



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Awarded \$4.9M Grant in Support of Water Ground Storage Tank Project

The City of Elgin announced today that the Texas General Land Office Community Development and Revitalization division has approved the City's application for a Mitigation 2016 State Most Impacted and Distressed Grant in the amount \$4,899,840.

This funding will support the full refurbishment of the existing Pistol Hill Ground Storage Tank and the addition of a new tank. An extremely critical component to the City's overall water distribution system, the Pistol Hill Ground Storage Tank has already served the City for more than 40 years. General conditions would have mandated this upgrade in the near future.

This particular grant program requires only a 1% match by the City (\$49,998) – which essentially means the entire project will be funded by outside resources and not by city water customers.

"This is another huge accomplishment for our team and could not have come at a better time for the City," said City Manager Tom Mattis. "This grant lifts significant pressure from our water rates and customers, as this project would have had to move forward soon, one way or the other."

The Pistol Hill Ground Storage Tank is of major importance as it is the intermediate step to transport drinking water from the water treatment plant to the City. The structural integrity of the existing facility is questionable and if the tank were to fail or collapse, the entire community would lose access to water and water pressure would be significantly reduced throughout the entire City.

The primary elements of the approved project include the installation of a new 750,000-gallon steel tank with concrete slab having a 100-foot diameter including piping and electrical

systems; rehabilitation of the existing 431,000 gallon underground concrete tank; new exterior lighting; two new 75HP pumps; a new 300 kW generator; 1,000 LF of security fence new tank instrumentation; and miscellaneous supporting site work.

“The Pistol Hill Ground Storage Tank may be the most critical storage tank within the City of Elgin’s overall water distribution system,” said City Engineer Beau Perry from TRC. “Having this part of the system completely upgraded at this time will represent a major step in assuring Elgin will have dependable water supply into the future.”

The Mitigation 2016 State Most Impacted and Distressed grant program is part of more than four billion dollars in U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant funds currently being administered by the Texas General Land Office. The program is designed to support investment in risk reduction and to develop disaster-resistant infrastructure, specifically including upgrading of public utility systems and other public infrastructure “to address specific, identified risks”.

The City of Elgin has now been awarded over 15 Community Development Block Grants in the recent past, funding millions of dollars a wide range of water, wastewater, street, and sidewalk 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. 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, please visit www.ci.elgin.tx.us.