# CERTIFICATION AND FINANCING PROPOSAL

## STORM WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN CIUDAD ACUÑA, COAHUILA

*Revised: November 4, 2019*

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## STORM WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN CIUDAD ACUÑA, COAHUILA

**Project:** The proposed project consists of improvements to the Santa Martha and La Misión storm water channels in Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila (the "Project").

**Objective:** The purpose of the Project is to improve storm water management and prevent soil and concrete erosion by restoring the structural integrity of the open-channel structures, which will eliminate the risk of obstructed flows and water stagnation, and thus reduce the risk of waterborne diseases. Additionally, the Project will protect a critical sewer force main, which due to erosion in both channels, is vulnerable to collapse, thereby reducing the risk of direct discharges of untreated wastewater to the Rio Grande River, a binational waterbody.

**Expected Outcomes:** The Project is expected to generate environmental and human health benefits related to the following Project outcomes:

- Improve the capacity of the Santa Martha and La Mission storm water channels to withstand storm events with a 100-year return period and 200-year return period, respectively.[1]
- Improve storm water management for the 8,120 residents of the city.
- Reduce the risk of a sewer main collapse that would result in direct discharges of approximately 500 liter per second (lps) or 11.4 million gallons per day (mgd) of untreated wastewater into the Rio Grande, a binational waterbody.

**Population to Benefit:** 8,120 residents of Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila.[2]

**Sponsor:** Municipality of Acuña, Coahuila.

[1] The final design of the stormwater improvements was completed in accordance with the technical specifications set forth in the Storm Water Manual developed by the Mexican National Water Commission (CONAGUA), which requires resistance to a storm event with a 10-year return period. However, the Santa Martha channel was designed using a 100-year return period, and segments of the La Misión channel were designed using a 200-year return period.
[2] Estimate calculated based on 2,170 households in the areas of Santa Martha and La Mission as provided by the Project engineer and 3.74 persons per household according to the demographic projections of the Mexican National Population Council (CONAPO).

**Project Cost:** $11,366,846 pesos (US$631,492).[3]

**NADB Grant:** Up to US$500,000 through the Community Assistance Program (CAP), not to exceed 90% of the Project cost in pesos.[4]

**Uses and Sources of Funds:**
**(US$)**

| Uses | Amount | % |
|---|---|---|
| Construction* | $ 631,492 | 100.0 |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 631,492** | **100.0** |

| Sources | Amount | % |
|---|---|---|
| Municipality of Acuña | $ 131,492 | 21 |
| NADB CAP grant | 500,000 | 79 |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 631,492** | **100.0** |

* Includes construction, contingencies, and taxes

**Project Status:**

| Key Milestones | Status |
|---|---|
| Environmental clearance – Mexico | Complete (8/15/2019) |
| Final design | Complete (9/23/2019) |
| Approval of the Mexican National Water Commission (CONAGUA) | Complete (4/23/2018) |
| Approval of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), Mexican Section | Complete (3/7/2019) |
| Procurement | Anticipated the 1st quarter of 2020 |
| Construction period | Estimated period of 8 months |

[3] Unless otherwise indicated, all U.S. dollar figures are quoted at an exchange rate of $18.0 pesos to the dollar, based on the average exchange rate set by Banco de Mexico to pay obligations entered into in U.S. dollars payable in México (FIX) for the last two years.
[4] The proposed grant amount includes construction and related Project costs only. Additional CAP funds will be allocated for supervision costs.

# CERTIFICATION AND FINANCING PROPOSAL

## STORM WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN CIUDAD ACUÑA, COAHUILA

## 1. PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The proposed project consists of improvements to the Santa Martha and La Misión storm water channels in Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila (the "Project"). The purpose of the Project is to improve storm water management and prevent soil and concrete erosion by restoring the structural integrity of the open-channel structures, which will eliminate the risk of obstructed flows and water stagnation, and thus reduce the risk of waterborne diseases. Additionally, the Project will protect a critical sewer force main, which due to erosion in both channels, is vulnerable to collapse, thereby reducing the risk of direct discharges of untreated wastewater to the Rio Grande River, a binational waterbody.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

### 2.1. Project Type

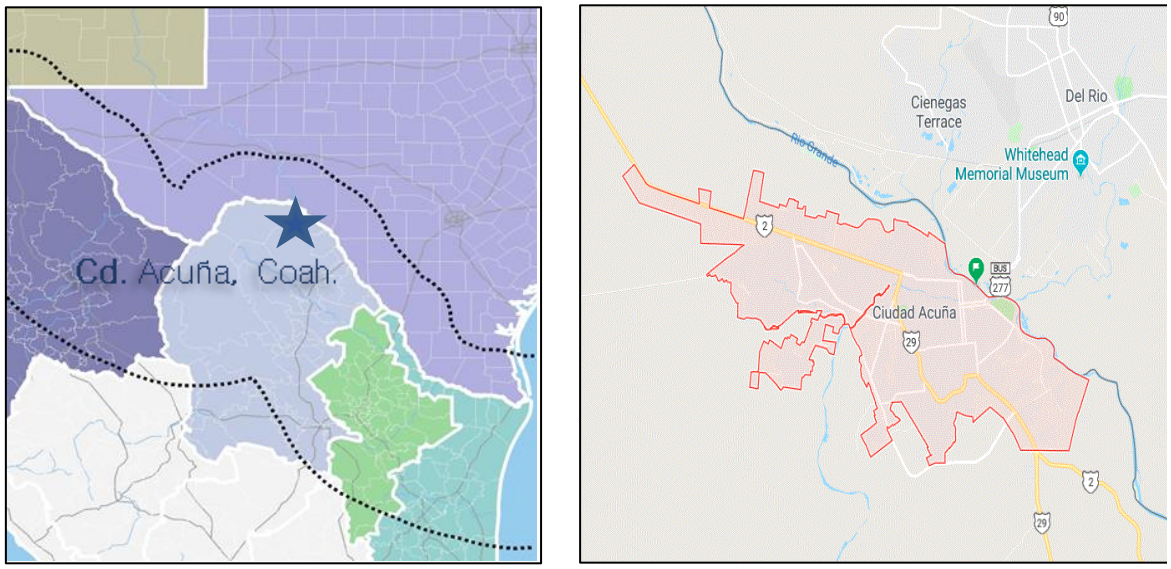
The Project falls within the eligible category of storm water drainage and water pollution prevention.

### 2.2. Project Location

The Project will be implemented in Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila, which is adjacent to the U.S.-Mexico border and directly across the Rio Grande from the city of Del Rio, Texas. Its geographical coordinates are between 28°58' and 29°53' latitude north, meridians 102°55' and 100°51' longitude west, at a mean elevation of 889 feet above sea level. Ciudad Acuña is the municipal seat of the municipality of Acuña.

Figure 1 shows the approximate location of the Project.

**Figure 1**
**PROJECT LOCATION MAP**




## 2.3. Project Sponsor and Legal Authority

The public-sector Project sponsor is the Municipality of Acuña, Coahuila (the "Municipality" or "Sponsor"). The Municipality has the legal authority to operate and maintain the local storm water management system. Its Public Works Department is responsible for developing and implementing infrastructure improvement projects.

# 3. CERTIFICATION CRITERIA

## 3.1. Technical Criteria

### 3.1.1. General Community Profile

According to the Mexican National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), Ciudad Acuña had a population of 147,809 residents in 2015. Based on population projections prepared by the Mexican National Population Council (CONAPO), in 2019, the population in Ciudad Acuña is estimated to be 153,636.[5]

The improvements in storm water management will directly benefit an estimated 8,120 people living in the Santa Martha and La Misión areas of Ciudad Acuña, by preventing possible flooding

[5] Source: CONAPO, Coahuila*: Proyección de la población de los municipios a mitad de año por sexo y grupos de edad, 2010-2030* [Coahuila: Mid-year Population Projection of Municipalities by Gender and Age Group, 2010-2030], accessed via internet on October 2019.

and related problems in their neighborhoods.[6] Additionally, by reducing the risk of a sewer main collapse that would discharge raw sewage into the storm drain that empties into the Rio Grande, the Project indirectly benefits the entire population of Ciudad Acuña, as well as communities downstream on both sides of the border, who depend on the river for their water supply.

The economy of the municipality of Acuña is based primarily on manufacturing, agriculture and livestock, fishing, mining and tourism. In 2015, an estimated 25.2% of the population was living below poverty level.[7]

The following table summarizes the status of public services and infrastructure in the community.

**Table 1**
**BASIC PUBLIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN CIUDAD ACUÑA**

| **Water System** | |
|---|---|
| Coverage | 99% |
| Water supply source | Rio Grande |
| Number of hookups | 49,960 |
| **Wastewater Collection** | |
| Coverage | 97% |
| Number of connections | 48,950 |
| **Wastewater Treatment** | |
| Coverage | 85% |
| Treatment facilities | 1 treatment plant with a capacity of 500 lps (11.4 mgd) |
| **Solid Waste** | |
| Collection coverage | 100% |
| Final disposal | Landfill |

Source: Local water utility, *Sistema Municipal de Agua y Saneamiento de Ciudad Acuña* (SIMAS).
lps = liters per second; mgd = millions of gallons a day.

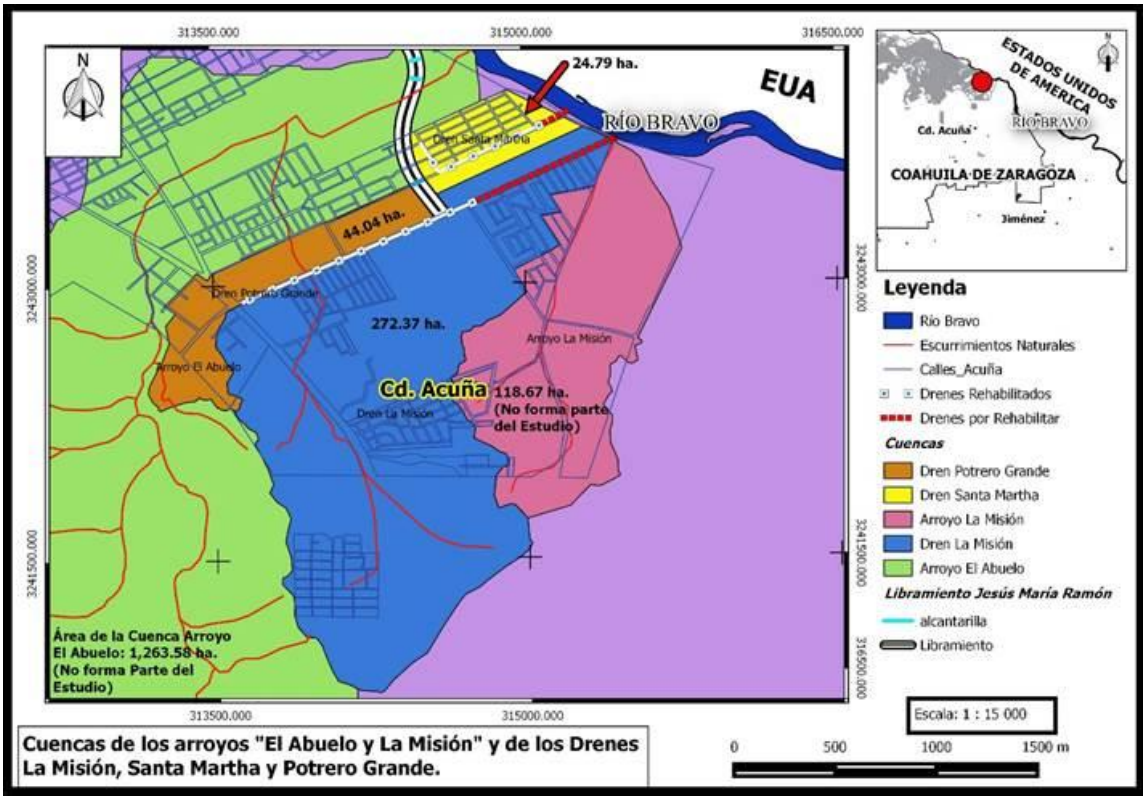
***Local Storm Water Management***

Ciudad Acuña does not have formal storm water collection and conveyance infrastructure. The city depends on natural drainage areas or basins to convey storm water out of the urban area and into the Rio Grande River. Several drainage basins have been identified throughout the city. In the areas of Santa Martha and La Misión, natural drainage flows northeast into drains or channels named for the local subdivisions. The storm water that reaches the open channel system is

[6] Estimate calculated based on 2,170 households in the areas of Santa Martha and La Mission as provided by the Project engineer and 3.74 persons per household according to the demographic projections of the Mexican National Population Council (CONAPO).
[7] Source: *Consejo Nacional de Evaluación de la Política de Desarrollo Social* [National Council for Evaluation of Social Development Policy (CONEVAL)], *Medición de la Pobreza, Coahuila, 2010-2015* [Measuring Poverty, Coahuila, 2010-2015], accessed via Internet on October 2019.

conveyed north to the river. Figure 2 depicts these areas in blue for La Misión and in yellow for Santa Martha.

**Figure 2**
**DRAINAGE BASIN MAP OF PROJECT AREA**




The blue-shaded area is La Misión and the yellow-shaded area is Santa Martha.

The La Misión storm water channel was built in 2008, is 1,965 meters (6,447 ft) long and has a flow capacity of approximately 7.4 cubic meters per second ($m^3/s$) or 261.3 cubic feet per second (cfs). Most of the channel is lined with concrete. The final segment of the channel has a combination of concrete and other energy dissipation structures to reduce the velocity of the storm water flows. When properly designed and constructed, the channels convey storm water to the river without eroding the channel nor the riverbank at the discharge point. However, the rock and concrete lining of the channel has deteriorated, and debris is frequently deposited at the bottom of the channel or dragged by the storm water flows to the river.

**Figure 3**
**LA MISIÓN STORM WATER CHANNEL**

As shown in Figure 3, above, a wastewater pipeline crosses the La Mision channel, conveying approximately 500 liter per second (lps) or 11.4 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater to the Ciudad Acuña Wastewater Treatment Plant. the pipeline support structure has not been damaged, it will become increasingly vulnerable if the erosion of the channel continues. Figure 4, below, shows the force main and its support structure, as well as the effects of erosion on the concrete channel lining, just below this critical infrastructure.

**Figure 4**
**LA MISIÓN STORM WATER CHANNEL AND WASTEWATER FORCE MAIN**

The Santa Martha storm water channel, which is located 231 meters (758 feet) northeast of the La Misión channel and also drains directly into the Rio Grande River. The Santa Martha channel was built in 2004 and is 950 meters (93,117 feet) long with a flow capacity of approximately 7 $m^3/s$ (247.2 cfs). Approximately 451 feet (137.5 meters) of the channel have been completely washed out, as shown in Figure 5.

**Figure 5**
**SANTA MARTHA STORM WATER CHANNEL**

Additionally, the sewer force main that crosses the La Mision channel, as explained above, runs along the Santa Martha channel and has been exposed due to erosion. Consequently, there is a high risk of a collapse, which would result in the direct discharge of untreated wastewater into the Rio Grande, a binational surface waterbody.

**Figure 7**

**SANTA MARTHA STORM WATER CHANNEL AND EXPOSED SEWER FORCE MAIN**


The La Misión and Santa Martha storm water channels have been prioritized for action and funding because of the additional risks associated with the exposure and vulnerability of the wastewater force main. To date, improvements to approximately 1,167 meters (3,829 feet) of the La Misión channel and 813 meters (2,667 feet) of the Santa Martha channel have already been carried out by the Project Sponsor, who has requested a grant from the Bank to complete the rehabilitation of the two storm water channels.

### 3.1.2. Project Scope

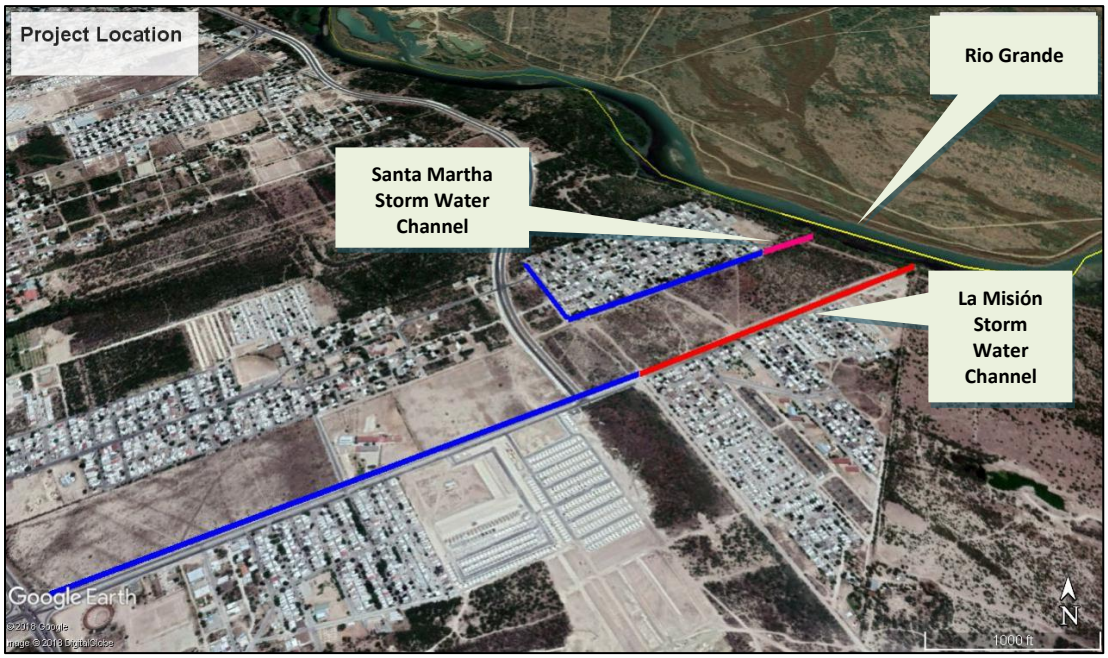
The proposed Project consists of improvements to the remaining segments of the La Misión and Santa Martha storm water channels. The main components of the Project are:

- *La Misión*. Improvements to 798 linear meters (2,618 linear feet) of the trapezoidal stormwater channel, which includes replacing the concrete lining with reinforced concrete, installing gabions and constructing a new discharge structure.[8]
- *Santa Martha*. Improvements to 137.5 linear meters (451 linear feet) of the trapezoidal stormwater channel, including replacing the concrete lining with reinforced concrete, installing gabions and constructing a buffer tank and new discharge structure.

Figure 8 shows the storm water channels and the general location of the Project. The blue line indicates the channel segments that have already been completed by the Project Sponsor. The red line indicates the portion of the channel targeted for improvement through the Project, as described above.

[8] A gabion is a wire structure filled with rocks.

**Figure 8**
**SEGMENTS TARGETED FOR IMPROVEMENT**




### 3.1.3. Technical Feasibility

The Municipality of Acuña requested funding from NADB through its Technical Assistance Program (TAP) to develop the final design. The engineering firm produced a feasibility study, recommended the best alternative and developed the final design.

A hydrological analysis of the watershed was conducted to determine if the flow capacity of the existing storm water channels was adequate to meet anticipated storm events. The estimated flow was calculated using the rational method described in Volume 19 of the Water and Wastewater Manual (MAPAS) developed by the Mexican National Water Commission (CONAGUA). Rainfall intensity values were obtained from the intensity-duration-period curves reported by the La Presa and Acuña weather stations in Ciudad Acuña. Based on this analysis it was determined that the La Misión channel should be increased from 7.4 $m^3/s$ (261.3 cfs) to 10.1 $m^3/s$ (356.7 cfs) to manage an additional 2.6 $m^3/s$ (91.8 cfs). The current capacity of the Santa Martha channel—7 $m^3/s$ (247.2 cfs)—was deemed adequate for future conditions.

During the final design process, alternatives related to construction materials, dimension and design to prevent future erosion and damage to the channel structures were evaluated. Protecting the structural integrity of the force main, among other technical factors, was considered to determine the most appropriate scope for each component. The technical evaluation was based on the following:

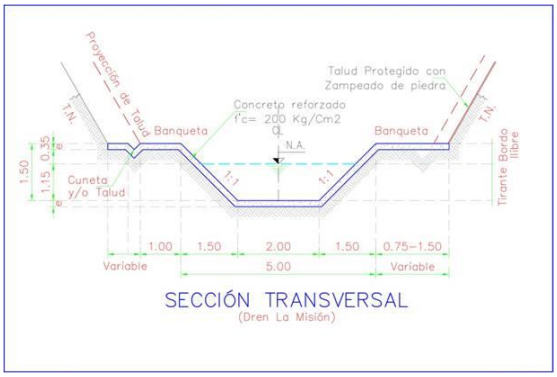
- Material and equipment reliability;

- Erosion protection alternatives;
- The characteristics of the drainage basins;
- Capital costs; and
- Operation and maintenance costs.

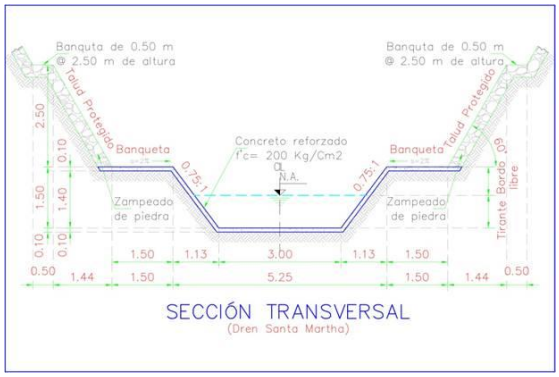
The no-action alternative was not considered viable, since the risk for extreme climate conditions is likely to increase and improvements to the Santa Martha and La Misión storm water channels are needed to prevent hazardous conditions and erosion, which could lead to the collapse of the sewer force main.

Figures 9, below, shows the cross-section design for each channel.

**Figure 9**
**CHANNEL CROSS SECTION**




**LA MISIÓN**




**SANTA MARTHA**

The final design of the proposed storm water improvements was completed in accordance with the technical specifications set forth in the MAPAS Storm Water Manual. According to the manual, a return period of 10 years is required for the design of the storm water structures. Nonetheless, the Santa Martha channel was designed using a return period of 100 years and segments of the La Misión channel were designed for a return period of up to 200 years.

The Project falls within the jurisdiction of both the Mexican Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) and CONAGUA. The final design was subject to the review and approval of both agencies and has been documented as follows:

- Official Letter No. CEU/JUA/0320/19 CEU/214 issued by the Mexican Section of IBWC on March 7, 2019;
- Official Letter No. B00.7.02.-111 issued by the Surface Water and River Engineering Department of CONAGUA on April 12, 2018; and
- Official Letter No. B00.4.06.-012 issued by the Storm Water Infrastructure Department of CONAGUA on April 23, 2018.

### 3.1.4. Land Acquisition and Right-of-Way Requirements

The existing storm water channels are located along public rights of way, which are under the jurisdiction of CONAGUA. IBWC regulates the design of any infrastructure affecting water quality or the condition of the riverbank, including the location of channel discharge points. A construction permit will be required from CONAGUA.

No additional land acquisition or rights of way is required to implement or operate the Project.

### 3.1.5. Project Milestones

Once the Notice to Proceed is received for construction of the storm water improvements, the work is expected to take approximately eight months to complete. Potential factors affecting the Project completion timeline, such as weather or the delivery of materials, were considered in estimating construction duration. Table 2 provides a summary of critical Project milestones and their respective status.

**Table 2**
**PROJECT MILESTONES**

| Key Milestones | Status |
|---|---|
| Environmental clearance – Mexico | Complete (8/15/2019) |
| Final design | Complete (9/23/2019) |
| CONAGUA approval | Complete (4/23/2018) |
| Approval of the Mexican Section of IBWC | Complete (3/7/2019) |
| Procurement | Anticipated for the 1st quarter of 2020 |
| Construction period | Estimated period of 8 months |

### 3.1.6. Management and Operation

Management and operation of the proposed storm water infrastructure will be the responsibility of the Public Works Department of Ciudad Acuña. The Sponsor estimates that, after Project implementation, storm water operation and maintenance expenses will total approximately $1.1 million pesos a year or approximately US$63,000. The Municipality has committed to supporting these costs and dedicating sufficient funds to the Public Works Department to promote the proper maintenance of the improved infrastructure.

## 3.2. Environmental Criteria

### 3.2.1. Environmental and Health Effects/Impacts

**A. Existing Conditions**

The La Misión and Santa Martha storm water channels are severely deteriorated and, in the case of La Misión, the channel is also undersized. Soil and concrete debris caused by erosion along the channel banks are being deposited at the bottom of the channel or carried by the storm water flows to the river. Due to these conditions, the risks of flooding and stagnant water pose public health risks for the neighboring population.

Additionally, the primary sewer force that conveys wastewater flows to the treatment plant runs along the Santa Martha channel and was originally buried. However, storm events and other weather conditions have eroded the channel's walls, leaving the force main exposed. The force main also crosses over the La Misión storm water channel. Due to erosion of the concrete lining of the channel, the pipeline support structure has become vulnerable to damage. These conditions increase the risk of line breaks, which could result in the direct discharge of untreated wastewater into Rio Grande River.

Waterborne diseases are caused by pathogenic microorganisms that may be transmitted as a result of unsafe water supplies or exposure to contaminated water related to inadequate storm water management or untreated wastewater discharges. Extreme storm flows that are not adequately managed may create stagnant pools of water conducive to the proliferation of vector populations that transmit dangerous diseases, such as the West Nile virus and dengue fever. An individual can become ill from arboviral or dermatological diseases if infected by mosquito bites or by coming into contact with polluted water.

**B. Project Impacts**

The improvements to the storm water channels will reduce the risk of flooding and stagnant water, prevent further erosion and reduce the vulnerability of the wastewater force main to failure, thus protecting the environment and human health in the community and surrounding areas. Specifically, the Project is expected to generate environmental and human health benefits related to the following outcomes:

- Improve the capacity of the Santa Martha and La Mission storm water channels to withstand storm events with a 100-year return period and 200-year return period, respectively.
- Improved storm water management infrastructure for the 8,120 residents of the city.
- Reduce the risk of a sewer main collapse that could result in the direct discharge of approximately 500 lps (11.4 mgd) of untreated wastewater into the Rio Grande River, a binational waterbody.

**C. Transboundary Impacts**

Implementation of the proposed Project will reduce the potential for contamination of the Rio Grande River, a shared binational water body. The Project will also improve the management of debris, as well as the ability to convey stormwater flows to the river. The Mexican Section of IBWC has reviewed and approved the Project design.

Additionally, due to the proximity of Ciudad Acuña to Del Rio, Texas, there are frequent border crossings between the two communities. The improvement of the storm water infrastructure may also have a positive impact on the health of residents in the neighboring city and surrounding communities in Val Verde County, Texas.

### 3.2.2. Compliance with Applicable Environmental Laws and Regulations

The Project will comply with the following official Mexican standards and regulations:

- *Water and Wastewater Manual (MAPAS)*, Volume 19, developed by CONAGUA, which provides the technical specifications for storm drainage infrastructure.
- *Official Mexican Norm NOM-059-SEMARNAT-2010*, which identifies and lists endangered species or clusters of wildlife in Mexico and establishes the criteria for inclusion, exclusion or change in risk status for different species.

**A. Environmental Clearance**

The Project is subject to environmental authorization by the Mexican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) pursuant to the provisions of the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection. An environmental impact assessment (MIA) was required. SEMARNAT issued Official Letter No. SGPA/DGIRA/DG/06381 on August 15, 2019, authorizing the MIA for the Project.

**B. Mitigation Measures**

Although Project implementation will have no significant adverse impact on the environment, mitigation measures have been established to address temporary and minor adverse impacts during the construction and operation of the Project. As described in the MIA, potential impacts include:

- The local air basin may be temporarily impacted by carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide emissions released by vehicles and equipment used during construction.
- Noise levels may be elevated during construction activities; however, this impact is short term and will be concentrated in the work area. Potential impacts also include temporary roadway blockages, as well as the presence of workers in the area.
- A temporary increase in soil erosion and dust emissions may be experienced due to construction.
- Surface water resources could be temporarily impacted by stormwater runoff during the construction phase.

- Hazardous waste—such as used oil—may be generated during the construction and operation phases.

Typical mitigation measures to be implemented include:

- Application of water to reduce the emission of dust particles and soil erosion;
- Construction to be scheduled between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to prevent extended disturbances from noise;
- Vehicle tune-ups to reduce emissions and noise effects;
- Placement of warning signs to prevent potentially hazardous situations;
- Installation of sediment control barriers along rights of way to prevent erosion and contamination of surface water resources;
- Construction that disturbs vegetation will be avoided during the general nesting period from March through August. A qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey within the Project area to identify any sensitive species in the area; and
- All construction personnel will attend a briefing to familiarize workers with potential construction impacts and mitigation measures.

By following the best management practices described in the MIA, the temporary impacts due to construction will be minimized. Therefore, the results deriving from implementation of the proposed Project will be positive overall. In addition, the Municipality will be responsible for maintaining continuous coordination with SEMARNAT and must comply with any water quality requirements, authorization procedures or recommendations that the Ministry may issue throughout the life of the Project.

**C. Pending Environmental Tasks and Authorizations**

There are no environmental authorizations pending.

## 3.3. Financial Criteria

The total estimated cost of the Project is $11,366,846 pesos (US$631,492), which includes the funding for construction, contingencies and value-added taxes (VAT). The Sponsor requested a grant from NADB though its Community Assistance Program (CAP), not to exceed 90% of the Project cost in pesos. Table 4 presents a breakdown of the Project costs, as well as the sources of funding.

**Table 4**
**USES AND SOURCES OF FUNDS**
**(US$)**

| Uses | Amount | % |
|---|---|---|
| Construction* | $ 631,492 | 100 |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 631,492** | **100** |
| **Sources** | **Amount** | **%** |
| Municipality of Acuña | $ 131,492 | 21 |
| NADB CAP grant | 500,000 | 79 |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 631,492** | **100** |

* Includes construction costs, contingencies, and taxes.

The proposed Project complies with all CAP criteria. It is located within the U.S.-Mexico border region served by NADB, is being sponsored by a public-sector entity and is in an environmental sector eligible for NADB financing. Additionally, as a storm water project, it is considered a priority under the CAP program. As shown in the above table, the Project Sponsor has agreed to contribute funding to cover more than 10% of the Project costs, as required under the program.

Completion of the final design and procurement documents was supported by a grant from the NADB Technical Assistance Program (TAP). Additionally, all necessary pre-procurement permits and authorizations have been obtained, and the Project Sponsor is ready to initiate bidding for construction once funding has been approved. Additional CAP funding will be provided to support costs related to construction supervision.

# 4. PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION

## 4.1 Public Consultation

NADB published the Draft Certification and Financing Proposal for a 14-day public comment period beginning October 17, 2019. The following Project documents are available upon request:

- Final Design of the storm water improvements project in Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila.
- Official Letter No. B00.4.06-012 issued by the Storm Water Infrastructure Department of CONAGUA on April 23, 2018.
- Official Letter No. B000.7.02.-111 issued by the Surface Water and River Engineering Department of CONAGUA on April 12, 2018.
- Official Letter No. CEU/JUA/0320/19 EXP. CEU/214 issued by the Mexican Section of CILA on March 7, 2019.
- Official Letter No. SGPA/DGIRA/DG/06381 issued by the SEMARNAT on August 15, 2019.

The 14-day public comment period ended on November 1, 2019, with no comments received.

## 4.2 Outreach Activities

The Sponsor discussed the Project and the technical assistance awarded for final design during a city council meeting, which was open to the general public, and the meeting agenda was made available beforehand. Additionally, the Public Works staff has conducted outreach efforts to inform the residents in the Project area about the Project and its benefits.

As part of the environmental authorization process, on April 25, 2019, SEMARNAT published the request for environmental authorization of the Project in its weekly publication (Gaceta Ecológica), which provides information about the Projects under evaluation.

NADB also conducted a media search to identify potential public opinion about the Project. The articles listed below were identified.

- *La Rancherita del Aire* (November 27, 2017) "*Supervisa Nadbank Proyecto de drenes en Acuña*" [NADBank oversees drainage project in Acuña]. The article talks about a meeting held with Municipality personnel, NADB and the design engineer to discuss project progress. https://rancherita.com.mx/noticias/detalles/44912/supervisa-nadbank-proyecto-de-drenes-en-acuna.html?accion=vote&encuesta_id=261#.XZyzdkZKhPY

- *VANGUARDIA,* (May 5, 2018) "*Invertirán 500 MD en drenaje pluvial en Acuña"* [US$500,000 to be invested in storm drainage in Acuña]. The article talks about meetings of the mayor with the Mexican Section of IBWC and the status of project approval by both CILA and CONAGUA. https://vanguardia.com.mx/articulo/invertiran-500-md-en-drenaje-pluvial-en-acuna.

- *Zocalo* (May 6, 2018) "*Urge rehabilitación de drenes pluviales*" [Storm drainage rehabilitation is urgent]. The article reports that the mayor met with the Mexcian Section of IBWC seeking validation of the final design of the project. https://www.zocalo.com.mx/new_site/articulo/urge-rehabilitacion-de-drenes-pluviales

- *Zocalo* (June 30, 2018) "*Apoyan rehabilitación de los drenes pluviales*" [Support for rehabilitation of storm drainage]. The article describes the technical assistance provided by NADB for the final design of the storm water channels. https://www.zocalo.com.mx/new_site/articulo/apoyan-rehabilitacion-de-los-drenes-pluviales

The activities carried out by the Project Sponsor and the media coverage identified above demonstrate that the public had access to Project information. The Project Sponsor informed NADB that no public opposition to the Project has been detected.

# 5. RECOMMENDATION

**Certification Criteria Compliance**

The Project falls within the eligible sector of storm water and is located within the border region, as required under the NADB Charter. The 14-day public comment period ended on November 1, 2019, with no comments received. The project review performed by the NADB Chief Environmental Officer confirms that the Project complies with all the certification requirements, and there are no pending activities required for compliance.

**Funding Criteria Compliance**

The Project Sponsor requested a grant from NADB through its Community Assistance Program (CAP) to complete the financing of the Project. The project complies with all CAP eligibility criteria; therefore, NADB proposes providing a CAP grant for up to US$500,000 to the Municipality of Acuña, Coahuila, in accordance with the terms and conditions proposed in Annex B.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing conclusions as supported and presented in detail in this certification and financing proposal, NADB hereby recommends certification of the project and approval of the proposed CAP grant.