



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

**DETERMINATION OF NO EFFECT**

**TO ALL POTENTIALLY INTERESTED AGENCIES:**

Pursuant to the environmental assessment requirements of 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 363.14, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff has determined that proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

City of Mount Vernon, Franklin County, Texas  
TWDB DFUND Project No. 21832  
Planning and Design for Water and Sewer Improvements  
Total Financing Amount: \$1,795,000  
Loan No. L1001761

And

TWDB RWF Project No. 21878  
City Wide Water Distribution System Improvements and Raw Water Supply  
Improvements  
Total Financing Amount: \$10,703,090  
Loan No. L1002119  
Grant No. G1002120

The City of Mount Vernon (City) is proposing to use \$1,795,000 in financing from the Water Development Fund (DFUND) Program for planning and design to replace wastewater collection lines, rehabilitate the wastewater treatment plant, replace the raw water main, and conduct waterline replacements within the city. The construction phase of the project will occur under two separate TWDB project numbers. Wastewater project components will be constructed under TWDB Project No. 73982; a Finding of No Significant Impact will be issued for these components. Water components will be constructed under TWDB Project No. 21878 and are covered by this Determination of No Effect (DNE).

The City will use \$10,703,090 from the Rural Water Assistance Fund (RWF) for the construction phase of a raw water main replacement and waterline replacements within the city. Approximately 12,800 linear feet (LF) of undersized waterlines within the system will be replaced to meet regulatory requirements and promote resiliency in the distribution system. The existing raw water main will be replaced from the raw water intake at Lake Cypress Springs to the water treatment plant.

**Our Mission**

Leading the state's efforts  
in ensuring a secure  
water future for Texas

**Board Members**

L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman | W. Brady Franks, Board Member | Ashley Morgan, Board Member  
Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

Determination of No Effect  
City of Mount Vernon, Franklin County, Texas  
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And  
TWDB RWAFF Project No. 21878  
City Wide Water Distribution System Improvements and Raw Water Supply Improvements  
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All construction will occur within mowed and maintained right-of-way (ROW). If the advancement of design indicates that replacements will need to occur greater than ten feet from the existing alignment, outside of the developed ROW, or require open-cut stream crossings or vegetation removal, additional environmental review, including agency coordination, may be required. Waterline replacement at stream crossings are anticipated to be installed using trenchless methods to avoid waterbody impacts.

The TWDB cannot fund testing, remediation, removal, disposal, or related works for contaminated or potentially contaminated materials. However, the project proponent should ensure that, if found, such materials are tested, removed, and disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

There are no previously recorded significant or potentially significant historic or cultural sites within or adjacent to the project footprint, according to the Texas Historical Commission's Archeological Sites Atlas, nor is the project within the protected area surrounding a historic cemetery, structure, or district. Two named streams are crossed by the raw water main, Panther Creek and Denton Creek. As mentioned above, waterbody crossings will be installed using trenchless methods to avoid potential impacts to waters of the United States and aquatic habitat. Project components appear to cross several floodplains, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Projects involving construction in the 100-year floodplain, including replacement or borings, require a floodplain development permit from the local floodplain administrator (FPA) prior to construction. The raw water main will require coordination with the Franklin County FPA and waterline replacements within the city will require coordination with the Mount Vernon FPA. Construction within the existing ROW and easements is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat.

The decision to grant a DNE is allowed because the specified project elements should not cause significant adverse impacts to the quality of the environment. Documentation supporting this determination is on file at the TWDB.

This determination shall be revoked if it is found that

- (1) the project no longer meets the requirements for categorical exclusion from full environmental review as a result of changes in the project;
- (2) the project involves extraordinary circumstances as described in 31 TAC § 363.14;  
or
- (3) the project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The proposed project must comply with the following special and standard environmental conditions:

Determination of No Effect  
City of Mount Vernon, Franklin County, Texas  
TWDB DFUND Project No. 21832  
Planning and Design for Water and Sewer Improvements  
And  
TWDB RWFAP Project No. 21878  
City Wide Water Distribution System Improvements and Raw Water Supply Improvements  
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#### Special Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004, federal Executive Order 11988 as amended by EO 13690, Texas Water Code Section 16.315, and local floodplain development ordinances, a floodplain development permit will be obtained from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction in, across, or under a Special Flood Hazard Area and TWDB approval of plans and specifications, and any requirements contained therein will be adhered to.

#### Standard Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0552), the City of Mount Vernon (City) will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0552), the City will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Project Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231 or via email at [RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov).

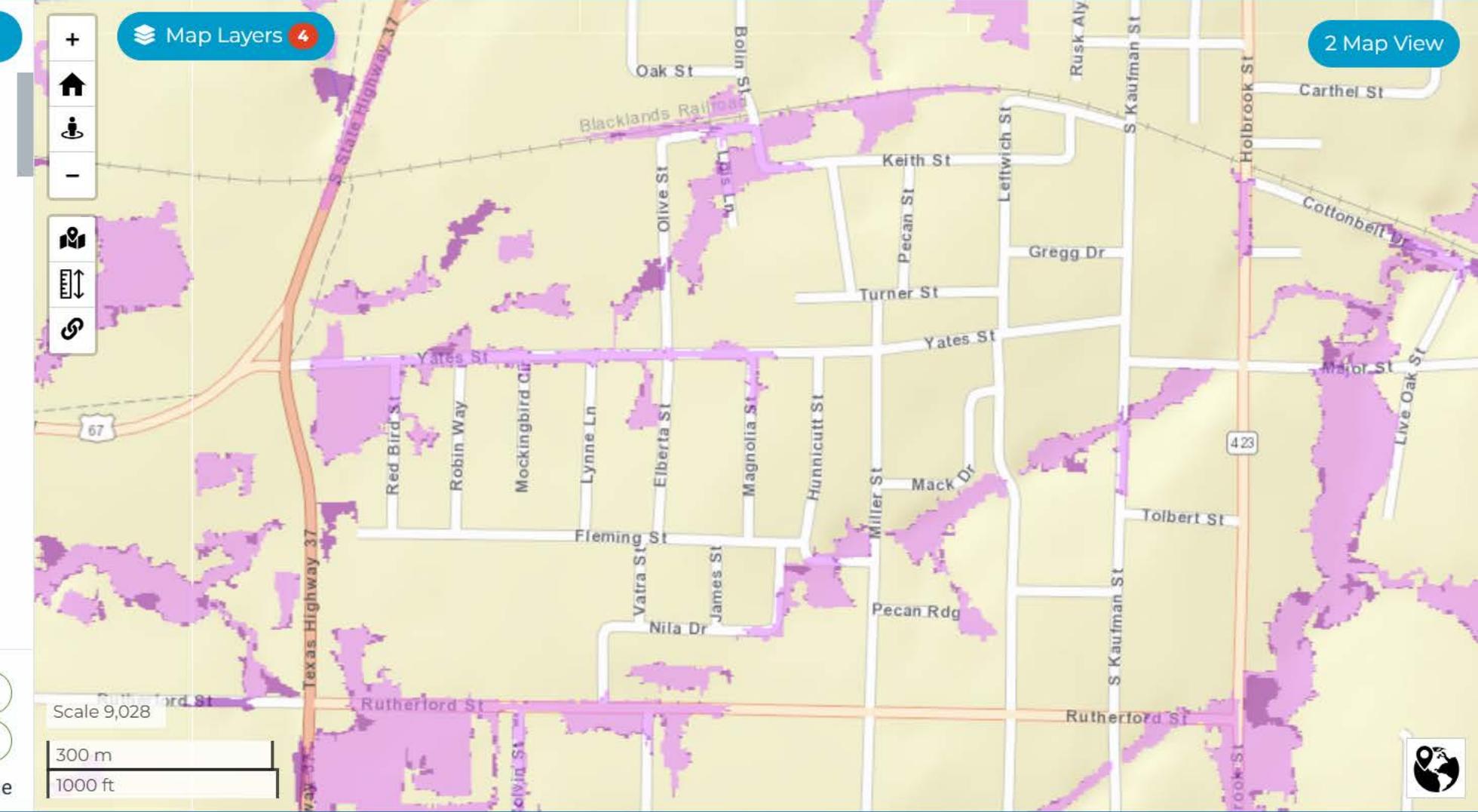
Sincerely,

T. Clay Schultz, Ph.D., Director  
Regional Water Project Development

Enclosures









Texas Highway 37 S

Farm Road 24

Farm Road 21/23

Farm Road 900-W

Farm Road 115

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2723

115

Lake Cypress Springs