



PRESS RELEASE

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BPUB Receives \$46 Million for Wastewater System Improvements

(Brownsville, TX) – The Brownsville Public Utilities Board announced the receipt of a grant in the amount of \$46 million dollars. The monies are part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund-Disadvantaged Community Program administered by the Texas Water Development Board. The funds will be used to fund wastewater system improvements. Funding was awarded on a competitive basis, and Brownsville PUB successfully ranked first in its population category for Sanitary Sewer Overflow Projects.

“This grant will allow BPUB to address infiltration and inflow issues within the City’s aged sanitary sewer collection system,” BPUB General Manager and CEO, John S. Bruciak said, “and to address improvements to sanitary sewer lift stations.” He also stated that this effort will help to reduce sanitary sewer overflows.

The total amount of the grant is \$46,140,492 and the proposed project consists of fifteen (15) separate construction contracts throughout the older sections of the City of Brownsville. Thirty-one (31) miles of six-inch to thirty-inch diameter sanitary sewer pipeline and thirty-eight (38) lift stations will be improved. Construction on the projects will start February 2010 and are expected to be completed in three (3) years.

The State ranked potential ARRA projects based on 3 main criteria: 1) Construction Start Date, 2) Disadvantaged Communities, and 3) Green Components. Brownsville PUB committed itself to an aggressive start date, and Brownsville is an eligible disadvantaged community. The project includes green components such as reducing inflow and infiltration and energy efficiency improvements.

“It is expected that these construction projects will generate jobs locally and will definitely be a boost to the local economy” Bruciak said.

Brownsville PUB provides water service to approximately 40,068 customers and 39,784 wastewater customers.

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The Brownsville Public Utilities Board is a full-service, locally owned and operated utility providing electric, water, and wastewater service. It has over 480 dedicated and responsive employees that provide reliable utility service for the City of Brownsville.



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 BPUB Projects Timeline

- **January 29, 2009** – BPUB submits Water and Wastewater Project information to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for inclusion in the Annual Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Projects total over \$500 Million.
- **February 17, 2009** – President Obama signs the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.
- **June 18, 2009** – Texas Water Development Board approves BPUB's Water and Wastewater Project and BPUB's Sanitary Sewer Overflow Projects qualify and are ranked first in their population category.
- **June 19, 2009** – BPUB is officially notified of eligibility to apply for ARRA funds totaling \$46,140,492 for the Sanitary Sewer Overflow Projects and has 30 days to complete plans and specifications.
- **June 19, 2009** – BPUB Board interviews and selects engineering firms to complete final plans and specifications for the projects during Special Board Meeting
- **June 20, 2009** – BPUB negotiates contracts with four engineering firms for project design.
- **July 22, 2009** – BPUB submits the Financial Grant Application that include completed project plans and specifications to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
- **August 11, 2009** – BPUB is notified by the TWDB that the Financial Grant Application is administratively complete and the TWDB proceeds with the Technical Review of the plan documents
- **October 15, 2009** – TWDB approves BPUB ARRA Grant for \$46 Million
- **February 17, 2010** – Deadline to begin construction

BPUB Projects Summary: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009

1. **Downtown Lift Station and Force Main Project** (E. Jackson St from E. 6th St. to International) – project includes replacing Sewer Lift Station No. 20 located near E. Harrison and E. 6th Street and installing a Sewer Force Main from on 6th Street from Harrison to Jackson and along Jackson from 6th Street to International
2. **Lincoln and Grant St. Wastewater Collection System Improvements** – project includes replacement of old clay pipes with pvc pipes (E. 13th Street to International)
3. **Sewer Lift Station No. 48 Rehabilitation (Kings Hwy & Robinhood Intersection)** - project includes replacing old piping and pumps
4. **24" Resaca Blvd Force Main (Flow Transfer)** – project includes upgrading the Sewer Force Main from Sewer Lift Station No. 27 (located at the corner of Coria and Boca Chica Blvd) to Resaca Blvd. to Sewer Lift Station No. 20 (located at the corner of E. Harrison and 6th Street)
5. **E. 7th St, C St, & Los Ebanos Subdivision Gravity Sewer (Ebony Ave)** – project includes replacing old clay pipes from Sewer Lift Station No. 20 to C St and within the Los Ebanos Subdivision
6. **West Brownsville Sewer Rehabilitation** - project includes rehabilitation of Sewer Lift Station No. 22 (located near W. 6th Street and Resaca Blvd.), replacing sewer pipes located in the alleys from W. Washington Street to West Fronton and W. 2nd Street to W. 18th Street, and decommissioning Sewer Lift Station No. 71 (located between W 3rd Street and W 4th)
7. **Ramireno Sewer Replacement** - project includes replacing clay pipes with pvc pipes from Riverside to W. 5th Street and adding new Sewer Lift Station
8. **Boca Chica Blvd. and Central Blvd. Sewer Replacement** – project includes replacing the Gravity Sewer Line on Boca Chica Blvd. from Central Blvd. to Jenkins Blvd. and replacing the sewer line on Central Blvd. from Lakeside to the Ebony Lake Nursing Home.
9. **Regional Sewer Lift Station No. 64 (located near Old Movies 10) and FM 802 Gravity Sewer Upgrades** – project includes replacing the Sewer Lift Station and upgrade the gravity sewer system along FM 802
10. **Sewer Lift Station No. 8 and Wastewater Collection System (Southmost) Rehabilitation**– project includes replacing the Sewer Lift Station and replacing old clay pipe with pvc pipes.
11. **Coffee Port and Old Port Isabel Road Sewer Replacement** – project includes building an new regional Sewer Lift Station, decommissioning Sewer Lift Stations No. 94, 138 and 46 (Hackberry), replacing sewer pipes, and correcting slopes of the pipes
12. **Various Sewer Lift Station Improvements (17 sites)** - project includes replacing dilapidated structures including piping and pumps to handle existing flows.
13. **State Highway 48 Gravity Sewer Line Improvement** – project includes replacing the gravity sewer line from Resaca de la Guerra to Robindale Road.
14. **Brownsville Country Club - N. San Marcelo Gravity Sewer Replacement** – project includes replacing the sewer gravity line on N. San Marcelo from Sagua la Grande Ave. to the drainage ditch