



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE IS A GOOD INVESTMENT!

By Kathleen Jackson, Board Member, Texas Water Development Board

Communities across Texas are taking the initiative to ensure they have the water they need, not only for today, but also for the future. Through committed and active leadership, they are teaming up with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to move impactful water infrastructure projects forward. Across our state, there are diverse needs, and communities find themselves at different points in addressing their own unique challenges. Some entities are shovel ready and starting construction; others may need more time to work out the details. The important thing is that communities are taking action now!

Asset management pays off.

One of the most beneficial, long-term ways to ensure reliable and safe water delivery is through asset management. Asset management can help entities gain a thorough understanding of a system’s sustainability, prioritize projects, budget for rehabilitation and repairs, and position a community to better meet customer demands. Operating proactively, rather than reactively, is saving communities money.

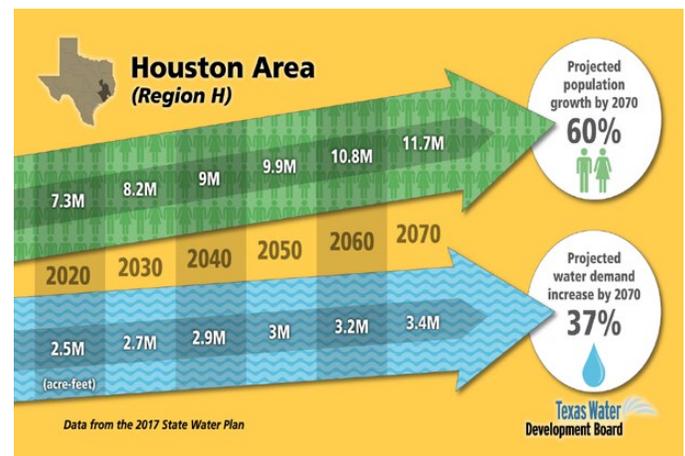
Build it with today’s dollars.

Communities are taking into consideration the cost of construction today versus a higher cost in the future. Although it may seem like a large expense now, it will still be less expensive today than at a later date. The sooner a water project is started, whether that means initiating small steps or completing a comprehensive expansion, the sooner

the benefits of enhanced efficiency and reliability will be realized.

Take advantage of low interest rates.

Tailored financial assistance programs that offer low interest loans through the TWDB can help communities yield generous savings over open market financing options. Since 2015, TWDB has committed more than \$8 billion dollars in financing through the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) for water supply projects across our state.



Invest in our future.

Texas’ population is expected to increase 73 percent between 2020 and 2070, and although not all parts of the state will see the same amount of growth, each of the 16 regional water planning areas anticipates a population increase of at least 10

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percent. Nine planning areas are expected to grow by more than 50 percent.

A reliable and sustainable water supply is the key to sustaining our existing quality of life and for families to have the water they need for generations to come. An investment in water infrastructure helps keep our communities strong and is an investment in our future.

Contribute to the success of Texas.

For Texas to be successful, all communities need to be successful. Proactive planning and investing at the local level doesn't just benefit one community; it benefits all of Texas and the future generations that will call Texas home.

The future of Texas water depends on our actions today. Over 1,000 people are moving to Texas every day and none of them are bringing any water with them! Every community—rural, urban, large, and small—should take pride in and contribute to our shared goal of developing reliable and sustainable water supplies for all Texans. I applaud the leadership at the West Harris County Regional Water Authority, the City of Houston and all the partners engaged in the Luce Bayou project who have the vision to build for the future and are taking action now!

Kathleen Jackson has served as a Board member for the Texas Water Development Board since March 2014. She is a registered professional engineer with a diverse background representing agricultural, environmental, industrial, and wholesale-supply interests. A native of Beaumont, Jackson has three children, sixth-generation Texans, who all reside and work in Texas, and three grandchildren.



To learn more about TWDB, visit www.twdb.texas.gov.

The Texas Water Development Board's mission is to provide leadership, information, education, and support for planning, financial assistance, and outreach for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas. 💧



**Nobody wakes up and says,
“I’m going to waste some
water today!”**

Yet thousands of a gallons of this finite natural resource are wasted every day through dripping faucets, “running” toilets, unnecessary lawn irrigation, and even just plain carelessness. Let's face it...we've taken our water supplies for granted.

The West Harris County Regional Water Authority is committed to preserving our groundwater resources to enable our aquifers to recharge through the phased conversion to surface water. This challenge will require everyone's commitment to use water wisely, so let's put water-wasting habits to bed!

There are hundreds of things we can do at home to use water more efficiently. Start with an attainable goal. If every family member cut their water consumption by just 5 gallons a day, the savings for a family of four would add up to be about 600 gallons in just one month! That's enough water to fill an average size bathtub 12 times!

**The water we conserve today
can serve us tomorrow!**