

24-33-TX-TXVI

# **Environmental Assessment**

# Expansion of the City of Round Rock Reclaimed Water Distribution System, Williamson County, Texas

Oklahoma-Texas Area Office Interior Region 6: Arkansas-Rio Grande-Texas-Gulf

Prepared for the Bureau of Reclamation by AmaTerra, ERG Texas Services, Kimley-Horn and Associates, and the City of Round Rock

In accordance with 516 DM 1 Section 1.5 (e)(4) and Section 1.5 (f)(6), I certify that the breadth and depth of analysis in this environmental assessment have been tailored to ensure compliance with the mandated page limits. Reclamation has considered all factors required by NEPA and has made a good-faith effort to prioritize the most important considerations within NEPA's congressionally mandated page limits and timeframes. This prioritization reflects Reclamation's expert judgment. Any considerations addressed briefly or left unaddressed were deemed, in Reclamation's judgment, to be of comparatively lesser substantive nature and did not meaningfully inform the consideration of environmental effects or the resulting decision on how to proceed.

Furthermore, Reclamation's effort is substantially complete and in Reclamation's expert opinion, it has thoroughly considered the factors mandated by NEPA and the analysis contained therein is adequate to inform and reasonably explain Reclamation's decision regarding the proposed Federal action.

Reviewed by:

Trent Parish Date: 2025.09.04

Trent Parish Supervisory Program Coordinator Oklahoma-Texas Area Office Approved by: BUTTELMAN

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## **Mission Statements**

The U.S. Department of the Interior protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated Island Communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

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## **Chapter 1 – Introduction**

In conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq.), and Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46) and Department Manual (516 DM 1), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) prepared this draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose potential environmental impacts of the proposed Expansion of the City of Round Rock Reclaimed Water Distribution System, located within the City of Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas. This action is proposed by the City of Round Rock, Texas. Exhibits A and B show the general project location. If approved, Reclamation would authorize the use of Federal funds to complete facility improvements and the install approximately five miles of reuse waterlines. The Federal funds provided would be a 25 percent reimbursement of City funds for the project. The proposed expansion will occur in two phases of work.

This draft EA evaluates the potential effects of the Proposed Action to determine if it would cause significant impacts to the human or natural environment, as defined by NEPA. If the draft EA shows no significant impacts associated with implementation of the Proposed Action, then a Finding of No Significant Impact would be issued by Reclamation. Otherwise, an Environmental Impact Statement would be necessary prior to Implementation of the Proposed Action.

## 1.1 Background

The City of Round Rock (City), in Williamson County, Texas, operates a reclaimed water distribution system from the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to customers within the City. A portion of the project has been constructed and successfully operated since 2012. Additional phases are planned to distribute water to serve the City's rapidly growing population and developments. The subsequent stage, planned and included in the funding request, consists of a two-phase addition to the existing City of Round Rock reclaimed water distribution system and reuse ground storage tank. With the support from Reclamation, private-public partnerships, and independent projects, the City has constructed an extensive and fiscally sound reclaimed water system serving several customers. As water resources become scarce and droughts threaten to limit freshwater availability, recycling water ordinarily disposed of from the wastewater treatment plant provides a drought resistant and sustainable water supply for non-potable water uses, such as irrigation, toilet flushing, and cooling.

Construction is expected to begin on September 1, 2025 and continue until December 31, 2026. The project is not on any federal facility or involving federal land.

### 1.2 Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed expansion is needed to distribute water to serve the City's rapidly growing population and developments. Round Rock's population is expected to increase from approximately 138,089 within City limits in March 2025 to approximately 194,151 within the City by 2040 (City 2025; TDC 2023). This increase is approximately 40% of the current population estimates for the City. The purpose of the proposed expansion would be to provide drought-resistant and sustainable water supplies for non-potable water uses, such as irrigation, toilet flushing, and cooling.

## **Chapter 2 - Alternatives**

#### 2.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed water reuse projects would not be constructed and implemented into the City's system. No additional reuse water lines or reuse ground storage tank would be constructed, and up to 12 MGD of reuse water would not be provided to customers within the City of Round Rock.

## 2.2 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would involve facility improvements and the installation of two (2) reuse waterlines and a reuse ground storage tank in two phases as described below and shown on Exhibits A and B. The reuse water lines would primarily be installed via open cut trenching except for where the line will be bored under Brushy Creek, other streams and tributaries, and roadways as needed.

- Phase I: This phase of work includes facilities improvements at the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant and installation of approximately two miles of reuse water line.
  - Construction of a 2.0-million-gallon clear well ground storage tank and associated yard piping at the Brushy Creek Regional WWTP. This tank will connect to an existing Reuse Water Line (RWL) and facilities infrastructure. The depths of impacts for the tank foundation would be 10 feet and the associated yard piping would be installed at a maximum depth of six feet.
  - o Installation of approximately two miles of 24-inch diameter reuse water pipeline from Forest Creek Drive to the Brushy Creek Regional WWTP. Installation will occur via open cut trenching except where boring is planned under Brushy Creek. Trenches will average 6 feet in width within the anticipated 25-foot construction corridor. Boring will occur along approximately 170 linear feet to depths of 6.4 feet under the creek bed. Typical depths of impacts will be 3.5 to 10 feet with a maximum depth of impact of 26 feet at the bore pit locations.
- Phase II: Installation of approximately three miles of 24-inch diameter reuse water pipeline from the southwest intersection of Forest Creek Drive and Kenney Fort Boulevard (tying into the western terminus of Phase I) to the northwest corner of Dell Technologies property adjacent to a City drainage channel. Impacts are anticipated to be similar to the Phase I water line, though the final alignment

corridor is in design stages. A 100-foot corridor was evaluated for Phase II to account for any design variance along the anticipated alignment.

#### 2.2.1 Construction Activities

Construction activities include the following:

- Open cut trenching for the installation of most of the Phase I and Phase II reclaimed water pipeline.
- Boring of the pipeline under Brushy Creek.
- Backfilling of all opened trenches and bore pits followed by grading and reseeding.
- Excavation at the proposed tank location for installation of the tank and associated connector lines to existing facility infrastructure.
- Grading around the installed tank followed by paving/reseeding the area.

#### 2.2.2 Operations

Once the reuse lines have been installed, they will be operated as part of the City of Round Rock's reclaimed water system. The system currently is, and will continue to be, operated in accordance with applicable State and Federal requirements for a Type I reclaimed water system.

# 2.3 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Further Analysis

The only alternatives that were considered were the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative.

# **Chapter 3 - Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences**

This chapter describes the affected environment and discloses direct, indirect and cumulative environmental consequences of the No Action Alternative and the Expansion of the City of Round Rock Reclaimed Water Distribution System (e.g., the Proposed Action). Several resources were considered for review but eliminated from further analysis because they did not occur in the Proposed Action area or the potential effect on the resource would be negligible. Table 3.1 lists resources that would not be impacted and the rationale for elimination from further analysis.

Table 3.1 Resources Eliminated from Further Analysis

Resource	Rationale for Elimination from Further Analysis
Public Health and Safety	Primary activities that could pose a risk to public health and safety from the Proposed Action are related to construction traffic and the operation of heavy equipment near public roadways. Health and safety risks for construction workers are related to the operation of heavy equipment. To further ensure public safety during construction, any trenches left open while unattended (e.g., overnight) that could pose a hazard to the public would be covered or fenced. The Proposed Action would not interfere with emergency plans or access. The Proposed Action would not affect any routes used for emergency response. Local police, fire and emergency medical services would not be hindered in their response due to implementation of the Proposed Action.
Socioeconomics	The estimated poverty rate in Round Rock as of 2023 was 7.5%, which is slightly greater than that of Williamson County (7.0%) but compares very favorably with that of the State of Texas (13.7%) for the State. Because the only socioeconomic impact is beneficial in nature, socioeconomics has not been described in further detail in this EA.
Air Quality and Noise	Impacts on air quality and noise would only occur during construction. Air quality impacts would consist of vehicular emissions and particulate matter from dry soil disturbed by

	construction equipment. Temporary increases in noise would result from operation of construction vehicles. Once construction is complete, the subsurface water line would operate with no impacts on air quality or noise.
Aesthetics	Impacts on aesthetics would be temporary, occurring only during the construction phase. These impacts would be limited to the sight of construction equipment and personnel and disturbed earth in otherwise natural or residential settings. Upon completion of line installation, these areas would return to their original state.
Recreation	The southern portion of the reuse line will run adjacent to Clay Madsen Park and a City drainage channel with adjacent walking trails. No land will be taken from recreational areas. During construction, the recreational value of the park and walking trails may be temporarily diminished through the visual and auditory impact of construction crews, equipment, and disturbance of the natural setting. After installation of the subsurface water line, the ground surface would return to its natural state. The environmental settings of both recreational resources would return to their pre-construction state, with no permanent impacts on either the park or the trails.

## 3.1 Water Resources and Floodplains

The following sections describe surface water and groundwater sources, water quality and quantity, and surface and subsurface water movement. The hydrological cycle results in the transport of water into various media such as the air, the ground surface, and subsurface. Natural and human-induced factors determine the quality of water resources.

#### 3.1.1 Groundwater and Surface Water

According to information obtained from the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) Watershed Viewer, the proposed expansion area is in the Chandler Branch-Brushy Creek Watershed. The watershed is drained into the San Gabriel Basin. The San Gabriel Basin covers approximately 720 square miles and is part of the Brazos River Basin. Upon review of Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) Edwards Aquifer Viewer, the western half of the project area is located within the Edwards Aquifer Transition Zone.

The proposed expansion area receives surface runoff from precipitation. The surface water resources associated with this project are Brushy Creek, Dyer Branch, Dry Branch, and Turtle Creek. The Chandler Branch-Brushy Creek Watershed is part of the Brazos River system.

#### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, no facility improvements, waterline installation, or ground storage tank construction would occur. Surface water features, including Brushy Creek, Dyer Branch, Dry Branch, and Turtle Creek, would remain undisturbed, and no construction-related runoff or erosion would affect water quality in the Chandler Branch–Brushy Creek Watershed. The population of Round Rock would still increase by an estimated 40% by 2040, however, with a proportional increase in demand on the water sources it relies on. This demand would not be alleviated by the reuse of 12 MGD of processed wastewater for non-potable uses. Overall, water quality in surface water resources would remain in its current condition, while water supply sources would become increasingly stressed, particularly during drought conditions.

#### **Proposed Action**

Under the Proposed Action, surface water quality could be impacted by possible siltation from construction runoff. Such impacts would be minimized, however, through the implementation of silt fences or other appropriate erosion control measures. Specific erosion control measures to be implemented would be stipulated in a project-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to be prepared prior to construction. Demand on surface water supply would be reduced by approximately 12 MGD.

#### 3.1.2 Floodplains

Under Federal regulations, all Federal agencies are directed to avoid, if possible, development and other activities in the 100-year base floodplain. Where the base floodplain cannot be avoided, special considerations and studies for new facilities and structures are needed. Federal agencies are required to 1) reduce the risk of flood loss; 2) minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and 3) restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains in carrying out agency responsibility. The 100-year floodplain transects the project area at and along Brushy Creek, Dryer Branch, Dry Branch, and Turtle Creek. The 500-year floodplain transects the project area between the WWTP and Brushy Creek, at Dry Branch, and multiple areas along Turtle Creek.

#### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed storage tank at the Brushy Creek WWTP and subsurface water lines would not be constructed. The base flood elevation at the WWTP and in the project area would remain the same as they are at present, although it would likely rise slightly over time in the project area due to infilling of undeveloped property as the City's population grows.

#### **Proposed Action**

Under the Proposed Action, the construction of the storage tank at the WWTP would result in only a negligible increase in impervious cover. Installation of subsurface water lines would not raise the base flood elevation. As a result, the proposed project would not lead to any significant impact on floodplains. A copy of a letter from the City Floodplain Administrator concurring with this finding is included in Appendix B.

# 3.2 Wetlands and other Waters of the U.S., Riparian Areas, Wild & Scenic, and Aquatic Habitats

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977 authorizes the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to issue permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material into water of the U.S., including wetlands. Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) (Section 328.3[2] of the CWA) are those waters used in interstate or foreign commerce, subject to ebb and flow of tide, and all interstate waters including interstate wetlands. WOTUS are further defined as all other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams, mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, natural ponds, or impoundments of waters, tributaries of waters, and territorial seas. Wetlands are those areas inundated or saturated by surface waters or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions (USACE 1987). Jurisdictional boundaries for these water resources are defined in the field as the ordinary high water mark, which is that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear, natural lines impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.

A wetland and WOTUS delineation of the project area was conducted on November 6, 2024, and February 25, 2025. During the delineation, eight water features were identified

as occurring within the project area including four perennial streams, two ephemeral streams, an emergent wetland, and an erosional drainage. Of the eight water features identified within the project area, five are potentially jurisdictional and three are likely non jurisdictional.

Brushy Creek is a relatively permanent water (RPW) that exhibits a direct downstream connection, and a continuous surface water connection, to a traditional navigable waterway (TNW). Brushy Creek is a tributary to the San Gabriel River. Due to Brushy Creek's continuous surface connection to a TNW, the USACE will likely assert jurisdiction over this feature.

Emergent Wetland is a palustrine emergent wetland that is directly connected to an RPW, Brushy Creek, with a downstream connection to a TNW; therefore, the USACE will likely assert jurisdiction over this feature.

Dyer Branch within the project area consists of a perennial stream and an in-channel impoundment. Dyer Branch is a RPW that exhibits a direct downstream connection, and a presumable continuous surface water connection, to a TNW. Dryer Branch is a tributary to Brushy Creek which eventually flows into the San Gabriel River. Due to Dryer Branch's continuous surface connection to a TNW, the USACE will likely assert jurisdiction over this feature.

Dry Branch is a RPW that exhibits a direct downstream connection, and a continuous surface water connection, to a TNW. Dry Branch is a tributary to Brushy Creek which eventually flows into the San Gabriel River. Due to Dry Branch's continuous surface connection to a TNW, the USACE will likely assert jurisdiction over this feature.

Turtle Creek is a RPW that exhibits a direct downstream connection, and a continuous surface water connection, to a TNW. Turtle Creek is a tributary to Brushy Creek which eventually flows into the San Gabriel River. Due to Turtle Creek's continuous surface connection to a TNW, the USACE will likely assert jurisdiction over this feature.

An erosional drainage, an unnamed tributary of Brushy Creek, and an unnamed tributary of Dry Branch are all ephemeral streams or drainages that do not have a continuous surface water connection to a TNW and are considered non-RPWs. Therefore, the above referenced features would likely not be considered jurisdictional by the USACE.

If there will be no construction or activities that would introduce discharge into these jurisdictional WOTUS within the project area, no Section 404 of the CWA permit from

the USACE would be needed, as there would be no discharge into a WOTUS. It is recommended that Best Management Practices be utilized during the construction of the project to avoid erosional issues and discharge into a WOTUS.

Activities that result in the dredging and/or filling of less than one-half acre of jurisdictional WOTUS would be permitted through the USACE under Nationwide Permit (NWP) 58 prior to implementation of the proposed expansion. NWP 58 authorizes utility line activities for water and other substances, including sewer line replacements. Because the project's impacts to WOTUS are below the thresholds requiring a Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) under NWP 58, no direct coordination with the USACE is required.

The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification (PCN) to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if: (1) a section 10 permit is required; or (2) the discharge will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of a WOTUS. A copy of NWP 58 can be viewed in Appendix E of the Wetland Delineation Report for this project, the entirety of which is included in Appendix B of this EA. Relevant permit information can be found on the first three pages of the appendix.

In the event the project ultimately results in wetland losses that exceed 1/10-acre and requires a PCN, Section 404 General Condition 23 part c requires compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one ratio, unless the district engineer determines in writing that either some other form of mitigation would be more environmentally appropriate or the adverse environmental effects of the proposed activity are no more than minimal, and provides an activity-specific waiver of this requirement. For wetland losses of 1/10-acre or less that require PCN, the district engineer may determine on a case-by-case basis that compensatory mitigation is required to ensure that the activity results in only minimal adverse environmental effects. Also, according to General Condition 23 part d, compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one ratio will be required for all losses of stream bed that exceed 3/100-acre and require a PCN, unless the district engineer determines in writing that either some other form of mitigation would be more environmentally appropriate or the adverse environmental effects of the proposed activity are no more than minimal, and provides an activity specific waiver of this requirement. This compensatory mitigation requirement may be satisfied through the restoration or enhancement of riparian areas next to streams in accordance with paragraph (e) of this general condition. For losses of stream bed of 3/100-acre or less that require a PCN, the district engineer may determine on a case-by-case basis that compensatory mitigation is required to ensure that the activity results in only minimal

adverse environmental effects. Compensatory mitigation for losses of streams should be provided, if practicable, through stream rehabilitation, enhancement, or preservation, since streams are difficult-to-replace resources.

#### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed boring and waterline installation beneath Brushy Creek, as well as other associated construction activities, would not occur. Brushy Creek, along with Dyer Branch, Dry Branch, and Turtle Creek, are RPWs that exhibit direct and continuous surface water connections to TNWs via the San Gabriel River; therefore, the USACE would continue to assert jurisdiction over these features. Similarly, the palustrine emergent wetland directly connected to Brushy Creek would not be impacted and would remain in its current condition. In addition, non-jurisdictional features including an erosional drainage, an unnamed tributary to Brushy Creek, and an unnamed tributary to Dry Branch—all of which are ephemeral streams or drainages lacking continuous surface water connections to a TNW and considered non-RPWs—would also remain undisturbed. All these water resources, both jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional, would remain in their current condition under the No Action Alternative.

#### **Proposed Action**

Under the Proposed Action, the water reuse lines would cross beneath Brushy Creek and an associated emergent wetland, Dyer Branch, Dry Branch, and Turtle Creek. The lines would have only a very small footprint within these crossings, and would be installed via subsurface directional bore beneath these stream channels. As a result, it is anticipated that impacts to these jurisdictional WOTUS would be below 1/10-acre and would therefore not have a significant impact on WOTUS. The proposed expansion is anticipated to be authorized by NWP 58 without a PCN.

#### 3.2.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers

There are no Wild and Scenic Rivers within the proposed project area.

## 3.3 Wildlife & Fisheries

Common reptiles that could be found within the general project area include the common snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), Texas Cooter (*Pseudemys texana*), Pond slider (*Trachemys scripta*), Western ratsnake (*Pantherophis obsoletus*), Coachwhip (*Masticophis flagellum*), Texas Coralsnake (*Micrurus tener*), and Broad-banded Copperhead (*Agkistrodon laticinctus*).

Common mammals found in the general project area include the white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus), coyote (Canis latrans), striped skunk (Mephitis mephitis), bobcat (Lynx rufus), black-tailed jack rabbit (Lepus californicus), eastern Fox squirrel (Sciurus niger), common raccoon (Procuon lotor), eastern cottontail (Sylvilagus floridanus), Virginia opossum (Didelphis virginiana), Mexican free-tailed bat (Tadarida brasiliensis), gray fox (Urocyon cineroargenteus), nine-banded armadillo (Dasypus novemcinctus), big brown bat (Eptesicus fuscus), and house mouse (Mus musculus).

Common birds species in the general project area include the turkey vulture (*Caithartes aura*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), white-winged dove (*Z. asiatica*), greater roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*), white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), great-tailed grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*), great egret (*Ardea alba*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), red-sholder hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), blue jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), black vulture (*Coragyps atratus*), Carolina wren (*Thryothorus ludocicianus*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), and Carolina chickadee (*Poecile carolinensis*).

Wildlife species observed during the November 6, 2024, site visits were red-shoulder hawks, red-tailed hawk, common raven, kestrel, turkey vulture, black vulture, mourning dove, great egret, great blue heron, blue jay, Carolina wren, killdeer, northern cardinal, white-wing dove and American crow.

#### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, the project would not be undertaken, and there would be no land disturbance. The project area would continue to be largely urbanized, favoring species that adapt well to human development. Wildlife inhabiting green spaces adjacent to some areas of construction, including species that are not as well adapted to urbanized areas, would remain undisturbed, although all wildlife would continue to be subject to development pressure as Round Rock's population increases.

#### **Proposed Action**

Under the Proposed Action, vegetation within and possibly immediately adjacent to the pipeline segments installed via open cut (e.g., those not passing under stream crossings)

would be removed. The project area and immediate vicinity would also be impacted by construction noise. Wildlife using the removed vegetation for cover and/or that would be affected by construction noise would be expected to temporarily relocate. All impacts would be temporary, however. Following completion of construction, all disturbed areas would return to their pre-construction state. There would be no permanent significant adverse impacts on wildlife and vegetation resulting from the proposed project due to land disturbance.

The project would result in the removal of approximately 25 trees along the northernmost segment from the intersection of Kenney Fort Rd. and South Forest Hills Dr. and the WWTP. The trees range from 3" in diameter and ornamental/landscaping trees to several of at least 8" in diameter, including a 17" pecan. The City will comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act by either conducting tree removal outside of the March-September nesting season or conducting a nest survey and, if necessary, nest relocation prior to tree removal.

## 3.4 Threatened & Endangered Species

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) [16 USC 1531 et. Seq.] of 1973, as amended, was enacted to provide a program for the preservation of endangered and threatened species and to provide protection for the ecosystems upon which these species depend for their survival. All Federal agencies are required to implement protection programs for designated species and to use their authorities to further the purposes of the Act. Responsibility for the identification of a threatened or endangered species and development of any potential recovery plan lies with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) are the primary agencies responsible for implementing the ESA. The USFWS is responsible for birds and terrestrial and freshwater species, while the NMFS is responsible for non-bird marine species.

An endangered species is a species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. A threatened species is a species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Proposed species are those that have been formally submitted to Congress for official listing as threatened or endangered. In addition, the USFWS has identified species that are candidates for listing as a result of identified threats to their continued existence. The candidate (C) designation includes those species for which the USFWS has sufficient information on hand to support proposals to list as endangered or

threatened under the ESA. However, proposed rules for this listing have not yet been issued because such actions are precluded at present by other listing activity.

The ESA also calls for the conservation of critical habitat, which is defined as the areas of land, water, and air space that an endangered species needs for survival. Critical habitat also includes such things as food and water, breeding sites, cover or shelter, and sufficient habitat area to provide for normal population growth and behavior. One of the primary threats to many species is the destruction or modification of essential habitat by uncontrolled land and water development.

Records of federally listed threatened and endangered species from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species of Texas (RTEST) list for Williamson County were reviewed to assess potential impacts associated with the proposed expansion. The following federally protected species are identified on the IPaC list for the project area: Bone Cave harvestman (Texella reyesi), Tooth Cave spider (Tayshaneta myopica), Balcones spike (Margaritifera (=Quadrula) mitchelli), Coffin Cave mold beetle (Batrisodes texanus), Rufa Red Knot (Calidris canutus rufa), Tooth Cave ground beetle (Rhadine persephone), Golden-cheeked Warbler (Setophaga chrysoparia), Piping Plover (Charadrius melodus), Whooping Crane (Grus americana), and Jollyville Plateau salamander (Eurycea tonkawae). Species currently proposed for federal listing include Monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus) and Tricolored bat (Perimyotis subflavus). In addition to those species identified by IPaC, eight other federally protected species listed in Table 3.2 were identified on the TPWD RTEST list for Williamson County but not included on IPaC. These species were also considered during the habitat assessment to ensure a comprehensive evaluation of potential species impact

A threatened and endangered species habitat assessment was conducted on November 6, 2024. During the field investigation, observed habitat conditions appeared potentially suitable for the tricolored bat (federal proposed endangered) and the monarch butterfly (federal proposed threatened). Since both species are federally proposed for listing, coordination with USFWS and mitigation measures should be taken if these species are listed during the implementation of the project.

Table 3.2 Current and Proposed Threatened & Endangered Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
Barton Springs salamander	Eurycea nana	Federal Endangered	Aquatic; springs and associated water.	Habitat was not present within the project area.
Jollyville plateau salamander	Eurycea tonkawae	Federal Threatened	Aquatic; springs, streams and caves with rocky or cobble beds.	Habitat was not present within the project area.
Salado Springs Salamander	Eurycea chisholmensis	Federal Threatened	Aquatic; springs, streams and caves with rocky or cobble beds.	Habitat was not present within the project area.
Georgetown salamander	Eurycea naufragia	Federal Threatened	Aquatic; springs, streams and caves with rocky or cobble beds.	Habitat was not present within the project area.
Black Rail	Laterallus jamaicensis	Federal Threatened	The county distribution for this species includes geographic areas that the species may use during migration. Time of year should be factored into evaluations to determine the potential presence of this	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			species in a specific county. Salt, brackish, and freshwater marshes, pond borders, wet meadows, and grassy swamps; nests in or along edge of marsh, sometimes on damp ground, but usually on mat of previous years dead grasses; nest usually hidden in marsh grass or at base of <i>Salicornia</i> .	
Golden- cheeked Warbler	Setophaga chrysoparia	Federal Endangered	Ashe juniper in mixed stands with various oaks (Quercus spp.). Edges of cedar brakes. Dependent on Ashe juniper (also known as cedar) for long fine bark strips, only available from mature trees, used in	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			nest construction; nests are placed in various trees other than Ashe juniper; only a few mature junipers or nearby cedar brakes can provide the necessary nest material; forage for insects in broad-leaved trees and shrubs; nesting late March-early summer.	
Piping Plover	Charadrius melodus	Federal Threatened	This migratory species overwinters in Texas, where it occurs on beaches, ephemeral sand flats, barrier islands, sand, mud, algal flats, wash over passes, salt marshes, lagoons, and dunes along the	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			Gulf Coast and	
			adjacent	
			offshore islands.	
			Algal flats	
			appear to be the	
			highest quality	
			habitat because	
			of their relative	
			inaccessibility	
			and their	
			continuous	
			availability	
			throughout all	
			tidal conditions.	
			Sand flats often	
			appear to be	
			preferred over	
			algal flats when	
			both are	
			available, but	
			large portions of	
			sand flats along	
			the Texas coast	
			are available	
			only during low	
			or very low tides	
			and are often	
			completely	
			unavailable	
			during extreme	
			high tides or	
			strong north	
			winds. Beaches	
			appear to serve	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			as a secondary habitat to the flats associated with the primary bays, lagoons, and inter-island passes.	
Whooping Crane	Grus americana	Federal Endangered	This migratory species prefers small ponds, marshes, and flooded grain fields for both roosting and foraging. Potential migrants via plains throughout most of state to coast; winters in coastal marshes of Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.	Habitat was not present within the project area.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus	Federal Threatened	In Texas, the populations of concern are found breeding in riparian areas in the Trans Pecos (know as	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			part of the	
			Western Distinct	
			Population	
			Segment). It is	
			the Western DPS	
			that is on the	
			U.S. ESA	
			threatened list	
			and includes the	
			Texas counties	
			Brewster,	
			Culberson, El	
			Paso, Hudspeth,	
			Jeff Davis, and	
			Presidio.	
			Riparian	
			woodlands	
			below 6,000' in	
			elevation	
			consisting of	
			cottonwoods	
			and willows are	
			prime habitat.	
			This species is a	
			long-distant	
			migrant that	
			summers in	
			Texas, but	
			winters mainly in	
			South America.	
			Breeding birds	
			of the Trans	
			Pecos	
			populations	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			typically arrive on their breeding grounds possibly in late April but the peak arrival time is in May. Threats to preferred habitat include hydrologic changes that don't promote the regeneration of cottonwoods and willows, plus livestock browsing and trampling of sapling trees in sensitive.	
Rufa Red Knot	Calidris canutus rufa	Federal Threatened	The county distribution for this species includes geographic areas that the species may use during migration. Time of year should be factored into evaluations to	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			determine potential presence of this species in a specific county. Habitat: Primarily seacoasts on tidal flats and beaches, herbaceous wetland, and Tidal flat/shore. Bolivar Flats in Galveston County, sandy beaches Mustang Island, few on outer coastal and barrier beaches, tidal mudflats and salt marshes.	
Tooth cave ground beetle	Rhadine persephone	Federal Endangered	Resident, small, cave-adapted beetle found in small Edwards Limestone caves in Travis and Williamson counties	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
Monarch Butterfly	Danaus plexippus	Federal Proposed Threatened	Whether it's a field, roadside area, open area, wet area or urban garden, milkweed and flowering plants are needed for monarch habitat. Adult monarchs feed on the nectar of many flowers during breeding and migration, but they lay eggs on milkweed plants as that is the only food the caterpillars can eat.	Fields, roadside areas, and wet areas were documented within the project area during the field survey. However, milkweed was not observed during the survey. If the species becomes federally listed during project implementation, appropriate coordination and measures will be taken to address potential impacts. Any effects to potential habitat are anticipated to be temporary.
Kretschmarr Cave mold beetle	Texamaurops reddelli	Federal Endangered	Small, cave- adapted beetle found under rocks buried in silt; small, Edwards Limestone caves in of the Jollyville Plateau, a division of the Edwards Plateau	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
Coffin Cave mold beetle	Batrisodes texanus	Federal Endangered	Resident, small, cave-adapted beetle found in small Edwards Limestone caves in Travis and Williamson counties.	Habitat was not present within the project area.
Tricolored bat	Perimyotis subflavus	Federal Proposed Endangered	During the spring, summer, and fall - tricolored bats primarily roost among live and dead leaf clusters of live or recently dead deciduous hardwood trees. In the southern and northern portions of the range, tricolored bats will also roost in Spanish moss and bony beard lichen, respectively. In addition, tricolored bats have been observed roosting during summer among	Potentially suitable habitat for the tricolored bat was identified within the wooded riparian areas of the project area. Under the Proposed Action, approximately 25 trees would be removed. However, most trees to be removed are small, of low habitat quality, and numerous suitable trees would remain within nearby riparian woodlands. If the species becomes federally listed during project implementation, appropriate coordination and measures will be

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			pine needles,	taken to address
			eastern red	potential impacts.
			cedar, within	
			artificial roosts	
			like barns,	
			beneath porch	
			roofs, bridges,	
			concrete	
			bunkers, and	
			rarely within	
			caves. Female	
			tricolored bats	
			exhibit high site	
			fidelity. Female	
			tricolored bats	
			form maternity	
			colonies and	
			switch roost	
			trees regularly.	
			Males roost	
			singly.	
			During the	
			winter,	
			tricolored bats	
			hibernate in	
			caves and	
			mines; although,	
			in the southern	
			United States,	
			where caves are	
			sparse,	
			tricolored bats	
			often hibernate	
			in road-	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			associated culverts, as well as sometimes in tree cavities and abandoned water wells. Tricolored bats exhibit high site fidelity with many individuals returning year after year to the same hibernaculum.	
Texas fawnsfoot	Truncilla macrodon	Federal Threatened	Occurs in large rivers but may also be found in medium-sized streams. Is found in protected near shore areas such as banks and backwaters but also riffles and point bar habitats with low to moderate water velocities. Typically occurs in substrates of mud, sandy mud, gravel and	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			cobble. Considered intolerant of reservoirs	
Balcones Spike	Fusconia iheringi	Federal Endangered	The Balcones Spike is most commonly observed in riffles and runs within streams and rivers, with sporadic observations in other habitats. Within the Brazos River basin, the Balcones Spike is currently known to reside in the Little River, San Gabriel River, and Brushy Creek	Habitat was not present within the project area.
False spike	Fusconaia mitchelli	Federal Threatened	Occurs in small streams to medium-size rivers in habitats such as riffles and runs with flowing water. Is	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			often found in stable substrates of sand, gravel, and cobble (Howells 2010; Randklev et al. 2012; Sowards et al. 2013; Tsakiris and Randklev 2016). [Mussels of Texas 2019]	
Bone Cave Harvestman	Texella reyesi	Federally Endangered	Lives in limestone caves around Travis and Williamson Counties, Texas	Habitat was not present within the project area.
Tooth Cave Spider	Tayshaneta myopica	Federally Endangered	In 2012, Tayshaneta myopica was known from caves in Travis County and Williamson County to the northwest of Austin, Texas. Six locations were given on a distribution map for the species, although precise details of the	Habitat was not present within the project area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur within Project Area
			locations have	
			not been given,	
			partly for	
			conservation	
			reasons. The	
			caves occur in	
			Edward's	
			Plateau, a	
			limestone	
			("karst") region	
			of Central Texas.	

#### No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed expansion activities—including any associated vegetation clearing, tree removal, or ground disturbance—would not occur. As a result, the existing habitat conditions within the project area would remain undisturbed.

#### **Proposed Action**

Habitat observed during the November 6, 2024 field investigation was determined to be potentially suitable for the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) and monarch butterfly (*Danaus Plexippus*). Under the Proposed Action, approximately 25 trees would be removed from the segment of the reuse line between the intersection of Kenney Fort Rd. and the Brushy Creek WWTP. Some of these trees are sufficiently large so that they could serve as roost trees for the tricolored bat. While removal of landscaping trees along Kenney Fort Rd. would eliminate this habitat in this locality, the habitat they offer is of low quality, and the trees are small and less likely to be used as roost trees. In the nearby riparian woodlands along Brushy Creek, only a small number of trees would be removed, and numerous trees would remain to provide roosting habitat. Although no milkweeds were observed during the field investigation, the monarch butterfly can still pass through the project area during migration. Given the limited extent of habitat removal and the availability of remaining habitat, the Proposed Action may affect, but is

not likely to adversely affect, the tricolored bat and monarch butterfly. However, since both species are federally proposed for listing, coordination with USFWS and mitigation measures should be taken if these species are listed during the implementation of the project.

### 3.5 Prime and Unique Farmland

According to 16 USC 590a-f (7 CFR 2.62 Pub. L. 95-87; 42 USC 4321 et seg.), prime farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, and is also available for these uses (the land could be cropland, pastureland, rangeland, forest land, or other land, but not urban built-up land or water). It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to acceptable farming methods. In general, prime farmlands have an adequate and dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. They are permeable to water and air. Prime farmlands are not excessively erodible or saturated with water for a long period of time, and they either do not flood frequently or are protected from flooding. While the soils data (USDA-NRCS 2025) indicates that there are soils in a small area of the APE associated with prime farmland, there are no unique farmlands located within the project area, as the project footprint occurs entirely within an urbanized setting.

#### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, no land would be disturbed for construction activities related to water reuse line installation. There would be no impact on prime farmland. The existing farming operation on the prime farmland on Highway 79 between Kalahari Indoor Water Park and the Brushy Creek Regional WWTP would continue to be farmed. This tract, however, is owned by the City of Round Rock, which leases the land for farming. The City's Comprehensive Plan, Round Rock 2030, however, includes a Future Land Use Map that depicts the parcel as being part of a Regional Attraction (City of Round Rock 2020). The depiction appears to represent an anticipated expansion of Kalahari Indoor Water Park immediately to the parcel's west, but regardless of the ultimate use, it suggests that the parcel will likely eventually be developed rather than continuing to be used for farming, whether the Proposed Action is undertaken or not.

#### **Proposed Action**

Under the Proposed Action, a small swath of the farmed property adjacent to the proposed line installation would be disturbed during construction. This disturbance would be limited to the fringe of the farmed tract and would not significantly impact farming activity or production, even if it occurred during the crop's growth phase. The impact would be minor in area and limited to one growing season at most, as the land would return to its preconstruction state once the installation trench was backfilled. There would be no significant impact of the project on prime farmland.

#### 3.6 Cultural Resources & Indian Trust Assets

The cultural resources constraints of the proposed expansion were coordinated under the Antiquities Code of Texas ([ACT] Texas Natural Resources Code, Title 9, Chapter 191) and its associated regulations (13 TAC 26) and Section 106 (33 CFR Part 800) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (Section 106) with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). In December 2024 THC determined that an above-ground historic resources survey would not be required as no above-ground historic properties or historic-age resources were identified within the Area of Potential Effect (APE). However, an archaeological survey was warranted.

The archaeological survey was conducted in February 2025. Pedestrian survey and shovel testing were conducted throughout the project area and backhoe trenching was conducted to evaluate the potential for deeply buried archaeological deposits on the terrace north of Brushy Creek where Holocene soils are present. Three archaeological sites were revisited (41WM12, 41WM462 and 41WM1028) and one new archaeological site (41WM1573) was documented. Cultural deposits associated with sites 41WM12 and 41WM1028 were not recorded within the APE. While the precontact archaeological materials and deposits documented at the other sites generally show a pattern of serial occupations along Brushy Creek, there were no intact features recorded and buried deposits were sparsely scattered within the APE. Archaeological deposits at the one relocated site (41WM462) and the newly recorded site within the project area do not retain sufficient research potential or spatial integrity for listing as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL) or for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) within the project footprint.

#### **No Action Alternative**

The No Action Alternative would have no effect on documented cultural resources. There are no above ground historic-age resources or historic properties within the APE, and archaeological deposits associated with recorded sites would not be impacted as no ground disturbance would occur.

#### **Proposed Action**

The proposed action will not impact above ground historic-age resources or properties. Ground disturbance associated with the proposed action will impact deposits associated with sites 41WM462 and 41WM1573 within the APE; however, the sites were determined to be not eligible for SAL or NRHP listing within the APE. There will be no adverse effect to Historic Properties within the APE for the Proposed Action. Any future design update extending beyond the evaluated APE may require further coordination with the BOR, THC and SHPO.

#### 3.6.1 Indian Trust Assets:

There are no Indian Trust Assets documented within the project area.

# **Chapter 4 - Summary & Environmental Commitments**

The Proposed Action would provide up to 12 MGD of reuse water to the City of Round Rock. This supply of reuse water would reduce demand on the City's surface water sources (Lake Georgetown, Lake Travis, and Stillhouse Hollow Lake) and the Edwards Aquifer.

Table 4.1 - Summary of Environmental Effects

Resource	Impacts:	Impacts:
	No Action	Proposed Action
Hydrology	12 MGD raw water would continue to be obtained from three reservoirs and the Edwards Aquifer. This portion of Round Rock's water supply would be subject to restrictions during drought conditions.	12 MGD water reused, reducing demand on existing water sources. Water supplies are expected to experience increasing strain as the population of Central Texas continues to grow.
Water Quality	With no construction undertaken, there would be no impact on water quality	Minor temporary effects on water quality may occur during construction. During construction, the City would implement best management practices to minimize stormwater runoff and obtain a Texas stormwater construction permit.
Waters of the United States	With no construction undertaken, there would be no impacts on WOTUS.	The City would comply with all conditions of NWP 58 for construction of the reuse line.

Resource	Impacts: No Action	Impacts: Proposed Action
		If after final designs, project designs trigger pre-construction notification requirements, City will contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) directly to ensure compliance with CWA.
Threatened and Endangered Species	With no construction undertaken, there would be no effect on T&E species.	The Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the tricolored bat and monarch butterfly since potential habitat was identified. Since the tricolored bat and monarch butterfly are federally proposed for listing, coordination with USFWS and mitigation measures should be taken if these species are listed during the implementation of the project.
Wildlife and Fisheries Resources	With no construction undertaken, there would be no impact on wildlife.	Local wildlife may be temporarily displaced from the Project Area during construction activities.
Land Use	With no construction undertaken, there would be no changes in land use.	The Proposed Action would not affect land use. The location of the storage tank is within the existing Brushy Creek Regional

Resource	Impacts: No Action	Impacts: Proposed Action
		WWTP. The proposed reuse lines will be buried; once construction is complete, the land surface will continue to be used as it is at present.
Historic Properties	With no construction undertaken, there would be no impact on historic properties.	The Proposed Action would have no adverse effect on Historic Properties.
Indian Trust Assets	No impact, as there are no ITA resources in the project area.	There are no ITA resources that would be affected by the Proposed Action.
Prime and Unique Farmland	With no construction undertaken, there would be no impact on Prime or Unique Farmlands.	The Proposed Action will primarily install reuse lines below the plow zone, which extends to approximately 16 inches in depth in the project area.  The Proposed Action will temporarily impact about 5.0 acres of soils noted as prime farmland, if irrigated. None of this acreage is irrigated and the APE is in an urbanized setting; thus the Proposed Action will have no impact on Prime or Unique Farmlands.

### 4.1 Environmental Commitments and Mitigation Measures

The following environmental commitments would be implemented:

- 1. The City shall comply with all sections of the CWA, including NWP No. 58 conditions for construction of the Project. More information can be found at: <a href="https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/qetfile/collection/p16021coll7/id/6725">https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/qetfile/collection/p16021coll7/id/6725</a>.
- 2. The City shall obtain a stormwater construction permit for the State of Texas for all construction activities. The permit is required for disturbance of one acre or more of land or is part of a larger common plan. More information can be found at: <a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/construction">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/construction</a>.
- Erosion Control, Dust Control, and surface restoration measures are a requirement of the Construction Contract they are included in the design documents and are required by the City. More information can be found: <a href="https://www.roundrocktexas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Drainage-Appendix-C.pdf">https://www.roundrocktexas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Drainage-Appendix-C.pdf</a>
- 4. The City requires construction activities to comply with their noise ordinance. More information can be found at: <a href="https://library.municode.com/tx/round\_rock/codes">https://library.municode.com/tx/round\_rock/codes</a>
- 5. In the unlikely event that federally threatened or endangered species are encountered during construction of the Project, the City shall halt all construction activities and notify Reclamation.
- 6. The City or its contractor shall seed and restore lands disturbed during construction consistent with negotiated easements and agreements.
- 7. The City or its contractor shall control noxious weeds within the 25-foot-wide construction footprint and all other disturbed lands for three years following construction.
- 8. In the unlikely event Historic Properties are encountered during construction activities, the City shall halt all construction in the vicinity and notify Reclamation. Reclamation will complete its Section 106 obligation under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Construction may resume once Reclamation's consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is completed and any appropriate protective measures have been implemented.
- 9. Any significant changes in the scope of the Project will require notification to Reclamation and potential additional NEPA compliance.
- 10. The City Shall comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712, as amended).

## **Chapter 5 - Consultation and Coordination**

#### 5.1 Natural Resources

The City accessed the Service's ECOS-IPaC website to obtain information on the possible presence of threatened and endangered species and their habitats. The City requested and received a species list from the Service on December 13, 2024. A copy of the IPaC report and TPWD RTEST list for Williamson County is included in Appendix B.

The Threatened and Endangered Species Report and the WOTUS Delineation Report were submitted to Kimley-Horn and the City and are included Appendix B.

#### 5.2 Cultural Resources

The cultural resources coordination letter outlining the project, known cultural resources, and recommendations related to the potential need for above ground historic resources and archaeological survey was submitted to the THC November 18, 2024 following City review. The THC concurred with the recommendation for no further work related to above ground historic resources and the recommendation to conduct an archaeological survey on December 11, 2024 (THC Tracking #202503435).

An Antiquities Code Permit application and accompanying proposed scope of work for the archaeological survey was submitted to the THC on January 15, 2025. ACT Permit 32157 was received by the Principal Investigator on January 21, 2025. The draft archaeological survey report was submitted to the THC and BOR on May 5, 2025 for review. THC/SHPO concurrence on the report and included recommendations was received on June 2, 2025, and BOR concurrence was received in writing on July 23, 2025.

Cultural resources documentation is included in Appendix E.

### **5.3 Public Involvement**

The City held City Council meetings open to the public November 16, 2023 and July 25, 2024 to discuss the projects and applications for Reclamation's WaterSMART Grant Program. These meetings included advertisement of the agenda before the meeting on the City's website. The two meetings were held at the City Council Chambers at 221 East Main St, Round Rock, Texas. The meetings were held from 6:00 to 7:00 pm where the projects were presented, and attendees were invited to discuss project with City staff.

#### At the November 16, 2023 meeting:

- The agenda was posted online and made available by paper copy 3 days in advance of meeting
- Per standard practice, any citizen wishing to speak during citizen communication regarding an item on the agenda is invited to register to do so. No comments on the environmental portion of the project were received.
- A resolution was brought forth authorizing the City to submit an application to the Bureau of Reclamation for the WaterSMART Title XVI Congressionally Authorized Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 grant program.
- An Intent to Apply for Grant Funding form was provided.

#### At the July 25, 2024 meeting:

- The agenda posted online and made available by paper copy 3 days in advance of meeting.
- Per standard practice, any citizen wishing to speak during citizen communication regarding an item on the agenda is invited to register to do so. No comments on the environmental portion of the project were received.
- A resolution was brought forth committing the City of Round Rock to the financial and legal obligations associated with the receipt of any financial assistance awarded by the Bureau of Reclamation for the WaterSMART: Title XVI Congressionally Authorized Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 grant program.
- The award letter from the Bureau of Reclamation was provided.
- A map of the City's future reuse expansion plan (including the current Proposed Expansion) was provided.

As noted, no comments were received from the general public at either meeting.

# **Chapter 6 – Preparers**

AmaTerra, ERG Texas Services:

Katherine Seikel – Project Manager and Principal Investigator (Archaeology)
Kurt Korfmacher – Senior Architectural Historian
Bradley Hamer – NEPA Lead
Celine Finney – NEPA Specialist
Joshua Zatopek – Natural Resources Lead and Senior Biologist
James Ray – Project Biologist
Jason Glover – Project Biologist

#### Kimley-Horn:

Sean Mason – Professional Engineer Kim Trahan – Engineer in Training Anna Boykin - Professional Engineer

City of Round Rock, Public Works Department:

Adam Levy – Professional Engineer Kaitlyn Saucedo – Engineer Associate Rebecca Vento – Professional Engineer

## **Chapter 7 - References**

City of Round Rock, Texas. 2020. *Round Rock 2030: Developing Our Future* [Comprehensive plan]. Figure 29, Future Land Use Map, p. 127. https://www.roundrocktexas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Round-Rock-2030-Adopted-Web.pdf

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USDA-NRCS. 2025. Web Soil Survey. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service. Website: https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx Accessed February 2025.

# **Chapter 8 – Acronyms and Abbreviations**

ACT - Antiquities Code of Texas

APE - Area of Potential Effect

City - City of Round Rock

CWA - Clean Water Act

EA - Environmental Assessment

MGD - Million Gallons per Day

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act

NHPA - National Historic Preservation Act

NRHP - National Register of Historic Places

NMFS - National Marine Fisheries Service

NWP - Nationwide Permit

PCN - Pre-Construction Notification

Reclamation - Bureau of Reclamation

RPW - Relatively Permanent Water

SHPO - State Historic Preservation Officer

TCEQ – Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

TDC - Texas Demographic Center

THC - Texas Historical Commission

TNW - Traditionally Navigable Waterway

TPWD - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

USFWS - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

WOTUS - Waters of the US

WWTP - Wastewater Treatment Plant