

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

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