

The Need for Legislation for Flood Control Entities

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**TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF WATERSHED SPONSORS
SPONSOR LAND RIGHTS - ISSUES AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS**

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Challenges in Flood Control

- Former rural areas seeing growth as urban areas spread
- Aging infrastructure
- Limitations on funding
- Lack of entity focusing solely on flood control – specifically dams

Funding

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Why not a water district?

- Texas Water Code Chapter 49 water districts have a wide range of purposes/duties
- TCEQ typically treats these districts the same
 - Role to facilitate development; reimburse costs

Possible Legislation

- Creation of an entity focused on flood control and construction/maintenance of dam facilities
- Powers to include:
 - Taxing
 - Bond
 - Eminent Domain
- Governmental entity with elected board
- Provision to allow existing entities to convert

Supporting Legislation

- Stakeholder support
 - Seek from outside TAWS
- Local support – both from legislative delegation and local counties/cities
- Unpredictability of legislative process and timing
- Next Legislative Session – January 2025

If successful....

- Possible election for conversion
- Elections to establish tax rate/bond authority
- Challenge for funding