

FISCAL YEAR 2010 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE -- REP. Michael Burgess (TX-26)

Must be completed and submitted NO LATER than COB February 27, 2009

Please submit completed questionnaire to matt.johnson@mail.house.gov

PLEASE NOTE: ALL REQUESTS MUST INCLUDE A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST ON OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD EXPLAINING THE PROJECT. THIS QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD ACCOMPANY, NOT REPLACE, A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST AND ANY OTHER QUESTIONNAIRE

I. PROJECT BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

1. Please provide a formal name for this project:

City of Gainesville Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project

2. Please describe the project and its purpose:

The City of Gainesville is seeking funding to expand their water supply and distribution system to convey treated water to the City of Valley View and Bolivar Water Supply and other water users in Cooke County, Texas. The proposed improvements are included as part of the Region C Water Plan and include an expansion of the City of Gainesville's surface water treatment plant. The total estimated cost of the city's water treatment plant expansion project is \$2.5 million.

-
3. Please outline the project plan, including the finance plan:

The City of Gainesville has all the water rights (8,000 acre feet) to Moss Lake. The lake is in the Region C Water Plan as a regional water supply. Gainesville currently has a 1 MGD treatment plant that provides water for the city. Gainesville would like to expand the production capacity by an additional 1 MGD and install pressure-reducing valves to provide our neighbors with water from the lake. The following Cooke County Communities and Water Suppliers would like to use water from Moss Lake: Woodbine Water Supply, Lake Kiowa, City of Valley View, Bolivar Water Supply, and City of Lindsay. This will not only provide drinking water for the communities listed above, but will help to ensure we do not deplete the Trinity Aquifer for those communities that do not have access to surface water. The requested funding would be utilized for raw water pump station improvements, a treatment unit and backwash pump station, high service pump station expansion, and other appurtenances as necessary for the water treatment plant upgrade. Matching funds will be provided through in-kind services and through city and state funds. Depending on the timing and level of federal funding, the date construction is estimated to begin is August 2009 and the completion date for construction is August 2010. There will be no 404 Permit required for this project, as the location is within the footprint of the existing water treatment plant site, and existing raw water pump

station and high service pump station sites.

Budget Details:

Treatment Plant Expansion	\$1,846, 876
Engineering and Surveying	265,950
Legal and Financial costs	. 50,215
Contingency costs/ misc.	369,966
<hr/> Total Cost of Project	\$2,533,007

II. BENEFIT TO THE 26th DISTRICT AND/OR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Please explain how this project will improve life, the economy or the general welfare of the 26th District and/or the country at-large. Please be specific (i.e. outline number of jobs created, savings to economy or taxpayers, improve national security):

The proposed project is included in both the regional (Region C) and state water plans and will serve to increase the surface drinking water supply for several communities in a rapidly growing part of the State of Texas and in the 26th Congressional District.

-
2. Please explain why this project should be considered a priority:

Federal funding is appropriate and necessary to allow the city to meet its obligation to provide a stable drinking water supply for residents of Gainesville and surrounding communities and to reduce the region's reliance on limited groundwater sources.

III. REQUEST

1. Amount of money you are requesting:

\$1,000,000

-
2. Agency from which you are requesting funds:

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

-
3. Account from which you are requesting funds:

State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

IV. FUNDING HISTORY

1. What is the total project cost and can you provide a federal-state/local-other funding breakdown?

The total estimated cost of the city's water treatment plant expansion project is \$2.5 million.

Matching funds will be provided through in-kind services and through city and state funds. Funding breakdown will depend on federal appropriations levels and state funding.

2. Has the project ever received federal funds before? If so, please elaborate.

No

3. Has the project received state, local or private funds before? If so, please elaborate.

No, this is a new proposal.

4. Can you demonstrate a commitment for future funds from state, local, or private sectors? If so, please elaborate to the extent possible.

The city is also looking into Texas Environmental Infrastructure Program funds at the state water board.

5. How do you intend to spend federal funds for this project (operating, construction, studies, equipment purchase, salaries, other)?

The majority of the cost involves construction of water pump station improvements, a treatment unit and backwash pump station, high service pump station expansion, and other appurtenances as necessary for the water treatment plant upgrade.

6. Does the project request stem from a currently-funded federal program (i.e., an already existing congressional authorization)? If so, please explain and be as specific as possible.

No.

V. PROJECT HISTORY

1. Please briefly explain the level of support for the project in the local and any other community (if letters of support exist, please attach to this form).

Support letters will be sent from city and community officials.

2. Has the project encountered any objections within the local or other interested communities? If so, please describe (if letters or official records exist noting objections to the project, please attach to this form).

No

3. Please briefly explain the current stage and expected timeline of the project in a great a detail as possible.

Depending on the timing and level of federal funding, the date construction is estimated to begin is August 2009 and the completion date for construction is August 2010.

VI. CONTACTS

1. Who is the primary point of contact for the request?

Barry Sullivan, City Manager

2. Contact information (telephone and e-mail):

Phone: 940-668-4500 E-mail: bsullivan@cogtx.org

3. Mailing address of entity that would receive the funding?

City of Gainesville, Texas, 200 S. Rusk, Gainesville, Texas 76240

VII. TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

1. How much of this request can be spent in fiscal year 2009?

2. If this is a highway, transit, rail, or aviation request, did you check eligibility with the state DOT, FTA, FRA, or FAA?

2a. If yes, did the agency indicate the project is eligible under the account requested?

3. If this is an FHWA request, is the project considered by the state and/or regional transportation officials as critical to their needs?

4. If a highway request, is the project on the state's transportation improvement plan?

PRIORITY PROJECT REQUEST CRITERIA

CERTIFICATION:

I, _____, ATTEST THAT THIS PROJECT REQUEST MADE ON BEHALF OF
_____ MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. All appropriations requests must be a priority for the 26th District and/or the country-at large as defined as enhancing life, liberty, or the general welfare.
2. All requests must be a proper and wise use of federal taxpayer dollars and must be justified as such. Projects that include a commitment to match federal funds will receive priority consideration.
3. All requests will be immediately posted on the website and supporting documentation made available to press outlets and interested individuals.
4. None of the funding requested will be used for a building, program, or project that has been named for Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D. No request will be made that Congressman Burgess or his spouse has any financial interest.
5. All requests shall be made in accordance with House of Representatives rules, and within Appropriations Committee deadlines. No funding request will be submitted after the deadline established by the Committee

Name of person certifying _____

Title of person certifying _____

Project name as it will appear in the bill _____

Legal name of entity making request _____

Address _____

Signature

Date