From: RegionalWaterPlanningSent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 1:39 PMSubject: State Demographer's Population Projections Available Online

Good afternoon RWPG Chairs,

The TWDB is currently developing utility-level DRAFT population projections and municipal water demand projections for release in February for RWPG consideration and eventual use in the development of the 2026 Regional Water Plans. The TWDB relies on the Texas Demographic Center (TDC) projections as the basis for developing these DRAFT water planning population projections.

The latest county-level TDC population projections, which are based on the 2020 US Census and provide the basis for developing the DRAFT water planning projections, are available on their website: <u>https://demographics.texas.gov/Data/TPEPP/Projections/</u>

No action is needed at this time. We are sending this now only as courtesy information so that you may preview the county-level TDC projections to see the types of changes to expect. Note that these TDC projections are significantly lower than previous projections in a number of areas, especially in future decades.

The TDC and the TWDB are aware of the 2020 Census statewide undercount, which was acknowledged by the U.S. Census Bureau on May 19, 2022. Due to the nature of undercounts, it is difficult to determine the demographic characteristics of who was undercounted or where specifically undercounts occurred. The U.S. Census Bureau has a formal process for reviewing potential undercounts or boundary issues called the Census Count Question Resolution (CQR) and more information is available on their website:

https://www.census.gov/about/policies/quality/corrections/cqr.html

Per the TWDB's *First Amended General Guidelines for Development of 2026 Regional Water Plans (Exhibit C)*, copies of CQR submissions, which are due to the Census Bureau by June 30, 2023, will be considered as a potential basis for revising utility-level population projections for the 2026 Regional Water Plans.

The TWDB will be sending more information about the regional water planning population projections and the associated revision process when we send out the DRAFT population and municipal demand projections in February for your consideration.

Thank you, Temple

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