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March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Clear Creek Federal Flood Risk Management Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The funding would be used to reduce flood risks in two counties, Harris and Brazoria, and 17 cities within the Clear Creek watershed. The Flood Risk Management project was originally authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1968. The Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) has entered into a project partnership agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers to carry out this project. Flood risk reduction is a primary mission of the US Army Corps of Engineers, and the project has met rigorous federal standards to be eligible for federal investment. The channel conveyance improvements on mainstem Clear Creek will increase runoff conveyance away from homes and streets, while the stormwater detention basins will safely store excess stormwater, so it does not negatively impact other areas. The combination of these features reduces flood risk in the area, while riparian floodplain habitat restoration enhances the region's resilience.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this region has historically experienced devastating floods, including those in 1929 and 1935, which helped lead to the passage of the U.S. Flood Control Act of 1936 and the establishment of HCFCD in 1937. This project got its start following widespread flooding from Hurricane Carla in 1961, which brought 12 inches of rain and caused \$300 million in damage (in 1961 dollars). Then this area experienced devastating flooding in 1979 with Tropical Storm Claudette, in 2001 with Tropical Storm Allison, in 2017 with Hurricane Harvey, in 2020 with Tropical Storm Beta, and again most recently in 2024 with Hurricane Beryl.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 203 of the Flood Control Act of 1968, Public Law 90-483, which authorized construction

of the Flood Risk Management Project. Section 1043(b) of the WRDA of 2014, as amended, established the Pilot Program for construction, and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, Public Law 115-123, funded implementation of the project. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Babin". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the left of a vertical line.

Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress