

Trinity River Corridor Project Federal Legislative Program

Briefing to the Trinity River Corridor Project
Committee - February 26, 2008





Purpose of Briefing

- To review the City's process for development and implementation of the Trinity River Corridor Project Federal Legislative Program.
- To review prior legislative successes for the Trinity River Corridor Project.
- To review the City's FY2009 federal legislative requests for the Trinity River Corridor Project.
- To discuss future legislative strategies for the Trinity River Corridor Project.



Background

- Each year, the City of Dallas develops, in consultation with our partner agencies, a federal legislative program for the Trinity River Corridor Project.
- The legislative program is a list of needs for the next federal fiscal year for the various components of the project (i.e., the Dallas Floodway Extension Project, the Dallas Floodway Project, the Upper Trinity River Feasibility Study, the Trinity Bridges, etc.). The Trinity is the only City project with its own legislative program.
- Many parties are involved in the implementation of the Trinity legislative program including the Mayor and City Council, City Staff, the Trinity Commons and Trinity Trust Foundations, and the City's federal lobbyists (Alcalde and Fay, Barbara T. McCall Associates).
- Each year, the Mayor and Chair of the Trinity River Corridor Project Committee take a small group of business community representatives to Washington, D.C. for what has become known as Trinity Day. The sole purpose of the trip is to visit with the Dallas-area Congressional delegation and other key members of Congress to lobby for the Trinity River Corridor Project. This year's trip is scheduled for April 3rd.



Prior Legislative Successes

- Since 2001, which is the first year the City began lobbying for the Trinity, the Project has received **\$183,575,736** in federal funding:

Dallas Floodway Extension Project	\$71,258,508
Upper Trinity River Feasibility Study	\$8,324,205
Bureau of Reclamation Study	\$577,200
Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge (Woodall Rogers)	\$8,000,000
Margaret McDermott Bridge (I-30)	\$81,616,280
I-35 Bridge	\$13,799,543

- In late 2007, Congress passed and the President signed the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, which included a **\$459 million** authorization for the Dallas Floodway Project. The Dallas Floodway Project is the component of the overall Trinity River Corridor Project that includes all the planned future improvements within the existing Dallas Floodway as identified in the Balanced Vision Plan, as well as the Interior Drainage improvements. While the Trinity's WRDA provision is a huge victory, the \$459 million is only an authorization. Funding will have to be secured in future annual Energy and Water Appropriations.



Proposed FY2009 Federal Requests

- Dallas Floodway Extension Project (DFE) - \$25 million (consistent with the Corps of Engineers' expressed capability). This funding will allow the Corps to make substantial progress on the DFE project, including:
 - Upper Chain of Wetlands – complete construction - \$12 million
 - Lamar Levee/Rochester Park Levee – complete design - \$1 million
 - Cadillac Heights Levee – design - \$3 million
 - Environmental mitigation work - \$1 million
 - Recreation – construction - \$1 million
 - Credit to the City for previous levee construction - \$7 million

- Upper Trinity River Feasibility Study (Dallas Floodway) - \$1 million (consistent with the Corps of Engineers' expressed capability). This will allow the EIS process for the Dallas Floodway to continue with no delays.



Future Federal Funding Schedule

	<u>Dallas Floodway Project</u>	<u>DFE Project</u>
FY09	\$1m	\$25m
FY10	\$1m	\$28m
FY11	\$73m*	\$14m
FY12	\$75m*	\$0m
FY13	\$75m*	\$0m
FY14	<u>\$75m*</u>	<u>\$0m</u>
TOTAL	\$300m	\$67m

* This funding level is estimated to complete construction of the Balanced Vision Plan and Interior Drainage consistent with the provisions of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007.