



**International Boundary and Water Commission
United States and Mexico
United States Section**

For immediate release
October 26, 2022

**CONTRACT AWARDED TO
REHABILITATE RIO GRANDE FLOOD CONTROL LEVEES
IN DOÑA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
AND EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS**

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico (USIBWC) has awarded a contract to rehabilitate 9 miles of its Rio Grande flood control levees in Doña Ana County, New Mexico and El Paso County, Texas. The existing levees to be repaired include 8.4 miles of the east levee from just north of the Borderland Bridge in El Paso's Upper Valley to south of the Racetrack Bridge in Sunland Park, New Mexico plus 0.6 miles of the west levee south of the Country Club Bridge.

The USIBWC on September 30, 2022 awarded the contract to Odin Construction Solutions for \$34.8 million. The construction of the levees is scheduled to be completed by Spring 2025. Revegetation of the affected area with native grasses is to be completed by Fall 2025.

"This construction project will bring significant improvement to our Rio Grande flood control system," said U.S. Commissioner Maria-Elena Giner. "Neighborhoods along the Rio Grande will benefit for years to come."

The work consists of excavating at least two feet of the existing clay soil and replacing it with imported clay to improve the structural stability of the levees to meet standards established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for protection during the 100-year flood. Communities protected by FEMA-accredited levee systems are not required to purchase flood insurance. Construction also includes installation of a new floodgate system on the east and west ends of Country Club Bridge that will be deployed during flood conditions.

USIBWC will discuss its Rio Grande levee projects at a webinar public meeting of its Rio Grande Citizens Forum on October 27, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. MDT. Meeting information is available at: <https://bit.ly/OctRGCF>

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the two countries. The USIBWC maintains the Rio Grande in this region to ensure water deliveries to Mexico in accordance with a 1906 treaty and to protect communities from flooding.

For more information:

Sally Spener
915-503-5542
sally.spener@ibwc.gov