THE STATE FLOOD PLAN
INVESTING IN GREEN SOLUTIONS

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FLOOD-RELATED BILLS FROM THE 86TH LEGISLATURE:

- SB 7 (Sen. Creighton): Creates the Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) and the Texas Infrastructure Resiliency Fund (TIRF)
- SB 8 (Sen. Perry): Creates a new state and regional flood planning process
- HJR 4 (Rep. Phelan): Flood Infrastructure Fund creation outside the treasury
- SB 500: Appropriates funding for bills, including: – Expansion of TexMesonet, Lidar acquisition, Development of a dashboard/datahub, and Updates to reservoir flood pool measurements
SB 7: FLOOD FUNDING

- Creates $793-million Flood Infrastructure Fund
  - Loans and grants for drainage, flood mitigation or flood control projects
  - Structural and non-structural projects eligible for funding
  - Nature based projects are eligible for funding
  - Must be approved via constitutional amendment (Nov. 2019)
SB 8: FLOOD PLANNING

- Develop a State Flood Plan by 2024

- Regional Flood Planning Groups must:
  - Hold public meetings
  - Publish and take comments on plan

- Regional Flood Plans must:
  - Rely on science and updated flood maps
  - Assess status of flood control infrastructure
  - Identify flood-prone areas in the region
WHY PLAN FOR GREEN SOLUTIONS?

- Green Infrastructure = Multiple Benefits
  - Reduced peak stormwater flows & runoff volumes
  - Improved water quality
  - Open space creation & protection
  - Groundwater recharge

- It’s Cost-Effective
  - Green infrastructure often costs much less to construct and is less costly to maintain over time (EPA)
  - Can help avert severe storm damage