

# Executive Summary: Texas Water Development Board Flood Warning Siren Grant

## What This Opportunity Is

- Williamson County has been awarded **up to \$1,000,000** in state grant funding from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB).
- The funding supports the **planning, purchase, installation, and implementation of outdoor flood warning sirens and related equipment** in areas prone to flash flooding.
- This program was created by the Texas Legislature following the **July 2025 Hill Country floods** and is limited to counties included in the Governor's disaster declaration.
- The goal is to **improve life-safety alerting for residents and visitors in flood-prone areas**, particularly where cell service, alerts, or situational awareness may be limited.

## What the County Is Being Asked to Approve

- Approval of a grant agreement between Williamson County and the Texas Water Development Board.
- Authorization for the County Judge to execute the agreement on behalf of the County.
- Acceptance of grant funds and authority for County staff to submit required project plans, reports, and documentation to TWDB.

## Key Financial and Operational Terms

- **Grant Amount:** Up to \$1,000,000 (no local match required).
- **Eligible Uses:**
  - Outdoor warning sirens
  - Flood gages and sensors
  - Communications, software, testing, training, and system monitoring
- **Disbursement Structure:**
  - Initial 25% advance upon approval of each project plan
  - Additional advances issued as prior funds are documented and reconciled
- **Project Requirements:**
  - Each project must be located in a documented flash flood-prone area
  - The County must submit detailed project plans and monthly progress reports
  - Coordination agreements are required if projects involve municipalities
- **Deadlines:**
  - Project plans must be submitted and approved to access the full award
  - Final accounting and reporting required at project completion

## Limitations, Risks, and Safeguards

- Funds may only be used for eligible flood warning infrastructure and related activities.
- The County must comply with state procurement laws, audit requirements, and public-funds controls.
- Unused or ineligible funds must be returned to TWDB.
- TWDB retains the right to terminate the agreement if terms are not met, though eligible costs incurred prior to termination remain reimbursable.