



Federal Legislative Update

PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 5, 2026

What We Delivered in 2026

Two Federal milestones: a funded earmark and a City-specific Army Corps water authorization

COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING | FY2027

\$334,927

Bullet-Resistant Components for PD Vehicles

- **Sponsor:** Rep. Roger Williams (TX-25), chosen from a limited slate
- **Bill:** Commerce, Justice, Science; DOJ law enforcement account

EXPECTED TIMELINE TO FUNDS

- **Oct 1, 2026** FY2027 begins; stopgap funding holds new earmarks
- **Dec 2026 to Mar 2027** Full-year funding bill enacted; award becomes final
- **Spring 2027** DOJ opens the application; City submits
- **Summer to Fall 2027** Grant agreement signed; funds available to the City

WRDA 2026 | SECTION 219 AUTHORIZATION

Passed the House

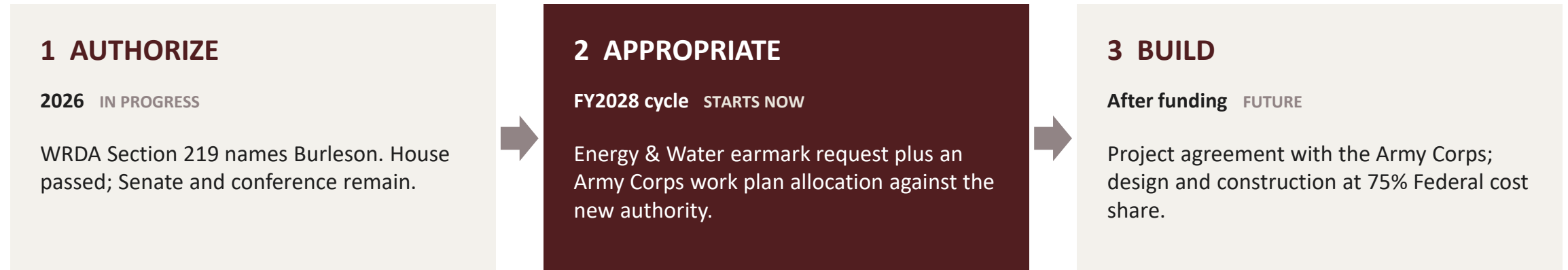
City of Burleson named in Section 219(f), H.R. 9497

- **Progress:** Cleared committee 66-0 (July 14); passed the full House September 16
- **What it does:** Standing Federal authority for Army Corps design and construction help on water and wastewater; 75% Federal / 25% local
- **What it is not:** Cash. Dollars still require appropriations
- **Next:** Senate passage and House-Senate conference; target enactment by end of 2026

Groundwork behind it: Recurring meetings with Rep. Williams' office | Sen. Cornyn and Sen. Cruz offices | Army Corps of Engineers

Why the Next Cycle Matters

An authorization is a license to compete for money. FY2028 is when we turn it into dollars.



What FY2027 taught us

Our FY2027 water requests competed in the crowded EPA water pool and were not carried. With Section 219, Burleson's water and wastewater projects can compete in the **Army Corps (Energy & Water) account** instead: a different pool, a different subcommittee, and a Federal partner already at the table.

The delegation is changing

Sen. Cornyn leaves office in January 2027. We use his remaining months to protect Burleson's line in the WRDA conference. FY2028 Senate requests go to Sen. Cruz and the incoming Senator, and we confirm House district lines after the November election.

FY2028 Request Categories

Where Burleson's needs meet Federal funding. The City sets the priorities; we match the vehicle and build the case.

Category	What Qualifies	Federal Vehicles	Why It Fits Now
Water Supply & Wastewater	Supply, storage, treatment, transmission, and sewer capacity for growth	Army Corps Section 219 (Energy & Water earmark and Corps work plan); EPA earmark; Texas Water Development Board SRF; EPA WIFIA	<i>New Section 219 authority opens the Army Corps account</i>
Transportation Safety & Flood Resilience	Road capacity, rail crossings, low-water crossings, drainage	Transportation-HUD earmark; USDOT Railroad Crossing Elimination and RAISE grants; HSIP through TxDOT	<i>Strong safety case</i>
Public Safety & Emergency Response	Fire/EMS apparatus and equipment, police equipment, emergency operations	Justice or Homeland Security earmark; FEMA Assistance to Firefighters; FEMA SAFER	<i>Our FY2027 win came from this category</i>
Parks & Community Facilities	Parks, trails, and public facilities serving a growing population	Interior earmark; Land and Water Conservation Fund (through Texas Parks & Wildlife)	<i>Legacy Park phasing creates near-term candidates</i>

How projects within each category will be ranked

1. Council priority 2. Federal eligibility and nexus 3. Readiness: design and cost estimate 4. Local match available 5. Fit with the sponsoring Member

Next Steps: The Road to FY2028

The FY2028 earmark window opens early next year. Requests are won in the months before it.

NOW: FALL 2026



- Secure Burleson's Section 219 line in the final WRDA bill
- Track FY2027 funding for the PD award (stopgap funding likely Oct 1)
- Meet the Army Corps Fort Worth District on next steps under Section 219

BY DECEMBER 2026



- Staff identifies candidate projects in each category
- Joint scoring against the ranking criteria
- Council sets FY2028 priorities

JAN TO FEB 2027



- Project sheets finalized: cost, readiness, local match
- Meet the new and returning delegation
- City leadership visit to Washington

FEB TO APR 2027



- Submit FY2028 requests to House and Senate offices
- File grant applications as notices open

SUMMER 2027



- Committee markups and FY2028 results
- Continue Army Corps funding push under Section 219

What we need from the City

1. Candidate projects in each category from staff by November
2. Council priorities by December
3. Cost estimates and readiness documents for top projects
4. Leadership availability for a Washington visit early in 2027