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Senator César J. Blanco Announces \$4 Million Award for Water Infrastructure in Presidio County

Austin, Texas – Today, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) approved an application from Presidio County for \$4 million for the planning, acquisition, design, and construction of water and wastewater system projects in Presidio County. Senator Blanco submitted letters in support of the requested projects.

The approved \$4 million in financial assistance consists of \$1 million in financing and a \$3 million dollar grant from the Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP). The four general areas in Presidio County receiving first-time water and wastewater infrastructure funding include:

- 1. Fort D.A. Russell section of Marfa
- 2. East Heights section of Marfa
- 3. Colonia Las Pampas in southern Presidio County
- 4. Shafter

Based on a 20-year maturity schedule and current interest rates, the County could save approximately \$135,162 over the life of the financing. The County is also saving \$3,220,000 in grant funding.

Senator Blanco issued the following statement:

"Water is the lifeblood of our communities, but aged sewer lines, lack of adequate drinking water and wastewater, and exposed pipes have left some residents in Presidio County no option but to boil their water or travel miles to access drinking water. This funding will help 246 residents in underserved areas access safe and clean water for their families.

"I'd like to express my deepest appreciation to the TWDB members for recognizing Presidio County's need for funding to complete these projects. I look forward to continuing to work with the Board on ensuring the Presidio community gets its fair share of funding for water and wastewater projects."

For further information, please contact Taylor Sanchez at 915-276-3872 or <u>Taylor.Sanchez@senate.texas.gov</u>.