



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: September 12, 2024

TO: Board Members

THROUGH: Bryan McMath, Interim Executive Administrator
Ashley Harden, General Counsel
Jessica Peña, Deputy Executive Administrator, Water Supply and Infrastructure

FROM: Marvin Cole-Chaney, Director, Program Administration and Reporting
Sara Sopczynski, Flood Infrastructure Fund Program Coordinator, Program Administration

SUBJECT: Flood Infrastructure Fund
State Fiscal Year 2024-25 Funding Cycle Flood Management Strategies
Project Prioritization List

ACTION REQUESTED

Consider approving the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-25 Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) program project prioritization list for Flood Management Strategies (FMS).

BACKGROUND

In 2019, the 86th Texas Legislature created the FIF program and Texas Voters approved creation of the fund on November 5, 2019, to provide funding for flood mitigation projects. The purpose of the FIF is to assist in financing drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects. In conjunction with that amendment, the legislature made a one-time transfer of \$793 million from the Economic Stabilization Fund to the FIF.

The 88th Texas Legislature in 2023 appropriated an additional approximately \$624 million from the general revenue fund in additional funding to the FIF program. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) anticipates utilizing at least \$375 million during this two-year cycle (SFY 2024-25) to assist communities with their FIF projects. The SFY 2024-25 FIF Intended Use Plan (IUP) was adopted by the Board on March 5, 2024.

SFY 2024-2025 FIF FMS PROJECT FUNDING CYCLE

Solicitation of projects for the SFY 2024-25 cycle opened on December 15, 2023. To be included on the initial prioritization list, entities had to submit a completed Abridged Application by April 15, 2024

Our Mission	Board Members
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

Twelve abridged applications for FMSs were received prior to the deadline requesting a total of \$7,734,400. During review of all abridged applications received, three abridged applications were considered ineligible. The remaining nine abridged applications were considered eligible and have been prioritized for the 2024-25 FIF FMS cycle, as shown in Attachment 2, for a total eligible amount of \$7,574,400.

The TWDB scored the FMS abridged applications utilizing the criteria and methodology anticipated to be used in the ranking of projects for the 2024 State Flood Plan. The TWDB anticipates awarding the available FIF funds with a goal of 10%, approximately \$37,500,000, towards FMS Category projects. Within this goal there is a 15% target, approximately \$5,625,000, to provide matching funds towards federal funding programs. Pursuant to 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §363.404, the Executive Administrator (EA) provides a prioritization of abridged applications for approval.

The first round of invitations to apply will be sent to invited applicants following the approval of the FIF FMS Project Prioritization List.

KEY ISSUES

A draft FIF FMS List for SFY 2024-25 was published on the TWDB website for a 32-day public comment period from July 15, 2024, through August 15, 2024. One public comment submittal was received and was reviewed in accordance with 31 Texas Administrative Code § 363.403. The public comment received, along with the response from TWDB staff, is included in Attachment 1. The recommended Final SFY 2024-2025 FIF FMS Project Prioritization List is included in Attachment 2.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Administrator recommends adoption of the SFY 2024-2025 FIF FMS Project Prioritization List with the ability to make non-substantive changes if necessary.

After receipt of the complete applications, the EA will review and recommend projects for funding commitments.

Attachments:

1. Response to public comments on the draft SFY 2024-2025 FIF FMS Prioritization List
2. Recommended Final SFY 2024-2025 FIF FMS Project Prioritization List

**Texas Water Development Board
Response to Comments on the Draft State Fiscal Year 2024-25 Flood Infrastructure
Fund Flood Management Strategies Project Prioritization List**

The following provides a summary of the public comments received and the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) responses for the public comment period for the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-25 Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) Flood Management Strategies (FMS) Project Prioritization List from July 15, 2024, to August 15, 2024.

General Comments

Comment Submitted By:

Marty Ontiveros, Retired Asst EMC/911 Coordinator

Comment Date:

August 1, 2024

Comment:

Need better accountability of. Local infrastructure and more teeth for violations of Texas Administrative Codes. State is too lack in county government violations. Build in flood zones and lack of oversight. Retired Flood Managers still on key Documents.

Response:

The TWDB appreciates receiving this comment for the Draft SFY 2024-2025 FIF FMS PPL.

Change:

None.

SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund Project
Prioritization List for Flood Management Strategies

Note: Data utilized for generating this draft ranking for the state flood plan is from the revised (post-RFI) amended regional flood plans submitted by the RFPGs in response to TWDB review. The original amended plans were submitted in July 2023. The revised versions were approved by the TWDB in March 2024.

									Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
								Max Values for Score Normalization	175,000		600,000		2,500		1,000	
								Weight Value	10%		10%		10%		10%	
								Ranking Criteria	Estimated number of structures at 100yr flood risk (100-year)		Estimated population at risk (100-year)		Critical Facilities at risk (100-year)		Number of low water crossings at flood risk (#)	
FMS ID	Region Number	FMS Name	Applicant	Sponsor ID	Sponsor	FMS Type	Non-Recurring Non-Capital Cost (State Flood Plan)	FMS Cost (Abridged Application)	Structures at risk, Normalized (0-10)	Structures at risk, ArcSinh (0-10)	Pop at Risk Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) Pop at Risk	Critical Facilities Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) Critical Facilities	LWC Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) LWC
152000083	15	LRGV Regional Flood Early Warning System: Planning, Deployment, Operation & Maintenance	Cameron County	15000069	Cameron County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$600,000	\$3,000,000	5.50	9.53	298,809	9.50	109	6.32	18	4.72
112000189	11	Flood Measurement and Warning	Upper Guadalupe River Authority	11003546	Guadalupe Regional Flood Planning Group	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	1.55	8.54	62,638	8.39	136	6.58	661	9.46
072000004	7	City of Abilene Creek Gauge Program	Abilene	07002425	Abilene	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$175,000	\$175,000	0.62	7.82	25,333	7.74	10	3.52	58	6.25
152000083	15	CCDD5 Flood Warning System Improvement Project	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5	15000069	Cameron County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$600,000	\$1,974,400	0.13	6.60	4,592	6.52	0	0.00	32	5.47
132000040	13	Aransas County Flood Warning System	Aransas County	00000083	Aransas County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$250,000	\$100,000	0.19	6.90	4,790	6.55	4	2.46	0	0.00
032000016	3	Additional Rain/Stream Gauges for 13 locations	Grand Prairie	03002761	Grand Prairie	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$25,000	\$250,000	0.03	5.31	3,471	6.32	8	3.26	19	4.79
032000139	3	City of Burleson Flood Warning and Safety Improvements	Burleson	00003009	Burleson	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$50,000	\$485,000	0.01	4.25	462	4.88	8	3.26	19	4.79
152000058	15	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5 - Cameron County Levee Certification	Cameron County	15000030	Cameron County Drainage District 5	Other	\$250,000	\$500,000	0.03	5.36	4,213	6.46	0	0.00	68	6.46
082001113	8	City of College Station Early Flood Warning System	College Station	08003439	College Station	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$500,000	\$90,000	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
							\$3,450,000	\$7,574,400								

SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund Project
Prioritization List for Flood Management Strategies

Note: Data utilized for generating this draft ranking for the state flood plan is from the revised (post-RFI) amended regional flood plans submitted by the RFPGs in response to TWDB review. The original amended plans were submitted in July 2023. The revised versions were approved by the TWDB in March 2024.

									Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
								Max Values for Score Normalization	7,500		6,000		2,500,000		9,500	
								Weight Value	5%		10%		5%		10%	
								Ranking Criteria	Estimated number of road closures (#)		Estimated length of roads at 100-year flood risk (miles)		Estimated farm & ranch land at 100-year flood risk (acres)		Number of structures removed from 100-year (1% annual chance) Floodplain	
FMS ID	Region Number	FMS Name	Applicant	Sponsor ID	Sponsor	FMS Type	Non-Recurring Non-Capital Cost (State Flood Plan)	FMS Cost (Abridged Application)	Road Closures Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) Road Closures	Road Miles Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) Road Miles	Ag Land Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) Ag Land	Structures Removed Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) Structures Removed
152000083	15	LRGV Regional Flood Early Warning System: Planning, Deployment, Operation & Maintenance	Cameron County	15000069	Cameron County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$600,000	\$3,000,000	1,741	4.24	3,082	9.29	449,664	4.44	0	0.00
112000189	11	Flood Measurement and Warning	Upper Guadalupe River Authority	11003546	Guadalupe Regional Flood Planning Group	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	0	0.00	935	8.02	360,251	4.37	0	0.00
072000004	7	City of Abilene Creek Gauge Program	Abilene	07002425	Abilene	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$175,000	\$175,000	0	0.00	218	6.47	1,235	2.53	0	0.00
152000083	15	CCDD5 Flood Warning System Improvement Project	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5	15000069	Cameron County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$600,000	\$1,974,400	69	2.56	40	4.65	355	2.13	0	0.00
132000040	13	Aransas County Flood Warning System	Aransas County	00000083	Aransas County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$250,000	\$100,000	548	3.64	103	5.67	571	2.28	0	0.00
032000016	3	Additional Rain/Stream Gauges for 13 locations	Grand Prairie	03002761	Grand Prairie	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$25,000	\$250,000	0	0.00	40	4.67	1,927	2.68	0	0.00
032000139	3	City of Burleson Flood Warning and Safety Improvements	Burleson	00003009	Burleson	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$50,000	\$485,000	0	0.00	4	2.23	372	2.14	0	0.00
152000058	15	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5 - Cameron County Levee Certification	Cameron County	15000030	Cameron County Drainage District 5	Other	\$250,000	\$500,000	0	0.00	7	2.82	1	0.19	0	0.00
082001113	8	City of College Station Early Flood Warning System	College Station	08003439	College Station	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$500,000	\$90,000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
							\$3,450,000	\$7,574,400								

SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund Project
Prioritization List for Flood Management Strategies

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									Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes
								Max Values for Score Normalization	2,550		35,000		100		No = 0; Yes = 1
								Weight Value	5%		10%		8%		5%
								Ranking Criteria	Number of residential structures removed from 100-year (1% annual chance) Floodplain		Estimated Population removed from 100-year (1% annual chance) Floodplain		Percent Nature-Based Solution (by cost)		Water Supply Benefit
FMS ID	Region Number	FMS Name	Applicant	Sponsor ID	Sponsor	FMS Type	Non-Recurring Non-Capital Cost (State Flood Plan)	FMS Cost (Abridged Application)	Residential Structures Removed Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) Residential Structures Removed	Removed Pop Raw	ArcSinh (Weighted) Removed Pop	% NBS Raw	% NBS Score (Normalized)	Water Supply Raw
152000083	15	LRGV Regional Flood Early Warning System: Planning, Deployment, Operation & Maintenance	Cameron County	15000069	Cameron County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$600,000	\$3,000,000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
112000189	11	Flood Measurement and Warning	Upper Guadalupe River Authority	11003546	Guadalupe Regional Flood Planning Group	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	No
072000004	7	City of Abilene Creek Gauge Program	Abilene	07002425	Abilene	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$175,000	\$175,000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	No
152000083	15	CCDD5 Flood Warning System Improvement Project	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5	15000069	Cameron County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$600,000	\$1,974,400	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	None
132000040	13	Aransas County Flood Warning System	Aransas County	00000083	Aransas County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$250,000	\$100,000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	No
032000016	3	Additional Rain/Stream Gauges for 13 locations	Grand Prairie	03002761	Grand Prairie	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$25,000	\$250,000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	No
032000139	3	City of Burleson Flood Warning and Safety Improvements	Burleson	00003009	Burleson	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$50,000	\$485,000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	No
152000058	15	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5 - Cameron County Levee Certification	Cameron County	15000030	Cameron County Drainage District 5	Other	\$250,000	\$500,000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	No
082001113	8	City of College Station Early Flood Warning System	College Station	08003439	College Station	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$500,000	\$90,000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	No
							\$3,450,000	\$7,574,400							

SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund Project
Prioritization List for Flood Management Strategies

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									Yes		
								Max Values for Score Normalization	(10 points) Flood Measurement and Warning, (8 points) Regulatory and Guidance, (6 points) Education and Outreach, (4 points) Property Acquisition and Structural Elevation, (4 points) Infrastructure Projects, (2 points) Other		
								Weight Value	2.5%		
								Ranking Criteria	FMS Type		
FMS ID	Region Number	FMS Name	Applicant	Sponsor ID	Sponsor	FMS Type	Non-Recurring Non-Capital Cost (State Flood Plan)	FMS Cost (Abridged Application)	FMS_Type Score	Total Score (with ArcSinh normalization of select criteria)	Rank (with ArcSinh normalization of select criteria)
152000083	15	LRGV Regional Flood Early Warning System: Planning, Deployment, Operation & Maintenance	Cameron County	15000069	Cameron County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$600,000	\$3,000,000	10	50.55	1
112000189	11	Flood Measurement and Warning	Upper Guadalupe River Authority	11003546	Guadalupe Regional Flood Planning Group	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	10	47.85	2
072000004	7	City of Abilene Creek Gauge Program	Abilene	07002425	Abilene	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$175,000	\$175,000	10	36.84	3
152000083	15	CCDD5 Flood Warning System Improvement Project	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5	15000069	Cameron County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$600,000	\$1,974,400	10	30.44	4
132000040	13	Aransas County Flood Warning System	Aransas County	00000083	Aransas County	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$250,000	\$100,000	10	30.00	5
032000016	3	Additional Rain/Stream Gauges for 13 locations	Grand Prairie	03002761	Grand Prairie	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$25,000	\$250,000	10	29.52	6
032000139	3	City of Burleson Flood Warning and Safety Improvements	Burleson	00003009	Burleson	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$50,000	\$485,000	10	24.04	7
152000058	15	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5 - Cameron County Levee Certification	Cameron County	15000030	Cameron County Drainage District 5	Other	\$250,000	\$500,000	2	21.79	8
082001113	8	City of College Station Early Flood Warning System	College Station	08003439	College Station	Flood Measurement and Warning	\$500,000	\$90,000	10	2.50	9
							\$3,450,000	\$7,574,400			

SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund
Abridged Applications Ineligible for Funding

FMX ID	Region Number	Applicant Name	Project Name (Referred by Applicant)	Full Name of FMX in RFP	Amount Requested	Reason for Ineligibility
082001114	8	Bryan	City of Bryan Flood Early Warning System ("B-FEWS")	B-FEWS Phase 2 - Public Facing Release	\$160,000.00	No official sponsorship approval. Not recommended by RFPG.
152000060	15	Progreso	City of Progreso Floodway Pump Station, Channel and Culverts Improvement Project	City of Progreso – Progreso Storm Ditch Improvement Equipment	\$9,890,000.00	The project scope in the abridged application submitted is not consistent with the project scope in the regional flood plan.
152000085	15	Donna	City of Donna 2024 TWDB FIF Project	City of Donna – Flood Warning System, planning, operation & maintenance	\$4,200,000.00	The project scope in the abridged application submitted is not consistent with the project scope in the regional flood plan.

**SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund
Flood Mitigation Strategies Eligible Grant Percentages**

Rank	Applicant Name	Project Name	AMHI of the project area Compared to State-Wide AMHI	Grant %	Rural*	Grant %	Green/NBS Project	Grant %	SVI	Geographic Basis	Total Grant %
1	Cameron County	LRGV Regional Flood Early Warning System: Planning, Deployment, Operation & Maintenance	≤ 75%	40	No	0	No	0	0.9644	Counties	40
2	Upper Guadalupe River Authority	Kerr County Flood Warning System	>85%	0	Yes - D	5	No	0	0.4348	Counties	5
3	Abilene	City of Abilene Creek Gauge Program	≤ 85%	30	No	0	No	0	0.4844	Census Tracts	30
4	Cameron County Drainage District No. 5	CCDD5 Flood Warning System Improvement Project	≤ 85%	30	No	0	No	0	0.7258	Census Tracts	30
5	Aransas County	Aransas County Flood Early Warning System	≤ 85%	30	Yes - C	5	No	0	0.7549	Counties	35
6	Grand Prairie	Additional Rain/Stream Gauges for 13 locations	>85%	0	No	0	No	0	0.5079	Counties	0
7	Burleson	City of Burleson Flood Warning and Safety Improvements	>85%	0	No	0	No	0	0.2501	Census Tracts	0
8	Cameron County	Cameron County Levee Certification	≤ 65%	50	No	0	No	0	0.9684	Counties	50
9	College Station	City of College Station Flood Early Warning System	≤ 75%	40	No	0	No	0	0.2817	Census Tracts	40

*Rural Applicant – An applicant that is:

(A) a nonprofit water supply or sewer service corporation created and operating under Chapter 67 of the Texas Water Code or a district or authority created under Section 52, Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, no part of the service area of which is located in an urban area with a population of more than 50,000;

(B) a municipality:

(i) with a population of 10,000 or less; or

(ii) located wholly in a county in which no urban area has a population of more than 50,000;

(C) a county in which no urban area has a population of more than 50,000; or

(D) an entity that:

(i) is a nonprofit water supply or sewer service corporation created and operating under Chapter 67 of the Texas Water Code, a district or authority created under Section 52, Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, a municipality, county, or other political subdivision of the state, or an interstate compact commission to which the state is a party; and

(ii) demonstrates in a manner satisfactory to the board that the entity is rural or the area to be served by the project is a wholly rural area despite not otherwise qualifying under Paragraph (A), (B), or (C).