



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

### CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

#### TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As provided by the environmental review process adopted in the rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 371.41, for projects to be funded through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 United States Code § 4321, *et seq.*, the TWDB has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from comprehensive environmental review requirements:

Nueces County Water Control and Improvement District No. 3, Nueces County, Texas  
TWDB DWSRF Project No. 63000  
Replace Small Diameter Distribution Lines and Install Automated Meter Reading System Project  
Meter Replacement Project  
Total Financing Amount: \$9,304,876  
Commitment Nos. L1001968 and LF1001969

The Nueces County Water Control and Improvement District No. 3 (District) is proposing to use \$9,304,876 in funding from the DWSRF Program for the replacement of approximately 1,274 manual read meters with automatic meter reading meters throughout Robstown, Texas. From 2023 through 2025, 354 of the 1,274 meters were replaced; the District is preparing to replace the remaining 920 water meters. The existing water meters at these locations have been or will be decommissioned and replaced at the same location. The District is using the existing service connections for the meter replacements. Ground disturbance will be limited to the area directly around the existing water meters. The proposed project does not include water main replacement, distribution system modifications, or open trenching. The District has identified residential and light commercial properties that have meters reaching the end of their operational cycle. The system is experiencing water losses exceeding 25 percent and the proposed project will improve the accuracy of billing, ensure leaks are quickly identified and corrected, and increase water conservation and accountability in the system.

The environmental review for the proposed project is being segmented because the proposed meter replacement project is a standalone project that is not dependent on the proposed distribution line replacement project, and the District plans to start the remaining proposed meter replacement as soon as possible. This Categorical Exclusion (CE) is being completed for the proposed meter replacement project. A subsequent environmental review will be conducted for the proposed distribution line replacement project and a separate environmental finding will be issued for this project component by the TWDB.

All construction will be highly localized and occur at existing facilities or within utility easements disturbed by previous construction. Examination of the Texas Historical Commission’s Texas

**Our Mission** : **Board Members**  
Leading the state’s efforts : L’Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman | W. Brady Franks, Board Member | Ashley Morgan, Board Member  
in ensuring a secure :  
water future for Texas : Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

Categorical Exclusion

Nueces County Water Control and Improvement District No. 3, Nueces County, Texas

TWDB DWSRF Project No. 63000

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Archeological Sites Atlas indicates there are no previously recorded significant or potentially significant sites or protected areas surrounding a historic cemetery, structure, or district. The proposed project will not adversely impact potential waters of the United States, including wetlands. In addition, implementation of the proposed project is not expected to impact threatened, endangered, or other protected species or habitat. The proposed project is in the 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. However, the proposed project is highly localized, involves the replacement of meter equipment at the existing location, and does not involve subsurface work, such as water main replacement and distribution system modification; therefore, a floodplain development permit is not required.

The TWDB previously recommended issuance of a CE for the proposed project. The decision to grant this CE is allowed because the specified project elements will not cause significant adverse impacts to cultural and natural resources. 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 § 371.42; 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:

Standard Environmental Conditions

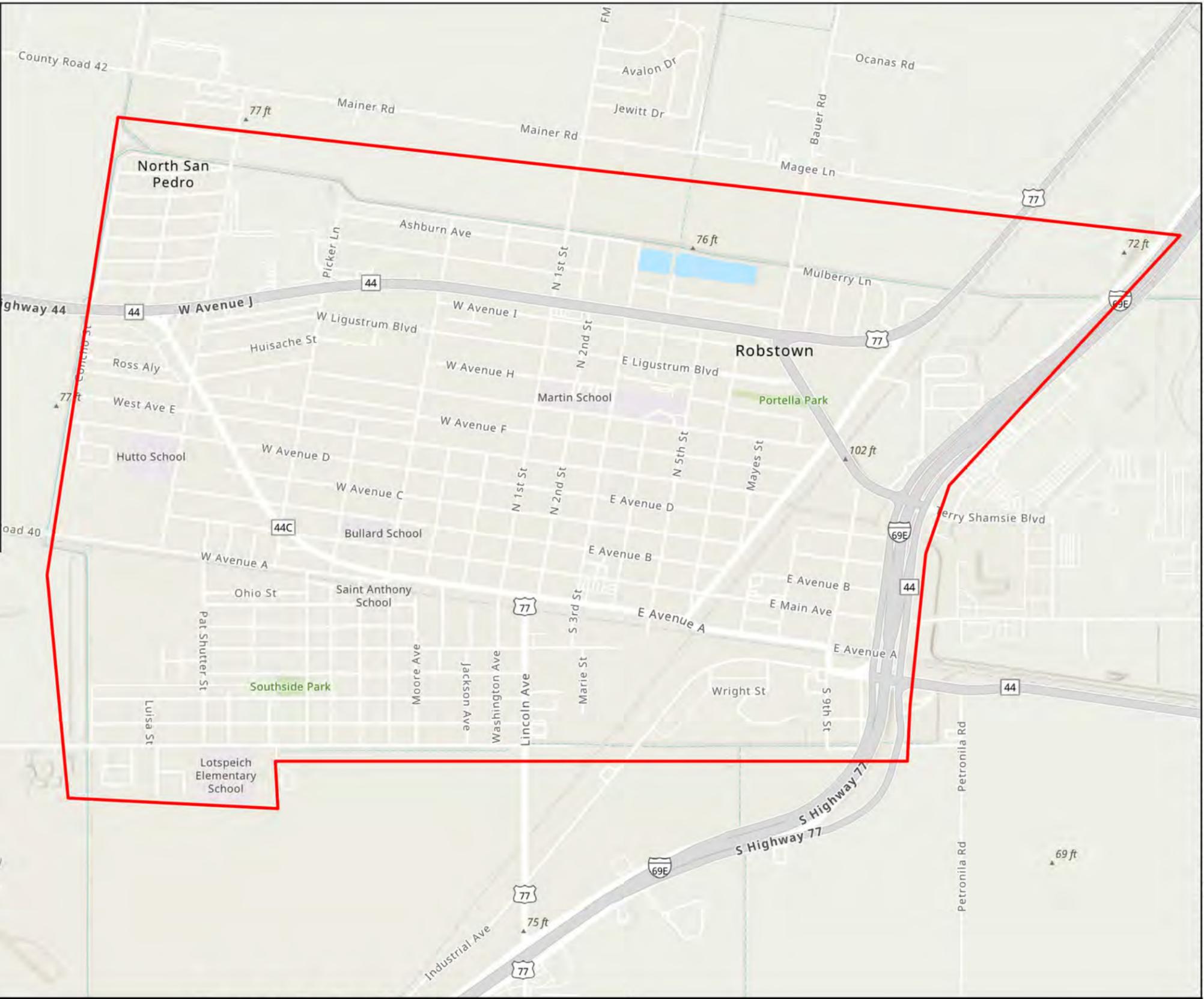
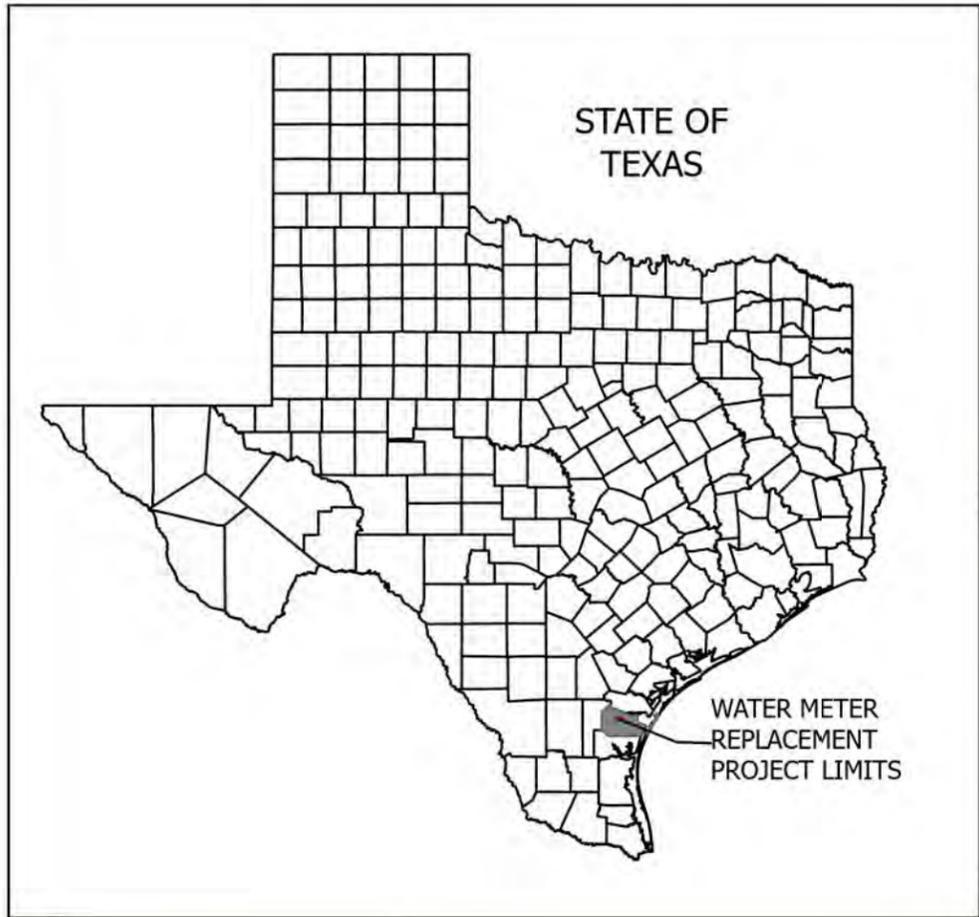
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the Nueces County Water Control and Improvement District No. 3 will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the Nueces County Water Control and Improvement District No. 3 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).

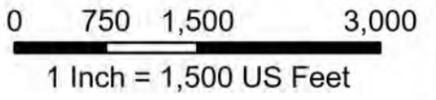
Sincerely,

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

Enclosures



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**Figure 1: Project Map**

**NCWCID #3**  
**Robstown, Nueces County, Texas**

Project #: 21L0193F.02 Created: 2/5/2026

Water Meter Replacement Project Limits



Source: Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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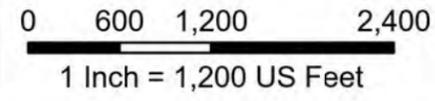


Figure 2: Aerial Map  
 NCWCID #3  
 Robstown, Nueces County, Texas  
 Project #: 21L0193F.02  
 Created: 2/6/2026

- |                                        |                                |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Water Meter Replacement Project Limits | Installed Water Meter Location |
| Water Meter Replacement Project Limits | 2023                           |
| New Water Meter Replacement Locations  | 2024                           |
| New Water Meter Replacement Locations  | 2025                           |



Source: Vantor, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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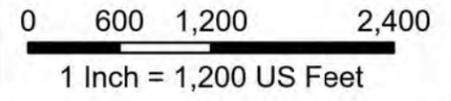
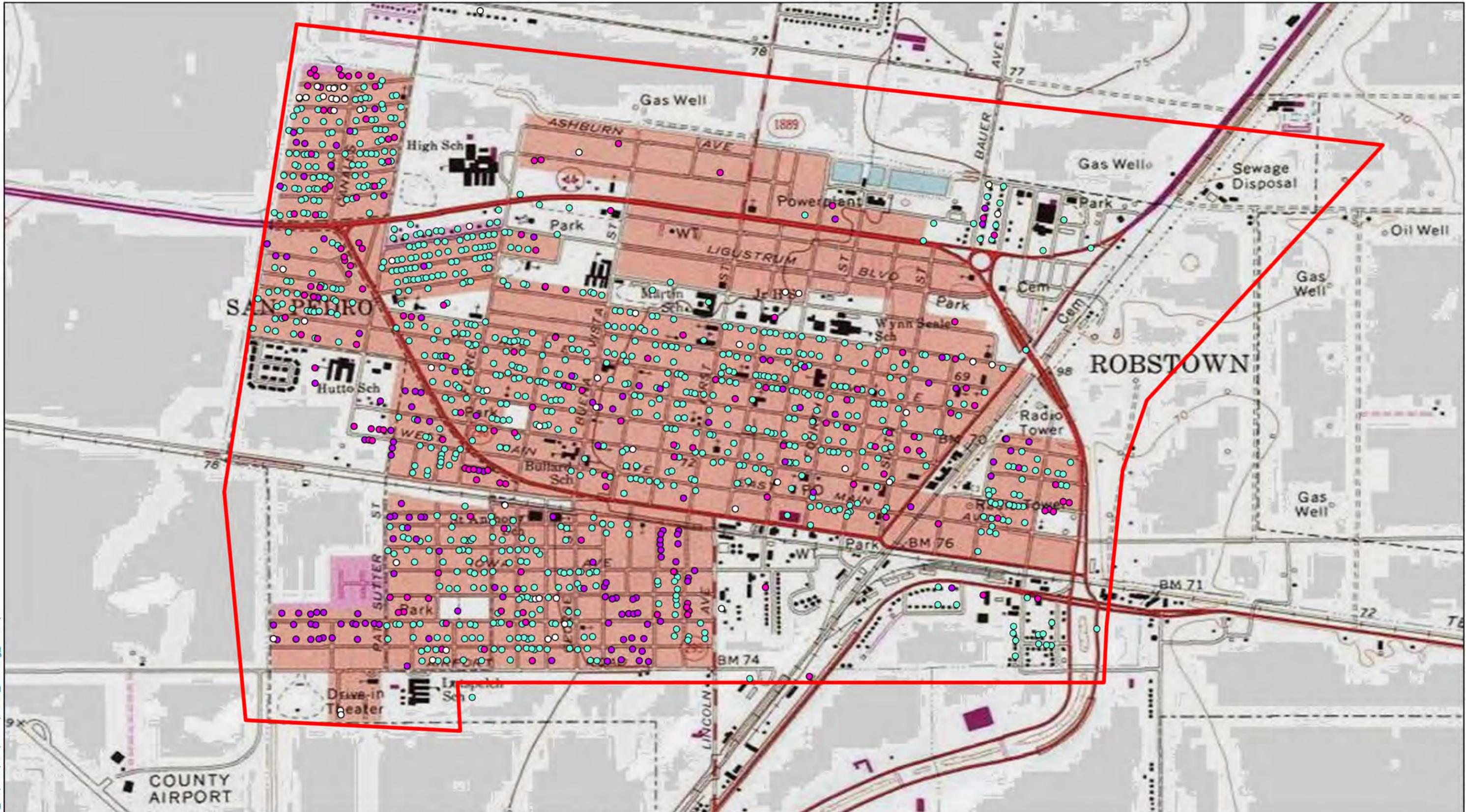


Figure 3: USGS Topographic Map

NCWCID #3  
Robstown, Nueces County, Texas

Project #: 21L0193F.02

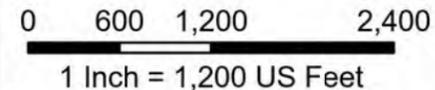
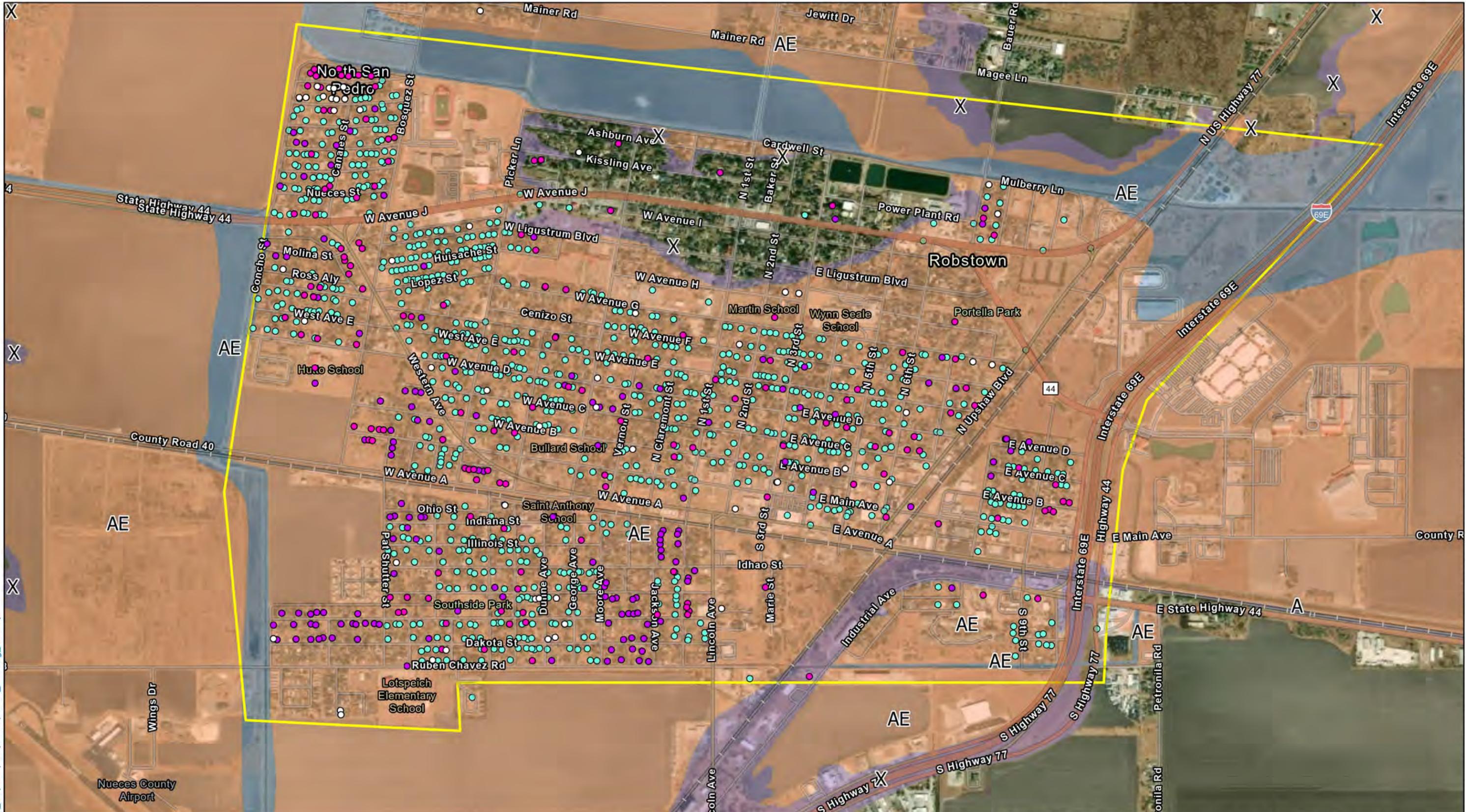
Created: 2/6/2026

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|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Water Meter Replacement Project Limits | Installed Water Meter Location |
| Water Meter Replacement Project Limits | 2023                           |
| Water Meter Replacement Locations      | 2024                           |
| Water Meter Replacement Locations      | 2025                           |



Source: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Copyright: © 2013 National Geographic Society

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**Figure 4: FEMA Floodplain Map**  
**NCWCID #3**  
**Robstown, Nueces County, Texas**  
 Project #: 21L0193F.02 Created: 2/6/2026

<b>Water Meter Replacement Project Limits</b>		<b>Installed Water Meter Locations</b>	
	Water Meter Replacement Project Limits		Installation Year
<b>Water Meter Replacement Locations</b>			2023
	Water Meter Replacement Locations		2024
<b>FEMA Floodplain</b>			2025
	0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard		
	1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard		
	Regulatory Floodway		



Source: Vantor, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community