

August 2025

The Harris County Flood Control District has entered a new era of maintenance activity, one marked by historic levels of investment, expanded operational capacity, and a strengthened commitment to long-term resilience of flood risk reduction infrastructure. An additional \$ 100.1 million in annual funding for maintenance efforts has enabled unprecedented investment in infrastructure, faster responses to community concerns, and a focus on long-term planning.

This transmittal provides an update on work completed through June 2025 and demonstrates a transformative shift in how the Flood Control District protects and maintains more than 2,500 miles of channels across 23 watersheds.

Key highlights include:

- Nearly doubled infrastructure repair projects: 59 in FY2024 → 115 in FY2025 (first three quarters).
- Increased desilting efforts by 117%: 130,000 → 282,500 linear feet cleared, improving channel flow capacity.
- 62% more outfall repairs, restoring critical drainage connections countywide.
- Fast Action Service Teams on track for a 40% increase in project spending, reducing response time to citizen concerns.
- \$17 million invested in new equipment and \$163.9 million proposed for FY2026 maintenance programs.

Proposition A: Transforming Flood Control District Maintenance

In November 2024, Harris County voters approved an increase to the Flood Control District's dedicated ad valorem tax rate, providing much-needed funding for maintenance efforts across the county – adding an additional \$100.1 million towards maintenance needs.

The approach for scaling up the program over the next five years is shown in the flow chart below. This approach puts a focus on scaling the program and addressing the deferred maintenance backlog initially, while continuing the work to establish the comprehensive Asset Management program, Portfolio Program Management, to set up the program efforts for the long term.

Thus, when funding associated with Proposition A became available in January 2025, the Flood Control District immediately began ramping up to address repairs and replacement activities that have been long deferred while quickly staging resources to be more responsive to citizen concerns and scaling contracts, staff, and equipment to support the expanded maintenance program.

MAINTENANCE PROGRAM EXPANSION



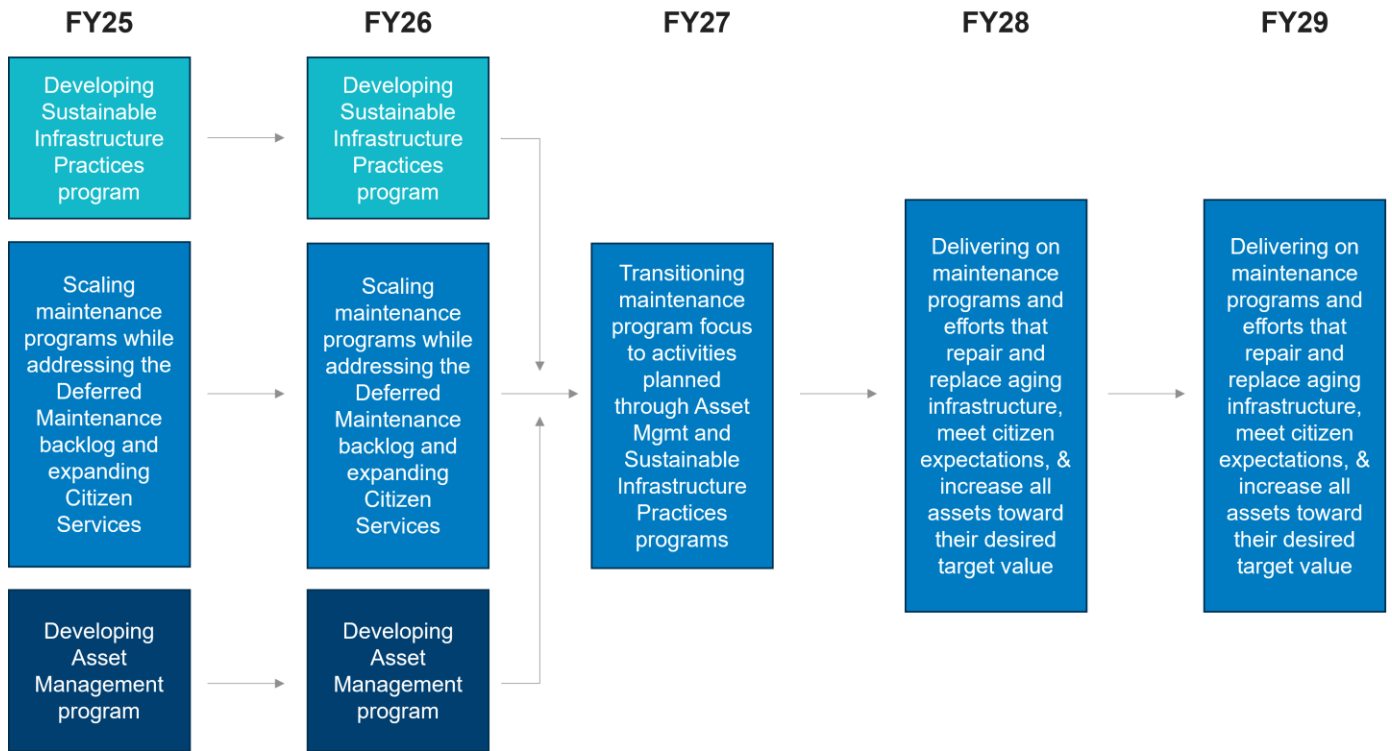
117%
INCREASE IN
DESILTING



43%
INCREASE IN
VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT



99%
INCREASE IN
INFRASTRUCTURE
REPAIR



Progress on Maintenance Matters Program through Q3 FY2025

The following section provides an overview of work that has been completed to date to address long deferred maintenance needs while also scaling resources to provide sustainable execution of maintenance work for the long term.

Repair & Replace Activities

One of the key areas of focus for the infrastructure maintenance program at the Flood Control District is addressing aging infrastructure with targeted interventions, such as sediment removal, erosion repairs, concrete lining repairs, and outfall replacements.

Major repair and replace maintenance work is completed through both in-house and contract design services. These efforts typically take one to three years to complete, from design through construction. Currently, there are 77 projects under design, under construction, or completed in FY2025 as shown in the table below.

Summary of Major Repair & Replace Project Status through June 30, 2025

Project Status	Number of Projects
Design	65
Construction	10
Complete	2
Total	77

Infrastructure repairs are generally moderate “repair and replace” projects handled through on-call contracts. Thanks to the voter approved Maintenance Matters proposition, our capacity to deliver these repairs has grown dramatically. The number of active term contracts supporting this work has increased from just three in FY2024 to 11 in FY2025.

This expanded capacity is producing visible results. In the first three quarters alone:

- Project volume nearly doubled – from 59 projects in FY2024 to 115 in FY2025.
- Spending nearly tripled – from \$2.7 million to \$7.8 million, reflecting the scale of work now underway.

One of the most significant improvements is in desilting efforts, which have increased by 117% – from 130,000 linear feet of channel cleared in FY2024 to 282,500 linear feet this fiscal year. Clearing this accumulated sediment restores the flow of water and improves drainage efficiency.

We have also made major gains in outfall replacements and repairs, with a 62% increase over last year (from 39 to 63). Each completed repair ensures that our channels operate at full capacity – strengthening our flood resilience and ensuring the system is ready for the next storm. Additional details are available in the table below.



Halls Bayou (P118-00-00), Precinct 1
Major Erosion Repairs



Goose Creek Tributary (O105-00-00), Precinct 2
Sediment Removal, Outfall Repairs, Slope Repairs



Little Cypress Creek (L100-00-00), Precinct 3
Natural Stable Channel Design, Erosion Repairs



Brays Bayou Tributary (D139-00-00), Precinct 4
Slope Repairs, Pipe Replacement

Summary of Infrastructure Repairs Completed through June 30, 2025

	Projects Complete		Total Cost		Desilt Linear Feet		Outfall Replacements	
	FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
Quarter 1	19	32	\$921,202.86	\$2,218,780.05	46,520	66,905	12	30
Quarter 2	21	33	\$770,691.47	\$2,818,792.27	38,050	79,910	16	23
Quarter 3	19	50	\$1,053,135.86	\$2,745,549.72	45,740	135,640	11	10
Total	59	115	\$ 2,745,030.19	\$7,783,122.04	130,310	282,455	39	63
% Increase year over year		95%		184%		117%		62%

Addressing Community Concerns

We know that residents are often the first to see issues in our flood control system — sometimes before our crews are even aware of them. That's why community service requests are such a vital part of our maintenance program. These requests help us pinpoint areas that need attention, covering our most common issues that are reported, such as:

- Debris blocking channels
- Ponding water
- Damaged or fallen trees
- Unauthorized use of Flood Control District property
- Erosion and vegetation overgrowth

Citizen Service Center Contact Information

Send us your comments and questions, sign up for news and alerts, report an issue, request service, or just let us know how we're doing at

www.hcfcfd.org/service-request

or by calling 346-286-4197.

The Flood Control District's in-house maintenance crews handle smaller repairs that can typically be completed in just one to two days. These quick responses keep small issues from becoming larger, more expensive problems.

Over the past year, we have expanded our efforts by deploying Fast Action Service Teams dedicated to responding directly to citizen concerns. With additional funding, these teams have taken on more complex repairs while continuing to address urgent maintenance needs across Harris County. This has led to:

- 30% increase in project spending during the first three quarters of FY2025 compared to FY2024 (\$1.0 million → \$1.4 million)
- On track for a 40% year-over-year increase in total project spending by the end of FY2025
- Significant work completed in the top five citizen reported concerns: debris, unauthorized property use, damaged trees, erosion, and ponding water

By year's end, we expect the Fast Action Service Teams will have completed over \$650,000 worth of projects in Q4 alone, reinforcing our commitment to a faster, more responsive maintenance program that keeps our flood control system in peak condition.



Fast Action Service Teams responding to requests and input from residents across Harris County.

Summary of Fast Action Service Team Projects Completed through June 30, 2025

Quarter	Projects		Spend	
	FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
Q1	71	47	\$ 270,739.81	\$ 349,862.20
Q2	64	29	\$ 477,969.44	\$ 270,186.13
Q3	61	57	\$ 293,801.72	\$ 737,401.70
Total	196	133	\$ 1,042,510.97	\$ 1,357,450.03

Note that projects included in the first three quarters of FY24 included responses to the May flooding in the San Jacinto watershed, along with the May derecho event.

Scaling Up: Investing in People, Equipment, and Operations

A major focus of the Maintenance Matters program is scaling our teams, facilities, and equipment to ensure the Flood Control District has the capacity to serve Harris County for years to come. This includes:

Support Facilities: The Flood Control District is developing a comprehensive master plan to meet the needs of a growing workforce and to align with our mission and values. This includes evaluating future facility requirements for long-term operations and upgrading two existing service centers to accommodate new teams and additional equipment.

Human Capital: Commissioners Court approved 54 new positions to support the Flood Control District's expanded maintenance efforts. Of those new positions:

- 22 positions are filled, and 11 offers are pending
- Recruiting has been challenging, especially for laborer and equipment operator roles
- 24 offers have been made to potential employees but had to be withdrawn by the Flood Control District for various reasons, underscoring the challenging labor market

To address these challenges, the HR team is expanding recruitment partnerships, expanding the talent pipeline, streamlining recruiting through automation, promoting organizational values, refining job qualifications to better match the local labor market, and reviewing compensation for competitive positioning.

Equipment: To support the expanded program, the Flood Control District has invested nearly \$17 million in new equipment, including excavators, dozers, vehicles, and chainsaws. This investment strengthens both preventive maintenance and repair efforts, allowing crews to work more efficiently and respond quickly to emerging needs.

Comprehensive Asset Management & Program Management

The Flood Control District's asset management program is focused on establishing a comprehensive inspection and asset condition assessment program, which will be used to provide a systematic approach for the maintenance program. Funding for the last phase of program development was recently approved by Commissioners Court, and will provide for digitization of all infrastructure assets, comprehensive condition assessments, and the development and deployment of a Computerized Maintenance Management System through the OpenGov/Cartegraph system. The development phase of the asset management program is anticipated to be completed by December 2026, at which point the program will be deployed.

The Flood Control District is also in the process of procuring a Program Manager to aid in the development of a comprehensive Portfolio Management approach for the Maintenance Matters Program. The selected consultant will provide the resources necessary to support the scaling of the maintenance program as the Flood Control District addresses its backlog of deferred maintenance work, and transitions to a proactive maintenance program with a higher emphasis of building resiliency in our work. The RFQ for this procurement was released for advertisement on May 20, 2025, and closed on June 23, 2025. The review process is currently underway and will be concluded in early Fall. The work will be executed as a term contract with renewal options that will allow for a total of five years' worth of program management support.

Moving Forward Toward FY 2026

Looking forward to FY2026, the Flood Control District's proposed budget reflects an unprecedented investment in maintenance at a total of \$164 million, made possible by the \$100.1 million in new funds approved by voters in November 2024. The dedicated maintenance fund (Fund 2891) allows for efficient, transparent tracking and execution of these funds.

As part of the Maintenance Matters program, the Flood Control District made a commitment to conduct annual community meetings to provide updates on work that has been completed in the prior year. A series of meetings are planned for late fall of this calendar year to provide an update on progress.

Highlighted maintenance allocations included in the budget include:

- **Infrastructure Maintenance service** includes high-priority deferred maintenance infrastructure repairs across Harris County, and annual contracts for sediment removal, concrete channel repairs and outfall maintenance. It also include a planned \$15 million pilot alternative delivery effort.
- **Vegetation Management service** continues to expand mowing, selective clearing, tree planting, herbicide applications, and habitat maintenance services across 19,000+ acres.
- **Engineering service** to provide geotechnical expertise and guidance in support of complex repair and replacement maintenance projects

- **Administration and support services** is focused on identification of new base camps and facilities remodels to house growing field operations, as well as servicing pump station and levee operations, cathodic protection, and structural upgrades. Of note, over \$17 million was budgeted as a one-time investment for new fleet and equipment in FY25. While those pieces were ordered and funds encumbered in FY25, many of them will be delivered in FY26.

Looking Ahead

The progress outlined in this report demonstrates the tangible benefits of sustained investment in maintenance and the significant return Proposition A has delivered for Harris County residents. By combining new funding with strategic scaling of staff, equipment, and operational practices, the Flood Control District is rapidly addressing decades of deferred maintenance while laying the foundation for a proactive, resilient system.

As the Maintenance Matters program continues to grow, the Flood Control District remains committed to transparency, accountability, and community partnership. FY2026 will mark another year of historic investment, ensuring that Harris County's flood risk reduction infrastructure is not only restored and maintained, but strengthened to serve future generations.