

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

ALL Counties

MINUTE ORDER

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ALL Districts

Transportation Code, §222.053(a), defines an “economically disadvantaged county” as a county that has, in comparison to other counties in the state: (1) below average per capita taxable property value; (2) below average per capita income; and (3) above average unemployment.

Transportation Code, §222.053(a-1), provides that, notwithstanding Transportation Code §222.053(a), a county is considered to be an “economically disadvantaged county” if it meets the criteria as laid out in subsection (a) within the past six years and has been included in no less than five federally declared disasters within the same time period. Transportation Code, §222.053(a-2), provides that, for a county described by subsection (a-1), the adjustment to the local matching funds requirement shall be equivalent to the highest adjustment rate set in the last year the county was considered to meet the criteria.

Transportation Code, §222.053(c), directs the Texas Transportation Commission (commission), when evaluating a proposal for a highway project in a political subdivision that consists of all or a portion of an economically disadvantaged county, to adjust the minimum local matching funds requirement after evaluating the political subdivision's effort and ability to meet the requirement.

Transportation Code, §222.053(f), requires the commission to certify a county as economically disadvantaged on an annual basis as soon as possible after the Comptroller of Public Accounts (comptroller) provides reports on the economic indicators listed above.

Title 43 TAC §15.55(b)(2) provides that, for a county described by Transportation Code, §222.053(a), in determining the adjustment to the local matching funds requirement, and the local government's efforts and ability to meet the requirement, the commission will consider a local government's: (A) population level; (B) bonded indebtedness; (C) tax base; (D) tax rate; (E) extent of in-kind resources available; and (F) economic development sales tax. Title 43 TAC §15.55(b)(3) provides that, for a county described by Transportation Code, §222.053(a-1), the adjustment will be equivalent to the highest adjustment rate set in the last year the county was considered to meet the criteria set out in Transportation Code, §222.053(a).

The comptroller has provided the data needed to determine the counties eligible for the Economically Disadvantaged Counties Program for FY 2024. The commission has considered the counties' efforts and ability to provide a local match using the criteria set forth in 43 TAC §15.55(b)(2). In addition, the department has reviewed disaster declarations issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency through the month of August 2023 in order to comply with the requirements of Transportation Code, §222.053(a-1). Exhibit A lists the eligible counties and the respective recommended local match adjustments. Exhibit B establishes additional local match adjustments for cities within these counties participating in the program.

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IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the list of counties eligible for the FY 2024 Economically Disadvantaged Counties Program is certified and the local match adjustment for each county is established, as shown in exhibit A, as well as additional adjustments for cities participating in the program, as shown in exhibit B.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Recommended by:

DocuSigned by:

Humberto Gonzalez Jr, P.E.

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Director, Transportation Planning and
Programming Division

DocuSigned by:

W. D. Williams

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Executive Director

116567 September 28, 2023

Minute	Date
Number	Passed

EXHIBIT A
Economically Disadvantaged Counties
FY 2024

Eligible Counties	Adjustment %		Eligible Counties	Adjustment %
Andrews County	36		Gray County	54
Angelina County	51		Gregg County	31
Aransas County*	95		Grimes County	95
Atascosa County	95		Hale County	60
Bastrop County*	95		Hardeman County*	95
Bee County	78		Hardin County	48
Bell County	46		Harris County*	95
Bexar County*	95		Harrison County	45
Bosque County*	95		Haskell County*	95
Bowie County	44		Henderson County*	95
Brazoria County*	95		Hidalgo County	77
Brooks County	74		Hockley County	43
Brown County*	95		Houston County*	95
Calhoun County*	95		Howard County	37
Cameron County	67		Hudspeth County	55
Camp County	51		Hutchinson County	95
Cass County	53		Jasper County	49
Chambers County*	95		Jefferson County	42
Cherokee County	56		Jim Hogg County	85
Coleman County	56		Jim Wells County	58
Coryell County	61		Jones County	69
Crane County	46		Kinney County	37
Crosby County	44		Kleberg County	67
Dallas County*	95		Leon County	29
Dawson County	71		Liberty County	60
Duval County	61		Limestone County	55
Ector County	38		Live Oak County	31
El Paso County	60		Madison County	55
Falls County*	95		Marion County*	95
Floyd County	43		Matagorda County	15
Fort Bend County*	95		Maverick County	68
Franklin County*	95		McCulloch County	55
Freestone County	43		Milam County	60
Galveston County*	95		Mitchell County	64
Goliad County*	95		Montgomery County*	95

Eligible Counties	Adjustment %		Eligible Counties	Adjustment %
Morris County	50		Starr County	78
Nacogdoches County*	95		Sutton County*	95
Newton County	55		Tarrant County*	95
Nueces County	36		Terry County	64
Orange County	49		Titus County*	95
Palo Pinto County	33		Trinity County	50
Panola County	37		Tyler County	69
Pecos County	53		Upshur County	59
Polk County	57		Uvalde County*	95
Real County	25		Val Verde County	15
Red River County	46		Victoria County*	95
Refugio County	45		Walker County	69
Robertson County*	95		Waller County	50
Rusk County	59		Ward County	34
Sabine County	44		Webb County	59
San Augustine County	36		Wharton County	95
San Jacinto County	95		Wheeler County	41
San Patricio County	43		Willacy County	70
Schleicher County*	95		Wood County	48
Scurry County	50		Yoakum County	46
Shelby County*	95		Zapata County	87
Smith County*	95		Zavala County	59
Somervell County*	95			

*Met the standard criteria within the last six years and has been included in no less than five federally declared disasters within the same time period.

EXHIBIT B

Additional Adjustments for Cities Within an Economically Disadvantaged County FY 2024

Every eligible county receives an adjustment to its local match requirement ranging from 15 (minimum) to 95 (maximum) percent. A city within an economically disadvantaged county receives an adjustment equal to the adjustment for the county in which it is located, with the possibility of up to 10 additional percentage points based on its population and the existence of an economic development sales tax.

The two following tables depict the additional percentage points that cities may be granted.

Economic Development Sales Tax:

ADDITIONAL PERCENTAGE

YES	5%
NO	0%

Population:

ADDITIONAL PERCENTAGE

$x < 1,000$	5%
$1,000 < x < 2,000$	4%
$2,000 < x < 3,000$	3%
$3,000 < x < 4,000$	2%
$4,000 < x < 5,000$	1%
$x > 5,000$	0%