



For Immediate Release

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**LOWER BRAZOS FLOOD PROTECTION PLANNING STUDY
PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THIS WEEK**

(November 17, 2015) -- Rosenberg, Texas – The Brazos River Authority (BRA) will host a public meeting on Thursday, November 19 at 11 a.m. at the Rosenberg Civic Center, 3825 TX Hwy. 36 in Rosenberg to present information on the progress of Phase I of the Lower Brazos River Floodplain Protection Planning Study. The study is being conducted to provide consistent and updated flood plain elevation and damage information for the lower portion of the Brazos River, as well as modeling tools to assess levee design and drainage, evacuation times and hydraulic models for community use.

The study area begins on the Brazos River near Hempstead and includes portions of Washington, Austin, Waller, Fort Bend and Brazoria Counties. The study plan was initiated by the Brazos River Authority in 2014 with an application for a Flood Protection Planning Grant from the Texas Water Development Board. The grant will cover up to 50 percent of the \$1.1 million study costs with remaining costs being provided by local participating partners Brazoria and Waller Counties, Velasco Drainage District, Pecan Grove Municipal Utility District and the BRA.

Phase I of the study is currently in process under the direction of Halff Associates, Inc., a Texas engineering firm, and is expected to be completed in 2017. The BRA and the Texas Water Development Board are currently seeking local partners for cost sharing for Phase 2 to begin in January, 2016. The study is expected to be completed by 2018.

About the Brazos River Authority

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the BRA's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The BRA built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the BRA contracts with the US Army Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at

eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton and the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System for the City of Round Rock. The BRA also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Clute-Richwood, Sugar Land, and Hutto. The BRA owns and operates the East Williamson County Regional Water System for the City of Taylor.

The BRA engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the BRA samples and tests water from more than 100 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.