



P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX 78711-3231, [www.twdb.texas.gov](http://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) has determined that proposed action identified below may be exempted from a comprehensive environmental review:

Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1A, Harris County, Texas  
TWDB RWF Project No. 21883  
Smart Meters and Smart Fire Hydrants  
Total Anticipated Financing Amount: \$584,000  
Loan No. L1002180 and Grant No. 1002179

The Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1A (District) is proposing to use \$584,000 in financing from the Rural Water Assistance Fund (RWF) program to replace all customer water meters with smart meters and replace a portion of the existing fire hydrants with smart fire hydrants. The District has been experiencing significant water loss in their water system for the past few years, with maintenance staff challenged to locate and repair leaks within the water system. Smart meters will assist in quickly identifying where leaks are located, as well as allowing residents to monitor their water use and save money on water bills.

All construction will occur within existing rights-of-way (ROW) within the existing system. Existing hydrants will be replaced and smart meters added. 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. The project will not adversely impact waters of the United States, including wetlands. The project appears to be partially within a 100-year floodplain, 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 prior to any excavation or ground disturbances in the 100-year floodplain. However, the proposed meter replacements will be within the existing meter boxes and will not require excavation. Also, the hydrants are well above-grade and all work will occur on existing riser pipes. Consequently, no excavation is needed and no floodplain permit would be required. Lastly, construction within the existing ROW and easements is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat.

#### 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

Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1A, Harris County, Texas

TWDB RWFAP Project No. 21883

Smart Meters and Smart Fire Hydrants

Page 2

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.

The decision to grant a Determination of No Effect 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 standard environmental conditions:

### Standard Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0552), the Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1A will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0552), the Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1A 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,

**Clay Schultz** Digitally signed by Clay Schultz  
Date: 2026.04.28 16:04:16  
-05'00'





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

Enclosures

# Disadvantage Tract Complete

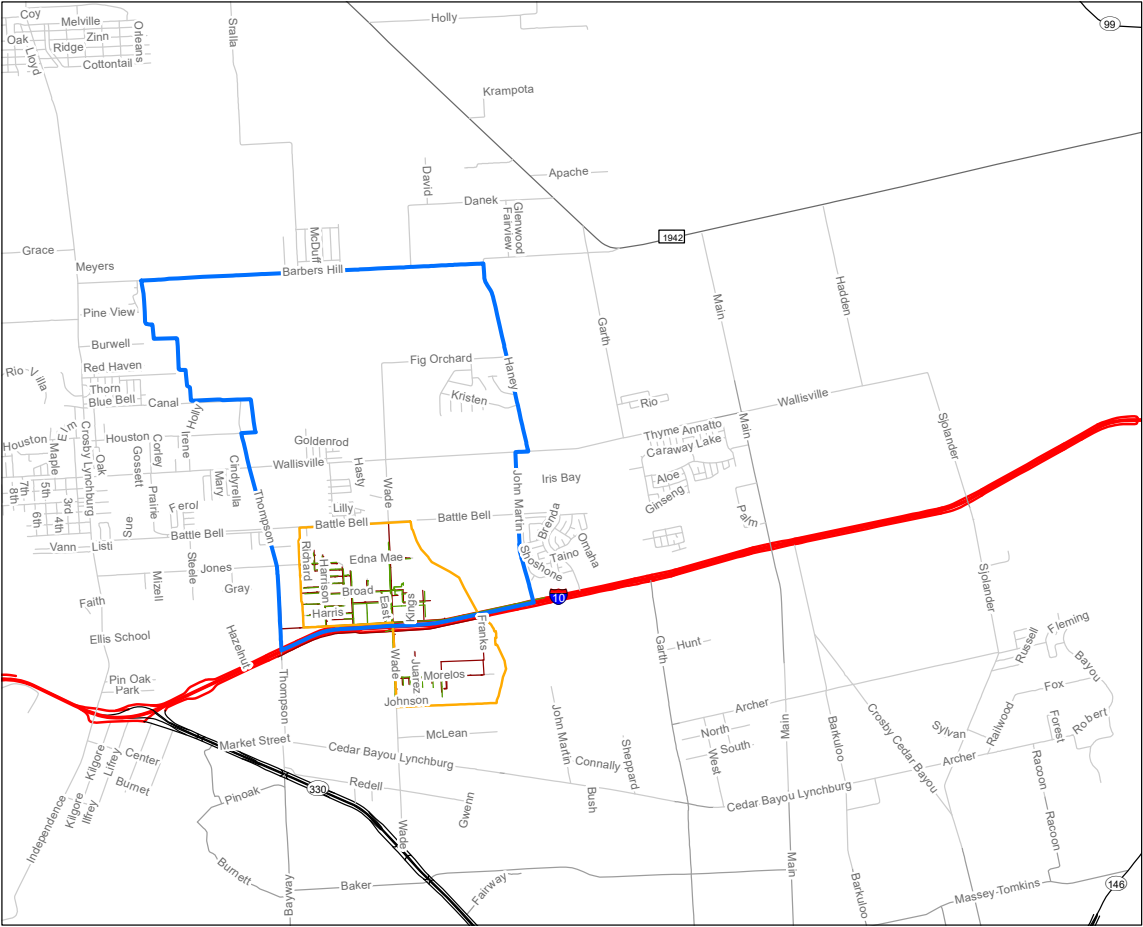
Baytown, Texas

## Legend

-  Census Tract 2530
-  FWSD\_Boundary
-  FSWD\_Sanswrlines
-  FWSD\_ExWaterlines




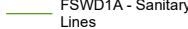
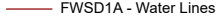
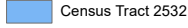
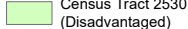
1 inch = 4,000 feet



# Harris County Fresh Water Supply District 1A

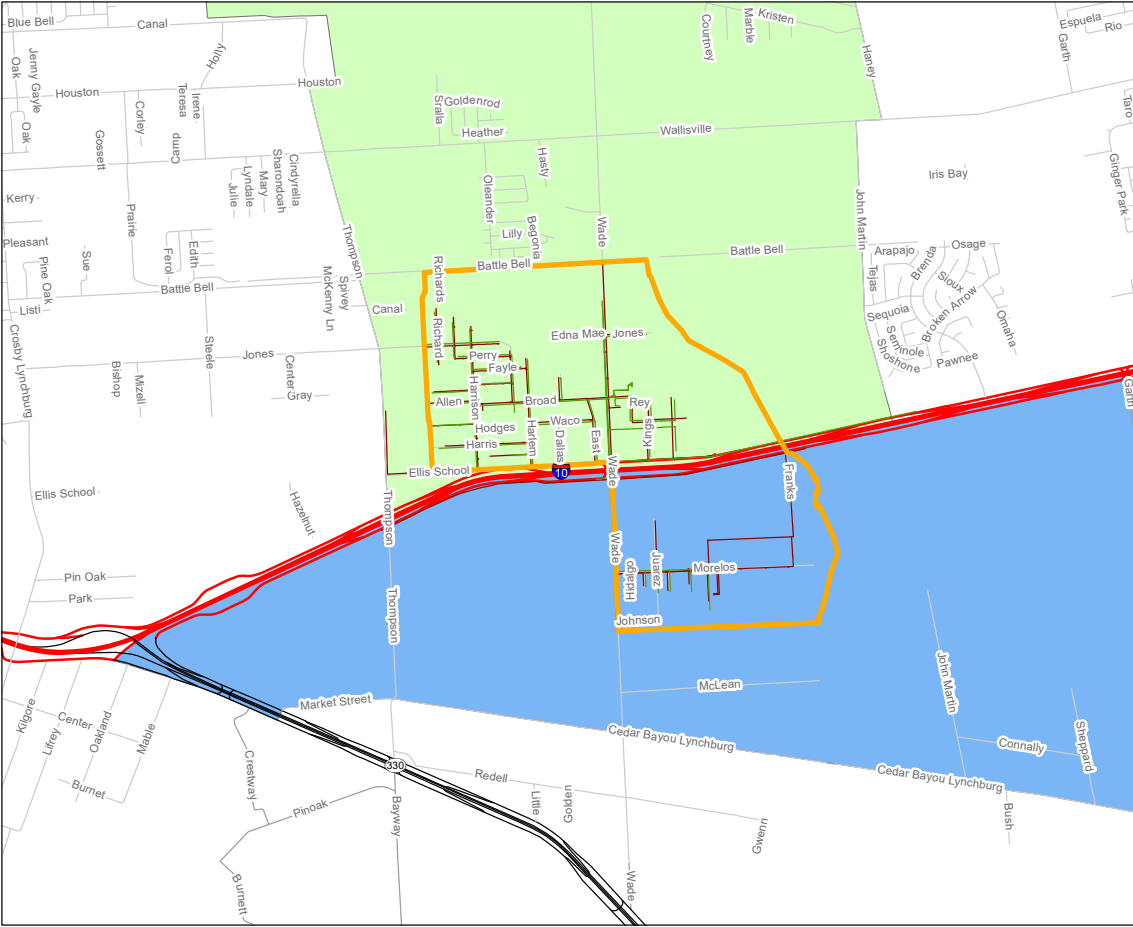
Harris County, Texas

## Legend

-  FWSD1A District Boundary
-  FSWD1A - Sanitary Lines
-  FWSD1A - Water Lines
-  Census Tract 2532
-  Census Tract 2530 (Disadvantaged)



1 inch = 2,000 feet





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

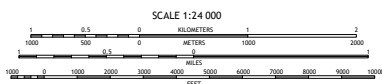
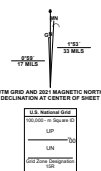


7.5-MINUTE TOPO QUADRANGLE  
Custom Extent  
7.5-MINUTE TOPO



Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)  
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84) Projection and  
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7.5-MINUTE TOPO, TX  
2025