

**Draft Proposal Request, Sec 7001 of the Water Resources and Reform  
Development Act of 2014**

**Website:** <http://www.wrrda7001proposals.us/>

**Deadline:** 20 AUG 19

**1. Administrative details:**

**Name of the proposal (Required):** Lower Rio Grande Valley Flood Risk Management and Resilience Project

**Agency preparing the proposal (Required):**

**POC Name (Required):**

**POC Phone (Required):**

**POC Email (Required):**

**Applicable States or Territories (Choose all that apply, Required):** TX

**2. Provide the name of the primary sponsor and all non-Federal interests that have contributed or are expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification. Responses should NOT only refer to uploaded documents.**

**Primary Sponsor (Required):** Cameron County

**Statement of Support:** Cameron County supports this Sec 7001 proposal, which will work synergistically to manage regional flood risks with flood risk management studies and projects in partnership with USACE. Hidalgo County supports this Sec 7001 proposal, which will work synergistically to manage regional flood risks with flood risk management studies and projects in partnership with USACE. Willacy County supports this Sec 7001 proposal, which will work synergistically to manage regional flood risks with flood risk management studies and projects in partnership with USACE. The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee supports this Sec 7001 proposal, which will work synergistically to manage regional flood risks with flood risk management studies and projects in partnership with USACE.

**Upload Letter of Support (Required):** [Upload letters](#)

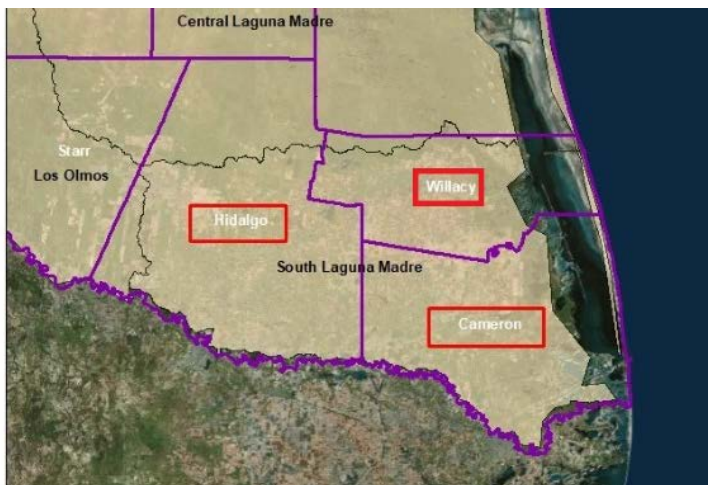
**3. State if this proposal is for a feasibility study, a modification to an authorized USACE feasibility study or a modification to an authorized USACE project. If it is a proposal for a modification, provide the authorized water resources development feasibility study or project name. (Required)**

## Feasibility Study

**4. Clearly articulate the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification. Demonstrate that the proposal is related to USACE mission and authorities and specifically address why additional or new authorization is needed. Responses should NOT only refer to uploaded documents. (Required) (2000 Character Maximum)**

The proposed Study and Project is to assess the causes of flooding in the Lower Rio Grande Valley service region, including Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy Counties; to re-evaluate and recommend changes to Building & Drainage Laws to improve floodplain management practices; to make recommendations and implement and/or construct urban watershed municipal drainage improvement projects. The Study and Project will work synergistically with a proposed Sec 729 Regional Watershed Assessment, which will address Flood Risk Management considerations that reside beyond USACE authorities at the Federal, State, and local levels, to ensure a comprehensive, integrated approach into the future across partnering agencies.

**5. Optional: Please upload one map or figure in PDF format (8-1/2x11" only) that clearly identifies the general vicinity of the proposal study or project area. Detailed maps are not necessary.**



**6. To the extent practicable, provide an estimate of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification. Responses should NOT only refer to uploaded documents.**

**Estimated Federal Study Cost (Required): \$3,000,000**

**Estimated Nonfederal Study Cost (Required): \$3,000,000**

**Total Study Cost Estimate: \$6,000,000**

**Estimated Federal Construction or Modification Cost (Required): \$325,000,000**

**Estimated Nonfederal Construction or Modification Cost (Required): \$175,000,000**

**Total Construction Cost Estimate: \$500,000,000**

**Explanation (If Necessary, 2000 Character Maximum):**

SEC. XXX. RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

(a) FLOOD RISK REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE. The Secretary shall determine the feasibility of and proceed with engineering, design, and construction of projects to provide for flood risk management and resilience improvements to rainfall drainage systems in Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy Counties, Texas.

(b) COST SHARING. The cost of any work performed by non-Federal interests subsequent to date of the feasibility report referred to in subsection (a) and determined by the Secretary to be a compatible and integral part of the feasibility study shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the study.

(c) FUNDING. There is authorized to be appropriated \$500,000,000 for initiation and partial accomplishment of projects described in the report referred to in subsection (a).

(d) OBLIGATIONS.—No funds may be obligated in excess of amount authorized by subsection (c) for flood risk reduction and resilience improvement projects to rainfall drainage systems authorized by subsection (a) until the Corps of Engineers determines their feasibility to be carried out with such funds is technically sound, environmentally acceptable, and economic, as applicable.

(e) Using \$10,000,000 of funds appropriated herein, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is authorized and directed to proceed with a feasibility study, engineering, design, and construction of projects, as described in subsection (a). There is authorized to be appropriated \$100,000,000 for the initiation and partial accomplishment of projects described in this report. The cost of any work performed by the non-Federal interests subsequent to the above cited report, as determined by the Secretary of the Army to be a compatible and integral part of the feasibility study, shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the projects.

**7. To the extent practicable, describe the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including: benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States. Responses should NOT only refer to uploaded documents. (Required)  
(2000 Character Maximum)**

The constructed project would reduce flood damages to properties and provide for increased resilience to flooding of properties, transportation systems, energy industries, and critical infrastructure, in the Rio Grande Valley, on the order of \$1 Billion. Given that the coast of Texas provides for significant energy production and distribution, reducing flood risks of industries and its workers who reside in flood-prone areas, and providing for greater resiliency, is a National security benefit. The environmental benefit of providing for this project is reduce risks of water treatment plant and chemical spills due to flooding, which is a threat to human and environmental health and safety. The non-monetary benefits would include reduce risks to loss of life due to regional flooding, especially to residents with insufficient means.

**8. Does local support exist? If 'Yes', describe the local support for the proposal. Responses should NOT only refer to uploaded documents. (Required) See 10. below for upload of local support, e.g., NGOs, government agencies, academia, etc.**

Yes

**9. Does the primary sponsor named in (2.) above have the financial ability to provide for the required cost share? (Required)**

Yes

**10. Upload any additional proposal documentation. All provided information may be include in the Annual Report.**