

# SFY 2020 Flood Project Abridged Application

**Due June 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Email to [FIF@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:FIF@twdb.texas.gov)**

By submitting this Abridged Application, you understand and confirm that the information provided is true and correct to the best of your knowledge and further understand that the failure to submit a complete Abridged Application by the stated deadlines, or to respond in a timely manner to additional requests for information, may result in the withdrawal of the Abridged Application without review.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Entity Name</b>		
North Central Texas Council of Governments		
<b>Entity Type</b>		
Council of Government		
<b>Contact</b> Who should TWDB contact with questions during the review of this submission?	<b>Name</b>	Edith Marvin
	<b>Title</b>	Director of Environment & Development
	<b>Phone</b>	(817) 695-9211
	<b>Email</b>	emarvin@nctcog.org

## PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>Project Name</b>	Integrated Transportation and Stormwater Management		
<b>Amount Requested from TWDB</b>	\$3,000,000.00		
<b>Financing from Federal Sources</b>	\$3,000,000.00		
<b>(if receiving federal funds, include the federal agency and program)</b>	Federal Highway Administration – Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program		
<b>Financing from Other Sources</b>	\$0.00		
<b>Total Project Cost</b> (Check here if requesting loan funds only <input type="checkbox"/> )	\$6,000,000.00		
<b>Category Applied For</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Category 1</b> Flood Protection Planning for Watersheds	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Category 2</b> Planning, Acquisition, and Design, Construction / Rehabilitation (All combinations)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Category 3</b> Federal Award Matching Funds	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Category 4</b> Measures immediately effective in protecting life and property

## MINIMUM STANDARDS

Only projects that satisfy all minimum standards will be included in the prioritization.	N/A	1. For applicable projects, the benefit-cost ratio of the proposed project is >1.0 or an explanation is provided.
	N/A	2. For applicable projects, a proposed MOU and a project description was provided to all eligible political subdivisions and the list of political subdivisions that received this information is attached to the abridged application.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. The applicant has acted cooperatively with other political subdivisions to address flood control needs in the area in which the eligible political subdivisions are located; and all eligible political subdivisions substantially affected by the proposed flood project have participated in the process of developing the proposed flood project.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. The funding request does not include redundant funding for activities already performed and/or funded through another source.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5. a. The area to be served by the proposed project has floodplain ordinances in place and is currently enforcing floodplain management standards at least equivalent to National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) minimum standards. OR
	N/A	5. b. Requesting funds to fulfill additional requirements for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6. The proposed project was developed using the best and most recent available data.
	N/A	7. a. (Construction applicants only) Operations and maintenance costs associated with proposed facilities have been considered.
N/A	7. b. (Construction applicants only) Floodwater capture techniques have been considered.	

## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

### **Integrated Watershed Based Planning for Regional Transportation and Stormwater Management in the Upper Trinity River Basin**

Recent flood events in Texas garnered the attention of the State for the need for comprehensive planning in urban areas. This is particularly important in the Upper Trinity River Basin where the population of the Project area is forecast to grow to 2,044,176 residents by the year 2045 (NCTCOG); a 126% percent increase over the current population. Future increases in impervious cover, coupled with the future growth will lead to a number of local and regional challenges such as transportation infrastructure maintenance, increased flood risk, increased stream erosion and sediment deposition in downstream reservoirs, loss of open space, water quality degradation, to name a few.

The North Central Texas region will engage in a comprehensive planning effort integrating transportation planning, regional stormwater management planning, and environmental planning to address the health, safety, and welfare concerns of the region while helping local governments manage their growth and development in an effective manner with respect to life cycle costs. To increase resiliency and to proactively prevent flooding, transportation planners, storm water planners and environmental planners will dissolve silos and incorporate stormwater management and environmental features into a comprehensive multi-infrastructure plan for the project area. The Project area (Attachment 1; see included folder for all attachments) is defined by a combination of watershed boundaries, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) service area boundaries, and existing impervious areas, but is focused on a large, western portion of the North Central Texas region. The Project area encompasses 86 cities, eight counties, and covers 2,816 square miles. The overall resultant products from this multi-year project will be a comprehensive Upper Trinity River Basin Stormwater Infrastructure Plan minimizing overall life cycle costs, addressing vulnerable and critical assets, decreasing flood risk, and providing environmental and ecosystem benefits to accommodate future population growth in a more resilient manner.

Requested funding for this proposed project is intended to be matched with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funds, pending eligibility confirmation. Overall funding will be dedicated to the following tasks in advancing the initial stages of this large, regional planning project:

#### **Task 1: Project Management**

Activities will include, but are not limited to: agreement execution; project oversight; project team coordination meetings; general project coordination with funding agencies, including meetings and conference calls as needed; maintenance of project website and all deliverables; invoicing and financial accounting; risk and compliance assessments; procurement of contractors, as needed; manage project teams and contractors; contract management; project presentations; attendance at conferences/workshops/symposiums; task memos, and report development.

#### **Task 2.0: Stakeholder Engagement**

There are eighty-five cities, eight counties, multiple transportation providers, two major regional water providers, one major regional wastewater provider and numerous other partners and stakeholder groups engaged in the project. Participation from a broad and diverse group of stakeholders is critical for a project of this size and scope. Throughout the project, several phases of stakeholder engagement will be required in order to ensure transparency and ownership of the information by local government staff and elected officials. With a multi-year project of this size and scope, it is difficult to maintain interest if clear goals, expectations, and anticipated outcomes are not communicated upfront with a diverse group of stakeholders. Elected officials have the potential to change every few years, so providing consistent, current, regular communication on the project status and clearly identifying the expectation for participation is key to building capacity at the staff level and long-term institutional support of communities and partners to carry forth identified implementation actions.

#### **Task 3.0: Data Collection and Analysis**

Understanding existing conditions and accounting for environmental stressors to infrastructure in the project area is critical to establishing a strong foundation upon which to build future plans and project recommendations. A literature review will leverage any similar activities which may have occurred elsewhere. Existing data will be collected and included as a Project Data Inventory. Through identification of what is currently existing, a list of what is not available but is desired or needed will be compiled based on stakeholder and project team input. Processing of datasets will be included in this task and will include development of GIS layers representing the entire project area. For example, individual land use maps and GIS files from cities will be collected, digitized, and compiled into one GIS layer for the entire project area.

#### **Task 4: Tools and Models to Determine Future Stormwater Conditions and Infrastructure Impacts**

- **Subtask 4.0.1 Project Area Hydrology Assessment and Scenarios:** The project team will leverage FEMA's Base Level Engineering data, USACE storm transposition tools, and impervious surface Geographic Information System (GIS) layers to estimate storm runoff for 2055. The Project Team will analyze current versus future changes, including loss of valley storage, runoff estimations to inform the need for areas of low impact development, green infrastructure, or on-stream structures for regional detention. Furthermore, the impacts to water supply/environmental flows of proposed measures (detention, recharges zones, etc.) during non-flooding periods will be evaluated.
- **Subtask 4.0.2. Assess Transportation Infrastructure Impacts and Develop Decision-Making Tools:** As the transportation network is developed, residential, commercial and industrial development follow closely behind. Transportation infrastructure is impacted by non-stationary stormwater trends associated with growth and development, which can be exacerbated if facilities are built and/or sustained with limitations and/or vulnerabilities associated with design, composition, capacity, elevation, maintenance practices, or other attributes. This task will evaluate existing and future hydrologic models to determine existing and future transportation facilities at risk of flooding based on future development scenarios, state of repair, and/or specific asset qualities.
- **Subtask 4.0.3 Safety and Preparedness Planning:** Hazard mitigation plans are comprehensive plans providing strategies to lessen the impact of disasters and reduce loss of life and property from future hazard events, such as tornadoes and flooding. The Project will evaluate current safety and preparedness challenges and develop resources. Development of tools such as Buyers B Where (Texas A&M University Galveston) will be explored to provide residents, businesses, and communities resources to identify risk.
- **Subtask 4.0.4 Environmental Planning:** Natural resources in the Project Area provide natural absorption and flood risk mitigation in their existing condition. Identifying, conserving and preserving existing natural pervious surfaces, or planning and constructing new environmental features in the Project Area is a key outcome of the Project. This Project will define appropriate nature-based solutions and a green stormwater infrastructure plan to accommodate and mitigate future stormwater runoff determined in Subtask 4.0.1. This task will encompass an evaluation of land Inventory, needed mitigation requirements for future infrastructure (future utilities, transportation, water, wastewater, etc.), and potential developments allowing for stormwater management structures to stabilize and offset impacts while providing ecosystem and economic benefits.
- **Subtask 4.0.5. Managing Land through Strategic Planning and Development Regulations:** If recommendations from previous tasks are implemented, the long-term impacts of this Project in terms of management of land, development integrating sustainable practices, decreased flood risk, decreased infrastructure maintenance costs, and economic benefits associated with environmental features could be truly positive. While there are many steps to implementation of regional environmental features, for example, there are regulatory and strategic planning elements counties and municipalities could adopt in a relatively short-term timeframe. Deliverables from this task will focus on development of model regulatory tools cities and counties could integrate into their existing development and planning processes. Development of tools, such as the City of Austin's FloodPro website (<https://www.austintexas.gov/FloodPro/>), will be explored for deployment in the Project area to support city and county staff administration of regulations and policy.

## INFORMATION FOR GRANT FUNDING

Provide information for the applicable level of grant funding:

Category 1:

Study area AMHI (weighted average based on population)- **\$88,451.10**

(Optional – attached a copy of federal disaster declaration – flood related within the last 60 months)

Categories 2, 3, and 4

- For consideration of being outside MSA: Project is entirely located outside of an MSA - Yes \_\_\_ or No \_\_\_
- Project area AMHI (weighted average based on population)-\$\_\_\_\_\_
- Project area Unemployment Rate (weighted average based on population)-\_\_\_\_\_%
- Project area Population Decline (if any) (based on sum of the population in the project areas)-\_\_\_\_\_%
- For consideration of being an Rural Applicant: All entities within the project benefit area are outside MSAs and have populations <10,000; or the applicant is a district or municipality with a service area of 10,000 or less in population; or located in a county in which no urban area exceeds 50,000 in population - Yes \_\_\_ or No \_\_\_
- For consideration of being a Green or Nature-Based project: Percentage of total project costs that are considered green or nature-based- \_\_\_\_\_% (attach the calculation)

**Note: If requesting grant funds that rely on a calculation of the AMHI, Unemployment Rate, or Population Decline then attach the calculation of the weighted average amounts for the project area based on the applicable U.S. Census Bureau geographic areas such as County, Place (City), Census Tract, or Block Group using the ACS data sources described in the IUP.**

## PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

<p><b>Rural Applicant</b></p> <p>All entities within the project benefit area are (a) outside MSAs and have populations &lt;10,000; or (b) a district or municipality with a service area of 10,000 or less in population; or (c) a county in which no urban area exceeds 50,000 in population.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span> </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <i>(Please attach a list of all entities in the project benefit area and U.S. Census Bureau 2014-2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates data indicating the population of each area.)</i> </p>
<p><b>Emergency Need Due to Recent or Imminent Failure or recent Flood-related Disaster Declarations.</b></p> <p>A need exists for flood hazard mitigation actions to address a clear and imminent threat to public health, safety, and welfare or property due to recent or imminent failure of existing flood infrastructure or flood-related federal or state disaster declarations within the most recent 36 months that would be significantly mitigated by the proposed project.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, due to a recent failure.      <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, due to imminent failure.      <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, recent flood-related disaster declaration for the proposed project area      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No </p>
<p><b>Distributed Benefits</b></p> <p>Is the project expected to directly benefit or include the active participation of jurisdictions other than the applicant?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> No</span> </p>



<p><b>Tiebreaker:</b></p> <p><b>Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)</b></p>	<p>Average SVI of benefitting area: <b>0.275322</b></p> <p>Geographic basis:  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Tracts                      <input type="checkbox"/> Counties</p> <p><i>Please attach a list of the selected geographies and an explanation of why they were selected.</i></p>
<p><b>Certification on MOUs (if MOUs will be required)</b></p> <p><b>If no MOUs will be required, check here: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b></p>	<p>I, _____(Name),  serving as _____(Title)  hereby certify that _____(Applicant)  has provided all eligible political subdivisions that will be required to submit a Memorandum of Understanding a copy of their proposed Memorandum of Understanding and an adequately detailed description of the proposed project.</p> <p>Signature _____ Date _____</p>

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE FLOOD INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

Responses to questions 1 through 7, along with other information included in this abridged application, will be shared with the Flood Information Clearinghouse Committee (FLICC), a new cooperative effort between the TWDB, General Land Office, Texas Division of Emergency Management, and other state and federal agencies that administer flood mitigation financial assistance programs. After review by the FLICC, the applicant may be advised of other available source(s) of funding.

1. Type of Assistance Requested (Check all that apply):	<input type="checkbox"/> Low Interest Loan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Loan/Grant Combination <input type="checkbox"/> Local Match for Federal Funding
If requesting funds for the local cost share of a federally funded project, the name of the program:	N/A
2. County(ies) in which the project is located:	Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Johnson, Parker, Tarrant, Wise
3. (If applicable) Associated FEMA disaster name and number:	4223 DR 2015, 4226 DR 2016, 4255 DR 2016, 4269 DR 2016, 4332 DR 2017
4. Does the applicant have an approved Mitigation Action Plan?	Yes
5. Is the community to be served by the project in good standing with the National Flood Insurance Program?	85 cities and 8 counties are in the project area. All participate in the NFIP and are in good standing except for one small city which does not participate in the NFIP.
6. Will this project involve enlargement of a dam or levee beyond the original footprint of the structure that existed prior to a disaster event?	No.
7. Will this project mitigate a repetitive or severe repetitive loss property?	No.

## CERTIFICATION ON ENFORCING FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

<p><b>Certification on enforcing floodplain management standards</b></p> <p>Exception: The only exception is an entity that is requesting FIF funding to fulfill additional requirements for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. If this is the situation, check here: <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>I, Edith Marvin, serving as Director of Environment &amp; Development at NCTCOG, hereby certify that 85 cities/towns and eight counties in North Central Texas within the project area shown in Exhibit 1 are currently enforcing floodplain management standards at least equivalent to National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) minimum standards, but it may exceed the NFIP minimum standard.*</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Signature</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>June 15, 2020</p> <p>Date</p> </div> </div>

\*Alvord, Texas, is the only incorporated community in the project area that does not participate in the NFIP. A compilation of flood damage prevention ordinances (or otherwise named equivalent) is provided in a zip file in PDF for the communities which provide them publicly online.

## ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST

- | <u>✓</u>                            | <u>N/A</u>                          | <u>Attachment Description</u>  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | List of entities receiving the proposed MOU and project description  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Benefit-Cost Ratio required information.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Documentation indicating the best/most recent data was used in the development of the proposed project.  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Documentation demonstrating the area to be served by the proposed project has floodplain ordinances in place and the appropriate entity has certified that it is currently enforcing floodplain management standards at least equivalent to National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) minimum standards. (The only exception is an entity that is requesting FIF funding to fulfill the requirements for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | If requesting grant funds that rely on a calculation of the AMHI, Unemployment Rate, or Population Decline then attach the calculation of the weighted average amounts for the project area based on the applicable U.S. Census Bureau geographic areas such as County, Place (City), Census Tract, or Block Group and the ACS data sources described in the IUP.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | If requesting prioritization points for "Rural Applicant", a list of all entities in the project benefit area and U.S. Census Bureau 2014-2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates data indicating the population of each area.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (If applying for matching funds) Documentation of an existing federal award pending availability of local match.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (If the project involves property acquisitions) Documentation supporting the determination that acquisitions are the best solution and the properties are a high risk.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (Construction projects) Description of the anticipated funding source for operations and maintenance costs.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (Construction projects) Map and description of area benefitting from the proposed project, including a list of all benefitting political subdivisions.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (If applicable) Documentation of recent or imminent infrastructure failure causing an emergency need or a flood-related federal or state disaster declaration within the most recent 36 months that would be significantly mitigated by the proposed project.  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | List and explanation of geographies used to determine average SVI.   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Certification on enforcing floodplain management standards for all applicable areas  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Additional Information for the Flood Information Clearinghouse Committee   |

