



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City Awarded Historic \$10.9M Grant to Fund Major Roadway Flooding Prevention Projects

The City of Elgin announced today that the Texas General Land Office has approved the City's application for a Mitigation Harvey Round 1 State Most Impacted and Distressed Grant in the amount \$10,940,981 that will facilitate major upgrades to Kennedy Street and County Line Road.

"This is another historic achievement by city staff and City Council, procuring outside funding that will provide direct savings to taxpayers and utility customers," said City Manager Tom Mattis. "In just the last two months alone, the City has secured among its largest grants ever that will result in nearly \$16M in capital improvements at a greatly reduced cost to residents."

This latest grant will support two major capital improvements projects to address long-time storm drainage issues and provide multiple enhancements to those neighborhoods, serving future needs of the growing Elgin community: (1) construction of a new stormwater drainage system adjacent to Kennedy Street that connects to the main drainage system serving a major part of the City; in addition to traffic and safety upgrades along Kennedy Street, and (2) construction of a new storm drainage system along a portion of County Line Road, from the US290 intersection to Neidig Elementary School. This project will include the complete reconstruction and widening of the same portion of County Line Road; and will also include sidewalks and other traffic and safety improvements. No such storm drainage system currently exists at either location.

"On behalf of our Council, staff and citizens, we are extremely excited and thankful to the Texas General Land Office for this grant award," said Mayor Ron Ramirez. "This money will allow

us to make major impacts on improving our affected neighborhoods and making a safer Elgin for all.”

Both projects had previously been identified by city staff and endorsed by City Council as a priority need for the City. The County Line Road Project (Phase 2) has been included in the City’s Five-Year Capital program for several years to address recurring flooding and road closures at Hwy 290.

“Staff was optimistic about our chances for this grant which is why we proposed including the first phase of the County Line Road Project in the recent 2021 Certificates of Obligation (COs) Program,” said City Manager Mattis. “The total cost of the entire County Line Road widening project is estimated at \$16M and is planned in three phases – and this grant award will fund Phase 2. The City has also secured \$4.2M in funding support from private developers who are building on County Line Road. While Phase 1 (from FM1100 and Elgin High School to the northern city limits) was removed from the 2021 COs and funding for both Phase 1 and Phase 3 is yet to be determined, this grant will allow us to begin a portion of the major upgrades to this roadway that is crucial to the future of Elgin.”

The Texas General Land Office Community Development and Revitalization division (GLO-CDR) is managing the award of more than \$2.3 billion in Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to protect Texas communities hit by Hurricane Harvey and severe flooding. Infrastructure projects funded through this program will directly benefit thousands of residents in majority low-to-moderate income (LMI) areas that have faced repetitive storm damage in 2015, 2016, and in 2017 with Hurricane Harvey.

The City of Elgin has now been awarded over **\$20M** in various grants in just the last five years, funding a wide range of water, wastewater, street, sidewalk, recreation, and community development improvements.

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About Elgin

The City of Elgin is a historic, full-service city that is currently home to approximately 10,000 residents located in northern Bastrop County and eastern Travis County. Elgin has been designated by the Texas Legislature as “The Sausage Capital of Texas” and is an important stop on the US Hwy290 corridor between Austin and Houston. For more information about Elgin, visit www.elgintx.com