



DATA SHEET
Agenda No. 10.

Meeting Date: December 6, 2018

Agenda Item:

Consider authorizing Staff to file an "Abridged Application" with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for financial assistance for the Lake Ralph Hall Project.

Placement:	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual Consideration	<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Session
Vote:	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Weighted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weighted Capital	
Recommending Department: Engineering / Business			

Background:

In 2015, the District received approximately \$44.68 million in funding from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) State Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) program for the proposed Lake Ralph Hall. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permitting program is in its final stage which will allow construction to begin. In order to continue providing the most advantageous funding for the Lake Ralph Hall project, Staff intends to file another abridged (preliminary) application with the TWDB seeking additional financial assistance under the SWIFT program to complete land acquisition, finalize permitting, continue design activities and provide for construction.

The due date for the abridged application is likely to be in early February 2019 and allows the District to notify the TWDB of our intent to formally apply at a later date. Abridged applications are evaluated and rated for project feasibility by the TWDB. If the TWDB finds the project to be feasible and eligible for SWIFT funding, formal invitations to submit a full application are extended. It is anticipated that the full application will be due in early June 2018. Prior to the full application deadline, Staff will be working to update projected costs and will request the Board to approve a resolution allowing the District to submit the SWIFT program funding full application.

The SWIFT program has three basic funding options for the District: (1) Board Participation, (2) Deferred Interest, and (3) Subsidized Interest. Under the current analysis, Staff anticipates recommending the use of Board Participation and Deferred Interest funding options for this phase of Lake Ralph Hall financing.

Financial:

Funding for the Lake Ralph project is included in the Regional Treated Water System FY 2019 Capital Budget. Under the Deferred Interest and Board Participation funding options, there is no impact to the rates for FY 2019.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board authorize staff to continue to apply for least-cost financing for the Lake Ralph Hall project, including the filing of an abridged application with TWDB for financial assistance under the SWIFT program.

Enclosure:

None.

Submitted By: 
William A. Greenleaf, Director of Business Services

Date: November 30, 2018