P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.
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Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

AGENA ITEM MEMO

BOARD MEETING DATE: August 6, 2026

TO: Board Members

THROUGH: Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator
Ashley Harden, General Counsel
Georgia Sanchez, Chief Financial Officer
John Dupnik, P.G, Deputy Executive Administrator, Water Science and Conservation

FROM: Dena Green, P.E., Director, Flood Science and Community Assistance
Kathy Hopkins, Manager, Grant Coordination

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2020 Flood Mitigation Assistance

ACTION REQUESTED

Consider authorizing the Executive Administrator to execute contracts in a new amount not to exceed $65.97 million, as approved and directed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for subgrants under the Fiscal Year 2020 Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program upon notification of award.

BACKGROUND

On October 7, 2021, the Texas Water Development Board approved authorizing the Executive Administrator to execute contracts, as awarded and directed by the FEMA, for the 13 selected Fiscal Year 2020 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) subapplications in the amount not to exceed $63.6 million (Attachment 1).

During the award and implementation of the Fiscal Year 2020 FMA grant, FEMA revised the awarded funding amounts for certain subgrants by correcting federal cost-share calculations or providing additional funding for eligible cost increases. In addition, FEMA awarded the Harris County's subgrant earlier this year in the amount of $8,494,368.75 in federal funding. As a result, total federal funding awarded under the grant increased from $63.6 million to $65.97 million, which exceeds the Board approved amount by $2,364,112.84.

KEY ISSUES

For the Federal Fiscal Year 2020 FMA funding opportunity, FEMA originally selected 13 subapplications totaling $63.6 million in federal funding. However, federal funding for the 13 subapplications, as awarded by FEMA, increased to $65.97 million. Table 1 lists the original selected federal funding amount, the awarded amount, and the reason for the increases.

Table 1: FY 2020 FMA Subgrant Federal Share Changes

Applicant	Original Selected Federal Share ($)	Awarded Federal Share ($)	Increase or Decrease Amount ($)	Reason for the Change
Houston, City of	1,456,947.39	1,456,947.39	0.00	No change
Jersey Village, City of	4,536,131.00	4,543,267.49	7,136.49	Increase in Federal Share
Pearland, City of	499,760.00	499,760.00	0.00	No change
Taylor Lake Village, City of	2,754,104.18	3,120,005.04	365,900.86	Increase in Federal Share
Harris County	8,494,368.75	8,494,368.75	0.00	No change
Harris County Flood Control District	14,662,361.31	14,759,720.61	97,359.30	Increase in Federal Share
Harris County Flood Control District	3,760,150.00	5,872,718.76	2,112,568.76	Additional Federal Funds to cover overruns in the project
Jefferson County	1,010,727.90	1,010,727.90	0.00	No change
Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	10,138,258.50	10,138,258.50	0.00	No change
Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	2,139,870.00	2,139,870.00	0.00	No change
Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	1,715,077.50	1,715,077.50	0.00	No change
Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00	No change
Montgomery County	12,403,485.48	12,184,632.91	-218,852.57	Property drop for the grant
Totals	$ 63,596,242.01	$ 65,960,354.85	$ 2,364,112.84	

RECOMMENTATION

The Executive Administrator recommends approval to execute contracts, as approved and directed by FEMA, in a new amount not to exceed $65.97 million in federal funding for subgrants under the FY 2020 FMA grant program, upon notification of award.

Attachment:

1. Federal Fiscal Year 2020 Flood Mitigation Assistance, Board Item, October 7, 2021

ATTACHMENT 1

Texas Water Development Board

P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.twdb.texas.gov
Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

AGENDA ITEM MEMO

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 7, 2021

TO: Board Members

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

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

SUBJECT: Federal Fiscal Year 2020 Flood Mitigation Assistance

ACTION REQUESTED

Consider authorizing the Executive Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts as approved and directed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a total amount not to exceed $63.6 million for subgrants from the Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant program upon notification of award.

BACKGROUND

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) administers the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program in Texas and serves as the point of contact for the distribution of these federal grants for mitigation planning and project implementation. The TWDB also provides technical assistance in the development of applications and the implementation of the grant program. The goal of the FMA grant program is to provide federal funding to political subdivisions to mitigate flood damages and prevent future losses associated with Severe Repetitive Loss, Repetitive Loss, or substantially damaged structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) through mitigation projects and long-term comprehensive mitigation planning.

Grant applications funded for FMA follow several eligibility and funding criteria:

- Sub-applicants must be participants in the NFIP and properties included in project proposals must have and maintain flood insurance,

- FEMA may contribute up to 100 percent of the total eligible cost for mitigation of Severe Repetitive Loss[1] structures through acquisition, relocation, demolition, elevation, mitigation reconstruction, and flood-proofing of historical structures.
- FEMA may contribute up to 90 percent of the total eligible cost for mitigation of Repetitive Loss[2] structures through acquisition, relocation, demolition, elevation, mitigation. reconstruction, and flood-proofing of historical structures.
- FEMA may contribute up to 75 percent of the total eligible cost for mitigation of all other structures insured through the NFIP, Community Flood Mitigation Projects (e.g. drainage projects), or for mitigation planning grants.
- Projects require a Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.0 or higher as determined by FEMA's Benefit-Cost Analysis software or other FEMA-approved methodology.

The Fiscal Year 2020 FMA Notice of Funding Opportunity (DHS-19- MT-029-000-99) identified the nationwide application period (September 30, 2019 through January 30, 2020), the funding priorities, the period of performance, and the availability of $200 million in funding. As provided in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 78 and in current FEMA guidance, the TWDB's responsibilities include the review of sub-applications submitted by political subdivisions. Eligible sub-applications are forwarded to FEMA for final approval and authorization to fund. Contracting responsibilities are then performed by the TWDB once funding approval is received from FEMA.

KEY ISSUES

For the Fiscal Year 2020 funding opportunity, the TWDB received 27 FMA project grant sub-applications. After eligibility and administrative review, the TWDB forwarded 19 of the 27 sub-applications to FEMA for a total federal funding request of $73.5 million. A list of the 19 sub-applications is in Attachment A. FEMA notified the TWDB that 13 of the 19 sub-applications, totaling $63.6 million in federal funding with a community match requirement of $10.23 million for a total of $73.82 million were "Identified for Further Review."

Table 1 lists the 13 selected sub-applications and Attachment B provides a project summary for each. FEMA defines "Identified for Further Review" as the sub-applications that have been selected for funding (award) once all pre-award activities are completed. Staff continues to work with FEMA Region VI to complete pre-award activities for these sub-applications prior to FEMA making the official award.

Twelve of the 13 sub applications will be mitigating 2,207 flood prone structures through either elevation, drainage projects, or acquisition. There is one sub-application to specifically update the District's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

[1] A Severe Repetitive Loss property is a structure that has incurred either (i) four or more claim payments exceeding $5,000 per claim, and with a cumulative amount exceeding $20,000, or (ii) two separate building claim payments with a cumulative amount exceeding the market value of the insured structure.
[2] A Repetitive Loss property is a structure that has incurred flood-related damage on two occasions in which the cost of the repair, on average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the insured structure at the time of each flood event.

Table 1. Summary of the Fiscal Year 2020 FMA sub-applications "Identified for Further Review" by FEMA

Applicant	Mitigation Type	Number of Structures	Federal Share ($)	Local Share ($)	Total Project Cost ($)
Harris County	Drainage	1,421	8,494,368	2,831,457	11,325,825
Harris County Flood Control District	Acquisition	61	14,662,361	2,058,367	16,720,728
Harris County Flood Control District	Acquisition	1	3,760,150	0	3,760,150
Houston, City of	Elevation	5	1,456,947	0	1,456,947
Jefferson County	Elevation	5	1,010,727	0	1,010,727
Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Drainage	234	10,138,258	3,379,420	13,517,678
Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Drainage	273	2,139,870	713,290	2,853,160
Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Drainage	140	1,715,078	571,693	2,286,770
Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Plan	NA	25,000	20,000	45,000
Jersey Village, City of	Elevation	16	4,536,131	391,639	4,927,770
Montgomery County	Acquisition	40	12,403,485	242,456	12,645,941
Pearland, City of	Elevation	2	499,760	0	499,760
Taylor Lake Village, City of	Elevation	9	2,754,104	23,715	2,777,819
Totals		2,207	63,596,239	10,232,036	73,828,275

In addition to the 13 selected sub-applications, FEMA also selected TWDB's Management Cost sub-application in the amount of $2,409,781 of federal funds with a required state general revenue match of $387,712 over the grant's three-year period of performance. Management costs contribute to TWDB staff salary, travel, and other administrative costs.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Administrator recommends approval to negotiate and execute contracts as approved and directed by FEMA in a total amount not to exceed $63.6 million for sub-grants from the FMA grant program upon notification of award. This program meets the agency's objectives of providing financial assistance to communities to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage and to become more flood resilient.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Flood Mitigation Assistance Fiscal Year 2020 Sub-application Status
Attachment B: Summary of FEMA-Selected Flood Mitigation Assistance Sub-applications

Attachment A
Flood Mitigation Assistance FY 2020 Subapplication Status

Below is a summary from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the Fiscal Year 2020 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) nationwide disposition announcement of selection (Table A.1). This shows the status of the 19 sub-applications along with the TWDB Management Cost sub-application submitted by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the Fiscal Year 2020 FMA application cycle. FEMA selected 13 sub-applications as "Identified for Further Review."

For Fiscal Year 2020, $200 million was appropriated for the FMA grant program. On August of 2020, FEMA posted the Notice of Funding Opportunity on www.grants.gov for FMA grants with an application period from September 30, 2020 through January 29, 2021. FEMA received 236 FMA sub-applications submitted by 24 states requesting over $392.7 million in federal funding. FEMA has completed eligibility review to ensure compliance with Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance and has made selections based on the agency's priorities and available funding. FEMA has identified for further review 117 FMA sub-applications from 18 applicants: 22 planning (includes 18 Community Mitigation Advance Assistance), 66 projects (includes four Community Flood Mitigation projects), nine technical assistance sub-applications, and 20 applicant management costs for $200 million in federal funds.

Table A.1. Status of 19 TWDB submitted sub-applications and the TWDB Management Cost sub-application.

	Applicant	Mitigation Type	Number of Structures	Federal Share ($)	Status
1	Houston, City of	Elevation	5	1,456,947	Identified for Further Review
2	Jersey Village, City of	Elevation	16	4,536,131	Identified for Further Review
3	Pearland, City of	Elevation	2	499,760	Identified for Further Review
4	Taylor Lake Village, City of	Elevation	9	2,754,104	Identified for Further Review
5	Harris County	Drainage	1,421	8,494,368	Identified for Further Review
6	Harris County Flood Control District	Acquisition	61	14,662,361	Identified for Further Review
7	Harris County Flood Control District	Acquisition	1	3,760,150	Identified for Further Review
8	Jefferson County	Elevation	5	1,010,727	Identified for Further Review
9	Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Drainage	234	10,138,258	Identified for Further Review
10	Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Drainage	273	2,139,870	Identified for Further Review
11	Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Drainage	140	1,715,077	Identified for Further Review
12	Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6	Plan	NA	25,000	Identified for Further Review
13	Montgomery County	Acquisition	40	12,403,485	Identified for Further Review
14	Mission, City of	Drainage	445	2,474,406	Not Eligible
15	Hidalgo County Drainage District # 1	Drainage	4,600	7,802,180	Not Eligible
16	South Padre Island	Drainage	1,483	5,325,218	Not Eligible
17	Bellaire, City of	Elevation	10	808,862	Not Selected
18	Jersey Village, City of	Elevation	14	4,507,967	Not Selected
19	Nassau Bay, City of	Elevation	9	2,070,650	Not Selected

Source: Flood Mitigation Assistance FY 2020 Sub-application Status, https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods/fy2020-subapplication-status

Attachment B
Summary of FEMA-Selected Flood Mitigation Assistance Applications

Harris County: Drainage Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $8,494,368
Local Share: $2,831,457
Total Project Cost: $11,325,825

Period of Performance: 4 years
Project Description: Harris County seeks to mitigate 1,421 structures by drainage improvements and flooding reduction in the Bear Creek Village Subdivision. The current storm sewer system is designed for a 3-year event and is inadequate to collect and drain extreme event runoff. The proposed drainage improvements are intended to provide an additional flow path, so that excess storm water is contained within street right-of-way to an outfall. The project will incorporate a combination of channel construction, street regrading, and enhancement of outfalls. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.09.
===

Harris County Flood Control District: Acquisition Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $14,662,361
Local Share: $2,056,367
Total Project Cost: $16,720,728

Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: Harris County Flood District seeks to mitigate 61 structures: 23 Severe Repetitive Loss structures, 17 Repetitive Loss structures, and 21 are at risk of continual and future flooding by acquisition, demolition, and the conversion of land to open green space. The structures are single-family residential, and the owners have voluntarily committed to the acquisition and demolition. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.09.
==

Harris County Flood Control District: Acquisition Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $3,760,150
Local Share: $0
Total Project Cost: $3,760,150

Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: Harris County Flood Control District seeks to mitigate a hotel that is a severe repetitive loss structure by acquisition, demolition, and the conversion of land to open green space. The owner has voluntarily committed to the acquisition and demolition. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.84.
===

City of Houston: Elevation Project
Proposed Project Funding:
Federal Share: $1,456,947
Local Share: $0
Total Project Cost: $1,456,947
Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: The City of Houston seeks to mitigate five Severe Repetitive Loss structures. All structures will be mitigated two-feet above the 500-year flood level to reduce or eliminate future National Flood Insurance Program claims, economic loss, and disruption that results from the repeated flood of residential structures. These structures are single-family residential, and the owners have voluntarily committed to the elevation of their structure by the City of Houston. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.1.
===

Jefferson County: Elevation Project
Proposed Project Funding:
Federal Share: $1,010,727
Local Share: $ 0
Total Project Cost: $1,010,727
Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: Jefferson County seeks to mitigate five Severe Repetitive Loss structures by elevation. All structures will be mitigated to base flood elevation height or the known high-water mark, whichever is higher to eliminate National Flood Insurance Program claims, economic loss, and disruption that results from the repeated flood of residential structures. These structures are single-family residential, and the owners have voluntarily committed to the elevation of their structure by Jefferson County. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.58.
===

Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 (Ditch 505 Detention Project): Drainage Project
Proposed Project Funding:
Federal Share: $10,138,258
Local Share: $3,379,420
Total Project Cost: $13,517,678
Period of Performance: 4 years
Project Description: Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 seeks to mitigate 234 structures by construction of detention pond at the confluence of ditch 505 and another tributary of ditch 505B which is a tributary to Taylor Bayou. The detention pond will have a capacity to store 1,681 acre-feet of run-off which is the 1 percent chance flood event based on ATLAS 14. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.25.
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Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 (East China Relief Project): Drainage Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $2,139,870
Local Share: $713,290
Total Project Cost: $2,853,160

Period of Performance: 4 years
Project Description: Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 seeks to mitigate 273 structures by increasing the capacity in ditch 600 and associated crossing and adding additional two detention ponds**.** The project will reduce the cost of flooding and recovery by lowering flood water surfaces and reducing the frequency and severity of flooding. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.6.
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Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 (Southern Nome Relief Project): Drainage Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $1,715,077
Local Share: $571,693
Total Project Cost: $2,286,770

Period of Performance: 4 years
Project Description: Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 seeks to mitigate 140 structures by widening or redirecting existing ditches; enlarging existing culverts to adequately convey storm water; widening freshwater canals crossings; increasing the capacity of existing detention pond by excavation; improving existing drainage outlets; and, excavating earthen channel to direct and covey run off to the existing detention pond. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.21.
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Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6: Hazard Mitigation Plan
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $25,000
Local Share: $20,000
Total Project Cost: $45,000

Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 seeks to update the flood component of their Hazard Mitigation plan. For the District to receive disaster assistance and mitigation funding, the district must maintain an approved plan with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
===

City of Jersey Village: Elevation Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $4,536,131
Local Share: $391,639
Total Project Cost: $4,927,770

Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: The City of Jersey Village seeks to mitigate 16 structures: 10 structures are Severe Repetitive Loss, five Repetitive Loss and one structure at risk of continual and future flooding. Elevations will be conducted to raise structures one-foot above Base Flood Elevation per the City's freeboard requirements. These structures are single-family residential, and the owners have voluntarily committed to the elevation of their structure by the City of Jersey Village. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.32.
===

Montgomery County: Acquisition and Demolition Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $12,403,485
Local Share: $242,456
Total Project Cost: $12,645,941

Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: Montgomery County seeks to mitigate 40 flood prone structures (31 Severe Repetitive Loss and 9 Repetitive Loss structures) by acquisition, demolition, and the conversion of land to open green space. The structures are single-family residential, and the owners have voluntarily committed to the acquisition and demolition by Montgomery County. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.36.
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City of Pearland: Elevation Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $499,760
Local Share: $0
Total Project Cost: $499,760

Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: The City of Pearland seeks to mitigate two Severe Repetitive Loss structures by elevations. Elevations will be conducted to raise structures one-foot above the Base Flood Elevation per the City's freeboard requirements. These structures are single-family residential, and the owners have voluntarily committed to the elevation of their structure by the City of Pearland. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.08.
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City of Taylor Lake Village: Elevation Project
Proposed Project Funding:

Federal Share: $2,754,104
Local Share: $23,715
Total Project Cost: $2,777,819

Period of Performance: 3 years
Project Description: The City of Taylor Lake Village to mitigate eight Severe Repetitive Loss and one Repetitive Loss structures. All structures will be mitigated by elevating to one-foot above the 100-year flood level to reduce or eliminate future National Flood Insurance Program claims, economic loss, and disruption that results from the repeated flood of residential structures. These structures are single-family residential, and the owners have voluntarily committed to the elevation of their structure by City of Taylor Lake Village. The project has a positive Benefit-Cost Ratio of 3.1.