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NEWS RELEASE

02/07/2024

City Awarded \$4.5 Million Military Grant for Water Infrastructure Project Funding Protects Jobs, Increases Installation Value

El Paso, Texas—The City of El Paso, in partnership with El Paso Water and Fort Bliss, has been awarded a \$4.5 million grant from the Texas Military Preparedness Commission's (TMPC) Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG) Program to invest in aquifer storage and recharge, supporting McGregor Range, a critical military training area.

"The funding will further enhance our nation's security mission and support our military and civilian communities' resiliency. The grant also further strengthens our partnership between El Paso and Fort Bliss," said Interim City Manager Cary Westin. "The successes of both Fort Bliss and El Paso are intertwined and so it should come as no surprise that we will work to support the McGregor Range Water Booster Station Replacement Project to provide reliable delivery of water in support of Fort Bliss' mission and in alignment with the National Defense Strategy."

The original McGregor Range Booster Station was built in 1958 to enable water to be provided to McGregor Range. The station has surpassed its design life and needs replacement. The McGregor Range Booster Station Replacement project is estimated to cost \$9 million, of which half will be supported by the DEAAG program and the remaining cost will be funded by El Paso Water.

The DEAAG program aims to support military communities across the state that could be impacted by any future Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) round. The funds are targeted for infrastructure projects—such as the McGregor Range Water Booster Station Replacement Project—and other initiatives to increase the military value of these installations in Texas, protecting jobs in those communities.

For more information, visit <u>https://gov.texas.gov/organization/military/grants</u>.

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Promoting Transparent & Consistent Communication Among All Members of the Community