



**RYAN GUILLEN**  
TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
FEBRUARY 17, 2017

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
COREY.TICKNOR@HOUSE.TEXAS.GOV

**GUILLEN ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR DRAINAGE PROJECT**  
*Raymondville Flooding Threat Targeted by RESTORE Act \$7 Million Grant*

**AUSTIN** – On Friday, Feb. 17th, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, TCEQ, released a draft list of projects to be paid for through the RESTORE ACT Texas Bucket 1 grant program, including funds for Hidalgo County Drainage District No. 1's Raymondville Drain Project.

**"Large buildups of debris and overgrowth cause massive flood damage and threaten residents in the community," said Guillen. "With funding from this grant, Phase 2 of the Raymondville Drain Project can commence, and the process for restoration will continue."**

Rep. Guillen worked with state agencies to provide training sessions for South Texas grant writers to ensure that applications like these score high in a very competitive program. Inclusion on the draft list does not come easy.

The Raymondville Drain Project's \$7 million request competed with over 200 other proposals seeking a combined \$1.1 billion in funding. Now a finalist, the Raymondville Drain Project will be present on the draft project list included in the Texas Multi-Implementation Plan (MIP), which will be finalized and submitted to the U.S. Treasury for approval this spring.

The proposal will be posted for public comment in the *Texas Register* and online at <http://www.restorethetexascoast.org/>. During the 45 day comment period, constituents are encouraged to comment on the draft MIP, and these responses will be considered in the development of the final Texas MIP.

**"Flooding in the region has been so devastating that FEMA declared both Hidalgo and Willacy Counties 'disaster areas' last year," said Guillen. "This project will provide immediate relief to the region, as well as enhance the local environment and economy for the future. Funding for this project could not have been attained without the strong support and input from our local community."**

Representative Ryan Guillen serves ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, including Atascosa, Brooks, Duval, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, La Salle, Live Oak, McMullen, Starr, and Willacy.

###