

Media Contact: Owen Ramsey

(614) 214-6932

owen.ramsey@cookseypr.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Trinity River Basin Stakeholders Urged to Submit Priority Flooding Solutions Now to Qualify for 2026-27 Flood Infrastructure Fund Consideration

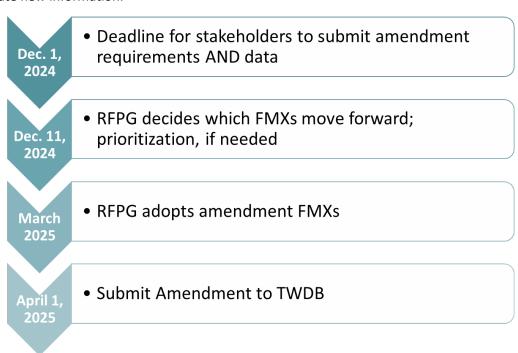
Submissions are due to Trinity RFPG no later than Dec. 1, 2024

Texas' Trinity River Basin – Oct. 21, 2024 – All regional stakeholders and interested parties are urged to submit high-priority flood risk reduction solutions (FMXs) that they would like to be eligible for the 2026-27 Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) funding cycle to the Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group (Trinity RFPG) for consideration.

Submissions are due no later than Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024, to the Trinity RFPG's lead consultant, Stephanie Griffin at Halff Associates, via email at sgriffin@halff.com.

Projects that are recommended in the 2024 State Flood Plan are already eligible for the 2026-27 FIF funding cycle.

During the five-year span between cyclical, regional flood plan adoptions, plans may be amended to incorporate additional flood risk reduction solutions (FMXs), to reflect changes to conditions, or to incorporate new information.



The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) has released guidance for submitting amendments to coincide with the TWDB 2026-27 FIF Cycle. The complete set of guidance documents can be found below and on the Trinity RFPG website. Regional entities must submit qualified amendments (with all the required documentation and data) for regional consideration by Dec. 1. At the Dec. 11, 2024 meeting, the Trinity RFPG will decide which FMXs are included in the amendment and assign prioritization if needed. The RFPG will continue to review these FMXs through February 2025 to confirm they meet TWDB criteria.

At the March 2025 meeting, the Trinity RFPG will consider adopting an amendment to the 2023 Regional Flood Plan incorporating newly recommended FMXs and will submit those amendment materials to the TWDB no later than April 1, 2025. The TWDB will subsequently evaluate all regional submissions as part of amending the existing State Flood Plan.

- Guidance for Amending an Approved Regional Flood Plan (PDF)
- Attachment A Sample Amendment (PDF)
- Attachment B Geodatabase Change Log Template (Excel Spreadsheet)
- Attachment C RFP Amendment Flowchart (PDF)
- Attachment D No Negative Impact Table (Excel Spreadsheet)
- Attachment E Example List of Models Submitted to MS2 (Excel Spreadsheet)
- Attachment F List of Entities in the Trinity Region (PDF)

About the Trinity RFPG and the Flood Planning Process

The Trinity RFPG's planning region (Trinity River Basin or Region 3) has an estimated population of approximately 8 million and spans nearly 18,000 square miles across 38 counties from Cooke County in the north to Chambers County on the Gulf Coast.

The Trinity RFPG is among 15 regional flood planning groups first designated in April 2020 by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), as a result of Senate Bill 8, 86th Texas Legislature, which established a groundbreaking, new regional and state flood planning process. At the same time, the Texas Legislature also created a new flood financial assistance fund and charged the TWDB with administering the fund. The Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF), approved by Texas voters in Nov. 2019, requires studies, projects and strategies be recommended in the State Flood Plan in order for the sponsor to be eligible to apply for this funding.

The first-ever Trinity Regional Flood Plan, adopted in 2023 and now part of the 2024 State Flood Plan, includes 56 recommended FMPs, 507 recommended FMEs and 138 recommended FMSs. The 2023 Trinity Regional Flood Plan draws on the best available science, data, models and flood risk mapping to recommend over \$1 billion in flood mitigation actions designed to fix local flooding issues and reduce flood-related loss of lives, property and livelihoods throughout the region. The TWDB's Interactive 2024 State Flood Plan Viewer may be found at https://texasstatefloodplan.org/overview.

Each of the regional flood planning groups across Texas will now update their plans every five years.

The Planning Group's membership includes at least one voting member from each of the following interest categories: the public, counties, municipalities, industry, agriculture, environment, small business, electric-generating utilities, river authorities, water districts, water utilities and flood districts. The Trinity RFPG has engaged a technical consultant team led by Halff to support its planning efforts.

For more information, visit the Trinity RFPG website at <u>trinityrfpg.org</u>, follow the group on Twitter at https://twitter.com/TrinityRFPG or email the group via info@trinityrfpg.org.

###