

July 14, 2020 Update

As we reported last week, the Lake McQueeney Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (District) has already filed an application to try and secure a zero percent interest, 30-year loan through the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). We are able to access low interest loans thanks to our new deal with the GBRA, but not all TWDB loans are zero percent interest. Needless to say, a lot is at stake. For example, zero percent interest on a \$40 million loan would save the District — and all Lake McQueeney property owners — up to \$700,000 a year or more.

We have a chance to help ourselves by banding together and demonstrating to the TWDB that our community is united and committed to the District's plan. The TWDB loan process can be very competitive, and we know others throughout the state are making similar pleas to the TWDB.

How can you help?

We need you and each of your neighbors to send a letter and/or email to the TWDB immediately, explaining why this project warrants their financial support. Tell them what Lake McQueeney means to your family. Explain how the uncertainty has affected your property values and overall quality of life.

To contact the TWDB by mail, use this address:

Jeff Walker, Executive Director
Texas Water Development Board
1700 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Contact the TWDB via email here: fif@twdb.texas.gov

Of course, the experts tell us personal letters make the biggest impact, but we also understand everyone leads busy lives and have provided some suggested wording here for you to copy into a letter or email:

Sample Email or Letter:

To the Members of the TWDB Board and Staff,

My family and I are writing today to request that you approve the Lake McQueeney Water Control and Improvement District No. 1's application — together with the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority — for a zero percent 30-year loan needed to repair the 92 year-old dam on our reservoir.

While we cannot place a value on what Lake McQueeney means to our family, the entire region benefits in countless ways from this important resource. The economic impact to the local economy, hydroelectric power, and jobs generated by the Lake are critical to our state and region. Our county and local school district budgets have already been greatly impacted. Your support for our application will empower the District and our residents who are working

together to rebuild the dam, save property values and stabilize the local economy. The present situation has already caused a significant physiological and monetary toll on property owners and Texans of all ages who rely on the Lake in a variety of ways.

We ask that you carefully review this application on its merits and recommend that GBRA and the newly created Lake McQueeney WCID be invited to submit a full application in support of qualifying for the zero-percent loans the TWDB is considering.

Sincerely,

[[YOUR NAME HERE]]

On behalf of everyone at Friends of Lake McQueeney, THANK YOU for taking the time to join this critically important — and time-sensitive — effort. We work hard every day to secure our beloved Lake's future. We will keep you posted as we go forward, and of course if you have any questions we want to hear from you. Let's get this done!!