

# Galveston Bay Council Meeting

April 16, 2025

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2026 (STATE  
FISCAL YEAR 2027) INFRASTRUCTURE  
INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT (IIJA)  
FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND PRIORITIES

# IIJA Funding Requirements

- ▶ On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, B&P Subcommittee met to develop priorities for FFY 26 IIJA proposals.
- ▶ Projects must implement the Galveston Bay Plan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition and incorporate overarching priorities for projects to implement multiple plan priorities of the Galveston Bay Plan.
  - Ensure Safe Human and Aquatic Life Use
  - Protect and Sustain Living Resources
  - Engage Communities
  - Inform Science - Based Decision Making
- ▶ Project minimum cost of \$150,000
- ▶ Project duration of three (3) years
- ▶ Projects must explain how their project implements the Estuary Resilience Action Plan (ERAP).

# IIJA Funding Requirements

## ▶ *Special Considerations:*

- EPA Areas of Special Interest:
  - ▶ Reduce Nutrient Pollution to Protect Water Quality and Public Health
  - ▶ Adapt to Recurring Extreme Weather Events and Increase Resilience
  - ▶ Increase Benefits from Projects to All Communities
  - ▶ Reduce Marine Litter/Trash
- Build America, Buy America Act
- Federal Flood Risk Management Standards

# FFY 2026 Proposed Action and Support Priorities for IJA Project Funding

- ▶ Action Priorities (Proposals must address one or more of the following actions)
  - ❑ Habitat Conservation, Restoration, and Enhancement that incorporates water quality protection/improvement and benefit to wildlife.
  - ❑ Projects that evaluate water quality indicators or address sources of water and sediment quality degradation in support of watershed management.
  - ❑ Projects that are on the ground (place-based) within the lower Galveston Bay watershed.
  
- ▶ Support Priorities (Proposals must address at least one supporting action developed by the subcommittees, but preference will be given to projects that are able to incorporate multiple supporting actions)
  - ❑ Engaging K-12 students and/or adults in hands-on, place-based environmental education.
  - ❑ Includes region-wide initiatives that foster collaborations and/or build capacity with new communities and organizations while implementing the Engage Communities priority plan.
  - ❑ Monitoring and research that produces environmental data applicable to future implementation and management decisions and/or establishes new or updated environmental benchmarks.

# FFY 22-25 IJA PROJECTS SELECTED

Galveston Bay Long-term Plan and Equity Strategy	\$56,000
Middle Armand Bayou Protection Project	\$390,000
Salt Bayou Acquisition and Restoration Project	\$390,000
Coastal Savanna and Riparian Habitat Restoration Project	\$140,000
Stopping Plastics and Litter Along Shorelines (SPLASh) in Houston's Bayous and Beyond	\$353,600
Repair and Replacement of Failing On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs) for Homeowners in Disadvantaged Communities with Vulnerable Populations	\$365,000
UHCL/KPRC-TV Community Outreach	\$125,000
Resiliency Education and Infrastructure	\$336,000
Evaluating Galveston Bay's Resilience to Ocean and Coastal Acidification	\$278,800
Herman Brown Park Riparian Restoration and Community Engagement Project- Phase I	\$295,000
State of the Bay 5th Edition	\$359,184
Bayou Greenways Conservation Plan	\$150,000
Renovating Jones Park: Building Galveston's First Climate-Ready Stormwater Park	\$400,616
Grand Total	\$3,639,200

# IIJA TIME FRAME

Release of Request for Proposals	June 23, 2025
Proposals Due	August 8, 2025
Send Proposals to B&P Members for Review	September 2, 2025
Present Proposals to B&P Subcommittee for Final Recommendation	October 1, 2025
Present Proposals to Galveston Bay Council for Approval	October 15, 2025

