

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ITEM #1**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ITEM #2**



# City of Blanco

P.O. Box 750, Blanco, Texas 78606  
Office 830-833-4525, Fax 830-833-4121

April 20, 2023

Colonel Paul Culberson  
Commander, U.S. Army Engineer Corps of Engineers  
819 Taylor Street (Room 3A32)  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Re: City of Blanco Request for Assistance

Dear Colonel Culberson:

The City of Blanco is requesting assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a study to address the flooding and bank erosion problems in the Town Creek tributary area in downtown Blanco.

As described in the attachments, the City has suffered severe flooding damage and erosion in the downtown area of Blanco during major rainfall and flood-related events which swell the Town Creek tributary, which in turn feeds into the Blanco River just south of the downtown area. This flooding and erosion has created structural instability and unsafe conditions in major sections of the downtown area.

The City intends to serve as the sponsor for the project. We are aware that the first \$100,000 in funding for the feasibility study is fully federally funded, and that any feasibility study costs above that would be cost-shared 50% federal and 50% non-federal.

We understand that the estimated cost of the feasibility study would be prepared following a determination of federal interest. We further understand that a Federal Interest Determination (FID) report shall be prepared following initial investigation by USACE.

We are committed to this project and are willing, able and would be financially prepared to participate in the feasibility study. We look forward to executing a cost-sharing agreement for the study at the appropriate time in the process. Thank you for your assistance with this much needed project. Please contact Warren Escovy, City Administrator, for further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

Rachel Lumpee  
Mayor

cc: City Administrator

Enclosures

**TOWN CREEK STABILIZATION PROJECT**  
BLANCO, TEXAS

The rural community of Blanco, Texas, is located midway between Austin and San Antonio. Texas Home to Blanco State Park, the community is an example of the history of this region and the geography that makes the Hill Country such a special place. Blanco is at risk of losing much of its history and commerce in the next flood event unless we are able to take the necessary steps to protect our town square.

Town Creek runs through our downtown area and empties into the Blanco River. Our town square is located on the east side of the creek, just north of the house serving as its entrance. During the Memorial Day Flood of 2015 the historic retaining wall along the north side of the creek was significantly damaged. Sections of this wall still display the original stonework done in the 1800's. Already in need of repair, the flood waters reached the edge of the historic buildings that line the southern border of the town square. Some years back the city made the mistake of lining the creek bed and banks west of downtown with concrete. This has increased both the volume and speed of water flowing toward the southern bank during even small rain events. We fear that the next flood will totally demolish the historic buildings and cause significant damage, if not complete collapse of these buildings.

Additionally, there are two old bridges that cross the creek. One supports Hwy 281, a major thoroughfare, and one is located near the square and is showing some signs that significant repairs by be needed for safety. Because we are a small municipality, only 1800 citizens (Though we serve a much larger community that lives in the areas surrounding the town), we cannot possibly afford the expertise in hydrological and civil engineering as well as the construction costs necessary to protect our property and heritage that will be lost when the town square is destroyed. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has all the valuable knowledge, experience and resources to help protect our community and prepare us for the best possible outcome when the next major flood event occurs. As a member of the governing body of the city of Blanco, I am asking you to help us. We would be extremely grateful for a visit and consultation by one of your experts to evaluate this project and consider it as one of the flood mitigation, historical preservation, and conservation projects of the Corp.



**CITY OF BLANCO, TOWN CREEK AREA PLAN**



**BACK VIEW OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS, FACING TOWN CREEK**



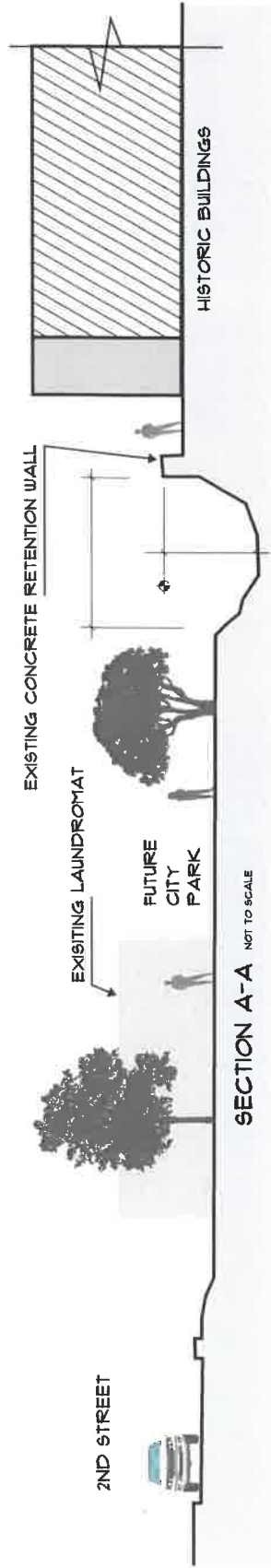
**CITY OF BLANCO, PARTIAL VIEW**



**VIEW OF HISTORIC BLOCK**



**BRIDGE OVER TOWN CREEK ON PECAN ST.**



**BLANCO COUNTY, TEXAS**

**TOWN CREEK STABILIZATION PROJECT**

RACHEL LUMPIEE - CITY MAYOR	
CONNIE BARON - CITY COUNCIL MEMBER	
DRONE PHOTOGRAPHY: MARK STANDLEY	
SURVEYED & DRAWN BY: LUIS YI RAMIREZ	
NOT TO SCALE	DATE: 2/26/2022

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ITEM #3**

## ORDINANCE No. 2023-O-006

AN ORDINANCE DOPTING A WATER CONSERVATION PLAN AND A DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR THE CITY OF BLANCO, TO PROMOTE THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF WATER AND ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR THE INITIATION AND TERMINATION OF DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES, INCLUDING RESTRICTIONS, PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES, PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Blanco, Texas, recognizes that the amount of water available to its citizens and customers is limited; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that drought, system failures, and other acts of God may occur, and that the City cannot guarantee uninterrupted water supply for all purposes at all times; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to conserve water resources and prepare for drought; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to comply with Section 11.1271 of the Texas Water Code and applicable rules of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality which require these plans for all public water supply systems; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 54 of the Local Government Code and in the best interest of its citizens, the City is authorized to adopt ordinances it deems are necessary and expedient to preserve and conserve its water resources and prepare for drought;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the CITY COUNCIL of the CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS, THAT:

### SECTION I

The City Council does hereby find and declare that sufficient and timely written notice of the place and subject matter of this meeting adopting this ordinance was posted. The City Council further ratifies, approves, and confirms such written notice and the posting thereof.

### SECTION II

The City Council adopts the Water Conservation Plan and Drought Contingency Plan attached to this ordinance. For all ordinances that are in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance, the conflicting passages are hereby superseded.

SECTION III

Any person, individual, company or corporation that violates the provisions of the Water Conservation Plan and Drought Contingency Plan shall be charged with a Class C misdemeanor, and, further, may be charged with violation of Chapter 8 of the Unified Development Code regarding Health and Safety, and may be fined up to \$2000 per offense.

SECTION IV

Should any sentence, paragraph, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected.

SECTION V

The City Secretary is hereby directed and authorized to publish the caption and penalty clause of this ordinance.

SECTION VI

The Mayor or their designee is hereby directed to file a copy of the Plans and Ordinance with the Texas Water Development Board in accordance with Title 31, Chapter 363 of the Texas Administrative Code.

SECTION VII

This ordinance shall take effect following passage and publication.

PASSED & APPROVED this, the 26<sup>TH</sup> day of April 2023, by a vote of \_\_\_ *ayes*, \_\_\_ *nays*, \_\_\_ *abstentions* of the City Council of the City of Blanco, Texas.

CITY of BLANCO:

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Rachel Lumpee, Mayor

Attest:

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Laurie Cassidy, City Secretary