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Texas State Water Plan Reaffirms Need for Water Supply Projects

Mineral Wells, TX –According to <u>a recent article</u> by the Texas Water Development Board, 48 percent of the state experienced drought conditions at the beginning of October. The article also warned that drought will continue to be a persistent problem for the state:

The 2017 State Water Plan tells us that Texas faces significant water shortages over the next 50 years if steps are not taken to conserve and develop additional water supplies. Rapid population growth is expected and along with it, water demands. Texas' existing water supplies—those that can already be relied on in the event of drought—are expected to decline.

This warning reaffirms the prudence of the Palo Pinto County Municipal Water District No. 1's decision to invest in the Turkey Peak Reservoir Project, which will increase its water storage capacity by more than 40 percent.

The Turkey Peak Reservoir Project will expand Lake Palo Pinto through the construction of a new dam 4.1 miles downstream of the existing dam. The additional water will give Mineral Wells and the surrounding communities resilience in times of drought and security as population increases over the next 50 years.

On October 11, 2019, the District's Board of Directors received an update on the status of the Turkey Peak Reservoir Project and was advised that the final steps of engineering design, land acquisition, and required environmental mitigation activities are underway. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2021.

For more information, visit the project's website at <u>TurkeyPeakReservoir.com</u>.

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