

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

ALL Counties

MINUTE ORDER

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ALL Districts

Section 222.053(a), Transportation Code, defines an “economically disadvantaged county” as a county that has, in comparison to other counties in the state: (1) below average per capita taxable property value; (2) below average per capita income; and (3) above average unemployment.

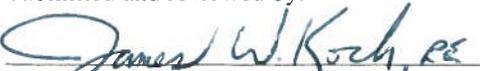
Section 222.053(c) directs the Texas Transportation Commission (commission), when evaluating a proposal for a highway project in a political subdivision that consists of all or a portion of an economically disadvantaged county, to adjust the minimum local matching funds requirement after evaluating the political subdivision's effort and ability to meet the requirement.

Section 222.053(e) further directs the commission to report annually to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives on the use of matching funds and local incentives and the ability of the commission to ensure that political subdivisions located in economically disadvantaged counties have equal ability to compete for highway funding with political subdivisions in counties that are not economically disadvantaged.

The Texas Department of Transportation has completed the Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report on the Economically Disadvantaged Counties Program, which is attached as Exhibit A.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report on the Economically Disadvantaged Counties Program, as shown in Exhibit A, is approved by the commission and shall be presented to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives as required by Section 222.053(e), Transportation Code.

Submitted and reviewed by:

  
Director, Transportation Planning  
and Programming Division

Recommended by:

  
Executive Director

**114526 FEB 25 06**

Minute  
Number

Date  
Passed

EXHIBIT A



# Economically Disadvantaged Counties Program

Relief from Local Match Requirements

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**Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report**  
Transportation Planning and Programming Division

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## Background

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Annual Report is the seventeenth annual report for the Economically Disadvantaged Counties Program (EDCP) administered by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

The EDCP was enacted in 1997 by the 75<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature (Senate Bill 370; Transportation Code § 222.053). The Texas Transportation Commission (commission) is required to adjust the minimum local matching funds requirement for proposed highway improvement projects in an economically disadvantaged county after evaluating the local government's effort and ability to meet the requirement.

An economically disadvantaged county is a county that, in comparison to other counties in the state, has:

- **below** average per capita taxable property value,
- **below** average per capita income, **and**
- **above** average unemployment.

TxDOT annually identifies the counties that meet **all three** of the above criteria derived from data obtained from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (comptroller). These counties may participate in the program during the fiscal year in which they are determined eligible. Since the list is updated every fiscal year, a county's eligibility may change from year to year.

The EDCP was revised by the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislature in 2005 to require the commission to certify a county as economically disadvantaged on an annual basis as soon as possible after the comptroller reports on the economic indicators listed above. In addition, the amendments stipulated that the commission was required to determine whether to make an adjustment at the time the local government submits a proposal for a project. Finally, the commission was permitted to delegate any of its powers under Transportation Code, §222.053, to the department's executive director or the director's designee.

The Executive Director issued a memo dated March 1, 2006, to all TxDOT district engineers granting them the authority to adjust the minimum local matching funds requirements for any eligible projects components on an as needed basis, allowing counties to submit projects at any time during their participation in the program.

The relief to the local match requirement an entity will receive is based on a formula. Through the formula, an adjustment percentage was determined for each county, which is meant to be a surrogate measure of the county's *effort* and *ability* to provide the local match; this was stipulated in the legislation itself.

The county's *effort* was measured by looking at the degree to which the county had already raised revenues either through property taxes or the county road and bridge fee.

The county's *ability* was measured by looking at the county's per capita income and per capita property values. Additional adjustment percentage points were given based on the county's tax debt per capita.

Cities may receive higher percent adjustments beyond their respective county’s adjustment under two conditions: if they have a local economic development sales tax and their population is less than 5,000. At the commission’s direction, the adjustment cannot exceed 95 percent or be less than 15 percent.

## 2015 Eligible Counties

Based on Calendar Year 2012 data obtained from the comptroller, 92 counties were eligible for the program in FY 2015. The counties (including local entities within these counties) listed in Table 1 were eligible for the program in FY 2015.

Anderson	Concho	Hall	Llano	Presidio	Uvalde
Angelina	Coryell	Henderson	Lynn	Rains	Val Verde
Atascosa	Dawson	Hidalgo	Madison	Real	Van Zandt
Bailey	Delta	Hill	Marion	Red River	Walker
Bastrop	Dickens	Houston	Matagorda	Reeves	Waller
Bee	Duval	Hunt	Maverick	Sabine	Webb
Bexar	Edwards	Jasper	McLennan	San Augustine	Wharton
Bosque	El Paso	Jefferson	Medina	San Jacinto	Wichita
Bowie	Ellis	Johnson	Milam	San Patricio	Willacy
Brooks	Falls	Jones	Mitchell	San Saba	Wood
Caldwell	Fannin	Kaufman	Morris	Shelby	Zapata
Calhoun	Floyd	Kinney	Nacogdoches	Starr	Zavala
Cameron	Franklin	Lamar	Navarro	Terry	
Camp	Grayson	Lamb	Newton	Titus	
Cass	Grimes	Leon	Orange	Trinity	
Cherokee	Hale	Liberty	Polk	Tyler	

During FY 2015, local governments submitted applications to the district office for approval of adjustment on 95 projects located within economically disadvantaged counties for a total estimated savings to local governments of \$12,741,175.

## Outreach

To ensure the accessibility to program information, TxDOT makes the information available through a variety of mediums and formats. In October 2014, the department sent written notices to county judges and state representatives in economically disadvantaged counties regarding the respective county's eligibility status. A program notebook was compiled and distributed to TxDOT's district offices. Additionally, program information was made available to TxDOT districts via the Intranet site *Crossroad*.

## FY 2015 Commission and Department Actions

By Minute Order 114082 dated September 18, 2014 the commission certified the FY 2015 list of eligible counties and the local match adjustment for each county. The Appendix contains a list of the projects approved by the district engineers for the FY 2015 program.

## Summary

For FY 2015, TxDOT district engineers granted adjustments on 95 projects in 19 counties. These local entities have saved an estimated \$12,741,175.

Since the program's inception on January 1, 1998, the department has granted adjustments to over 990 projects in economically disadvantaged counties for an estimated savings to local governments of \$79,506,458.

Table 2. EDCP Year-to-Date Total

	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
<b>Savings</b>	\$988,316	\$ 9,946,204	\$ 5,482,366	\$ 5,558,580	\$ 834,296	\$ 2,194,309
	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
<b>Savings</b>	\$ 4,556,098	\$3,249,069	\$2,797,536	\$1,743,101	\$6,755,645	\$3,239,132
	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>Savings</b>	\$2,420,245	\$3,400,304	\$1,671,700	\$6,252,448	\$5,675,934	\$12,741,175
					<b>Total</b>	<b>\$79,506,458</b>

The EDCP enables TxDOT to work with local governments to fulfil the department's mission - "Work with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas."

# APPENDIX

Table A-1.

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Atascosa	Atascosa County	0915-13-028	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 23,178
Bexar	City of San Antonio	0025-02-204	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 416,240
Bexar	City of San Antonio	0915-12-459	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 1,103,660
Bexar	City of San Antonio	0915-12-516	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 1,113,799
Bexar	City of San Antonio	0915-12-520	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 631,627
Bexar	City of San Antonio	0915-12-550	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 746,839
Bexar	City of San Antonio	0915-12-557	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 152,002
Bexar	City of San Antonio	0915-12-558	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 500,176
Bexar	VIA Metropolitan Transit	0915-12-555	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 86,000
Cameron	City of Brownsville	0220-04-035	Right of Way or Utilities	\$ 47,769

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Cameron	City of Brownsville	0921-06-285	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 29,424
Cameron	City of Los Fresnos	0921-06-286	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 58,067
Cameron	City of Brownsville	0921-06-284	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 29,610
Cameron	City of Los Fresnos	0921-06-287	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 37,122
Cameron	City of Brownsville	0921-06-291	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 33,200
Cameron	City of Brownsville	0921-06-280	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 62,250
Cherokee	Cherokee County	0910-36-127	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 18,644
Cherokee	Cherokee County	0910-36-128	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 23,305
Ellis	Ellis County	0918-22-132	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 21,401

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-063	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 8,906
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-084	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 10,785
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-085	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 14,933
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-086	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 10,785
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-087	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 17,256
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-088	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 10,785
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-089	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 10,785
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-090	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 20,020
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-091	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 11,614
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-092	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 19,413
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-093	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 12,029

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-096	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 12,029
Fannin	Fannin County	0901-32-097	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 11,734
Grayson	Grayson County	0901-17-179	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 16,272
Grayson	Grayson County	0901-17-180	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 14,812
Grayson	Grayson County	0901-17-181	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 8,345
Grayson	Grayson County	0901-17-182	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 6,147
Hidalgo	City of Penitas	0921-02-194	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 1,885,047
Hidalgo	City of Donna	0921-02-333	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 1,710,000
Hidalgo	Hidalgo County	0921-02-321	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 1,959,034
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-038	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 45,038

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings	
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-039	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	44,854
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-040	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	23,172
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-041	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	34,214
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-042	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	28,693
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-043	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	43,767
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-044	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	45,038
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-045	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	36,581
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-046	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	43,767
Houston	Houston County	0911-28-047	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	37,148
Hunt	Hunt County	0901-22-107	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$	10,431

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Hunt	Hunt County	0901-22-108	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 10,431
Kaufman	Kaufman County	0918-11-088	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 17,363
Kaufman	Kaufman County	0918-11-089	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 20,563
Kaufman	Kaufman County	0918-11-090	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 29,128
Kaufman	Kaufman County	0918-11-091	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 31,069
Kaufman	Kaufman County	0918-11-092	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 26,306
Kaufman	Kaufman County	0918-11-093	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 35,075
McLennan	McLennan County	0909-22-167	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 18,015
McLennan	McLennan County	0909-22-168	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 23,850
Medina	Medina County	0915-45-051	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 36,144

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Medina	Medina County	0915-45-052	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 31,286
Medina	Medina County	0915-45-053	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 22,160
Navarro	Navarro County	0918-18-129	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 11,804
Navarro	Navarro County	0918-18-130	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 11,804
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-028	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 33,759
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-034	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 22,248
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-071	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 28,597
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-072	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 43,608
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-073	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 26,459
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-074	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 19,318

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-075	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 21,219
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-076	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 31,377
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-077	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 22,661
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-078	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 27,508
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-079	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 40,736
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-080	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 25,581
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-080	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 19,896
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-082	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 27,041
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-083	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 32,614
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-084	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 22,980

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-085	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 22,436
Polk	Polk County	0911-04-086	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 30,782
Shelby	Shelby County	0911-39-051	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 18,238
Shelby	Shelby County	0911-39-052	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 27,260
Shelby	Shelby County	0911-39-053	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 19,076
Shelby	Shelby County	0911-39-054	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 24,389
Shelby	Shelby County	0911-39-055	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 27,318
Shelby	Shelby County	0911-39-056	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 25,856
Van Zandt	Van Zandt County	0910-12-034	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 22,264
Van Zandt	Van Zandt County	0910-12-054	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 25,855

Table A-1 continued

County	Applicant	Control Section Job (CSJ)	Project Type	Savings
Van Zandt	Van Zandt County	0910-12-129	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 18,754
Van Zandt	Van Zandt County	0910-12-130	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 19,535
Waller	City of Waller	0912-56-052	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 303,745
Webb	Webb County	0922-33-113	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 42,905
Webb	Webb County	0922-33-157	Preliminary Engineering Construction	\$ 44,361
			<b>TOTAL SAVINGS</b>	\$ 12,741,175