirements.

Special Conditions:

- 46. Before closing, the City shall execute a Principal Forgiveness Agreement in a form and substance acceptable to the Executive Administrator.
- 47. The Principal Forgiveness Agreement must include a provision stating that the City shall return any principal forgiveness funds that are determined to be surplus funds.

APPROVED and ordered of record this 31st day of March, 2026.

TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman

DATE SIGNED: _____

ATTEST:

Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

Review Date:

Project ID:

Water
Wastewater
Other

WATER CONSERVATION REVIEW

Entity:

Other entity:

WATER CONSERVATION PLAN DATE:**Approvable****Adopted**

	Total GPCD	Residential GPCD	Water Loss GPCD
Baseline			
5-year Goal			
10-year Goal			

WATER LOSS AUDIT YEAR:

Validation Required:

Validation Performed:

Service connections:

Length of main lines (miles):

Water Loss GCD:

Retail population:

Connections per mile:

Water Loss GPCD:

ILI:

Real Loss GMD:

WATER LOSS THRESHOLDS

Water Loss Project:

Waiver Requested:

Wholesale Adjusted:

Apparent Loss GCD

Real Loss GCD

Threshold Type:

Reported

Threshold

Reported

Threshold

Does the applicant meet water loss threshold requirements?

Yes**No****NA****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****STAFF NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

DEFINITIONS

Adopted refers to a water conservation plan that meets the minimum requirements of the water conservation plan rules and has been formally approved and adopted by the applicant's governing body.

Apparent losses are paper losses that occur when the water reaches a customer, but the volume is not accurately measured and/or recorded due to unauthorized consumption, customer meter inaccuracy, or billing system and collection data errors.

Approvable refers to a water conservation plan that substantially meets the minimum requirements of the water conservation plan rules but has not yet been adopted by the applicant's governing body.

Best Management Practices are voluntary efficiency measures that save a quantifiable amount of water, either directly or indirectly, and that can be implemented within a specific time frame.

GPCD means gallons per capita per day.

GCD means gallons per connection per day.

GMD means gallons per mile per day.

Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) is the current annual real loss divided by the unavoidable annual real loss (theoretical minimum real loss) and only applies to utilities with more than 3,000 connections and a connection density of more than 16 connections per mile. The **ILI** is recommended to be less than 3 if water resources are greatly limited and difficult to develop, between 3 and 5 if water resources are adequate to meet long-term needs but water conservation is included in long-term water planning, and between 5 and 8 if water resources are plentiful, reliable, and easily extracted. The **ILI** is recommended as a benchmarking tool, but until there is increased data validity of the variables used in the calculation, the **ILI** should be viewed with care.

NA means not applicable.

Real losses are the physical losses, largely leakage, from the infrastructure: mains, valves, and storage tank overflows. Real loss constitutes background leakage (unreported and difficult to detect), unreported leakage (leaks that do not surface but could be detected), and reported leakage (leaks that often surface and those that are detected by the utility through leak detection).

Residential GPCD is the amount of residential water use (single and multi-family customer use) divided by the residential population divided by 365.

Total GPCD is the amount of total system input volume divided by the retail population divided by 365.

Total water loss is the sum of the apparent and real water losses.

Water loss is the difference between the input volume and the authorized consumption within a water system. Water Loss consists of real losses and apparent losses.

Water Loss GPCD is the amount of water loss divided by the retail population divided by 365.

Water Loss per Connection per Day Calculated as the water loss volume divided by the number service connections divided by 365. This indicator allows for reliable performance tracking in the water utility's efforts to reduce water losses. It replaces water loss percentage.

Water Loss Thresholds are levels of real and apparent water loss determined by the connection density of a retail public utility, at or above which a utility receiving financial assistance from the Texas Water Development Board must use a portion of that financial assistance to mitigate the utility's system water loss.

Wholesale Adjusted represents that some utilities provide large volumes of wholesale water to other providers that travel through the general distribution system, so a calculation has been established to adjust for that volume of wholesale water. These adjustments are only applicable for use in determining whether a utility meets or exceeds water loss thresholds in review of their application for financial assistance. These adjustments should not be used for performance tracking or benchmarking.



City of Mercedes Hidalgo County

