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March 18, 2021

Dear New Regional Flood Planning Group Member,

Welcome to the inaugural cycle of Texas' regional flood planning process that was created by the Texas Legislature through Senate Bill 8 in 2019. Your planning group will be responsible for adopting its first regional flood plan no later than January 10, 2023, and every five years thereafter. The state flood plan, to be developed by TWDB based on adopted regional plans, will be due September 1, 2024, and every five years thereafter. The overarching goal of regional flood planning, and the comprehensive state flood plan, is to protect against loss of life and property from flooding. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff look forward to working with you during this important and unprecedented process.

This opportunity for you and your fellow members to participate in regional flood planning comes with certain responsibilities. Planning group members are expected to:

- regularly attend their Regional Flood Planning Group (RPFG) meetings;
- understand and follow the flood planning framework, rules, bylaws, guidelines, and process, as well as review the various materials that will be considered by the planning group along the way;
- represent their interest categories in the regional flood planning process,
- solicit and consider public input;
- deliver a flood plan that serves the entire region and take into consideration the floodrelated needs of all interests in the region, including flood plans developed by local entities;
- make significant decisions and recommendations regarding flood management goals, evaluations, strategies, and flood mitigation projects for their region; and
- ensure adoption of a regional flood plan that meets all requirements by the statutory deadline.

The TWDB is the agency designated by the legislature to provide technical and financial assistance to the regional flood planning process. Each RFPG has an assigned TWDB staff member to serve as a non-voting member of the RFPG and who will act as a liaison between the agency and the planning group.

As a resource to you, TWDB has additional information on its website that will be beneficial to you as a planning group member. This information can be found on the *New RFPG Member* webpage: http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/regions/newmembers.asp

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact floodplanning@twdb.texas.gov or the TWDB Planner for your region.

Thank you for your interest and commitment to be a part of this much needed effort.

Sincerely,

Jessica Zuba Deputy Executive Administrator Water Supply and Infrastructure

RZ/cd