

135 Slaton Road | Lubbock, Texas 79404 806.745.4411 txdot.gov

October 25, 2024

The Honorable Curtis Parrish County Judge, Lubbock County 904 Broadway, Suite 101 Lubbock, Texas 79401

Dear Judge Parrish:

This letter addresses the Fiscal Year 2025 implementation of the County Assistance Program defined under the rules of TAC Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 29, Subchapter A, Rule § 29.3 (43TAC. § 29.3), the Local Government Assistance Program and the new Rider 19 to the appropriation bill, House Bill number 1 (HB1) which passed the 87th Legislative session.

Transportation Code § 201.706 which passed by the Texas Legislature in 1997, requires the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to assist counties with materials to repair and maintain county roads damaged by the impact of 2060 Weight Tolerance permits. In addition, the legislation requires that a preference should be made for counties with the most Weight Tolerance permits, and a maximum usage should be made of State surplus materials.

To administer this program each county is given a specific allocation to be provided by the respective districts. Allocations are determined based on a county's percent of statewide Weight Tolerance permits, the county's percent of the statewide county road vehicle miles and the county's percent of the statewide lane miles of county roads. TxDOT Districts will notify each county of the assistance available to them. Each county desiring material should make a written request to their TxDOT District Coordinator. TxDOT will also set and account for the value of the materials to ensure compliance with state law.

During the recent 87th Legislative Session, Rider 19 was also authorized. Rider 19 allows TxDOT to provide expert advice to cities related to roadway maintenance issues. In addition, if after satisfying the County Assistance Program, State surplus materials are still available, this material may be distributed to either cities or counties. Unlike the County Assistance program, the Local Government Assistance program prohibits the purchase of new materials. Only surplus material will be available for distribution under this program.

Requests for material to be distributed in accordance with House Bill 1 and Rider 19 during fiscal year 2025 should be submitted in writing within 45 days of the date of this letter. The written request should be submitted to: Texas Department of Transportation Attn. Frankie Ruiz, 135 Slaton Road, Lubbock, TX 79404-5201. Material allocations not requested by Lubbock County within the 45-day timeframe will be made available to other counties. The amount allocated to Lubbock County for Fiscal Year 2025 is \$28,047.

If you have any questions about this year's program, please contact Martin Garza, Lubbock County Maintenance Supervisor at (806) 745-4688 or Lubbock District Administrator Frankie Ruiz at (806) 748-4330. Upon receiving your written request, a meeting will be set up with Lubbock County Officials to discuss material availability and to coordinate the delivery details. We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Frankie Ruiz

Maintenance Administrator, Lubbock District