



City of Horseshoe Bay

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HORSESHOE BAY, Texas – May 9, 2024 – The City of Horseshoe Bay Fire Department is poised to enhance its rescue capabilities thanks to a generous \$25,000 grant from the Lower Colorado River Authority and Pedernales Electric Cooperative. This grant, awarded through the Community Development Partnership Program, will be supplemented by \$7,530 in matching funds from the fire department, facilitating the acquisition of new state-of-the-art rescue tools.

City of Horseshoe Bay Fire Chief Doug Fowler expressed gratitude for the grant stating, “This generous grant will help us update our extraction equipment to help save lives where mere seconds count towards a life-or-death situation; seconds are critical.”

This funding will replace the department's outdated hydraulic-powered tools with cutting-edge battery-powered extrication equipment. These new tools, comprising of a spreader, cutter, and ram, promise enhanced reliability and ease of use during emergencies. Moreover, the department’s primary fire engines will be equipped with these up-to-date extrication tools, ensuring swift and effective response to incidents.

The Texas Hill Country is experiencing phenomenal growth with an influx of new residents settling in the region. “This generous grant will help us update our extraction equipment to keep up with the rapid growth of the Highland Lakes,” said Horseshoe Bay City Manager, Jeff Koska.

Covering an area of about 14 square miles, the City of Horseshoe Bay encounters distinctive obstacles, notably along State Highway 71, where fast-moving traffic leads to significant accidents. With a team of approximately 24 firefighters, the department extends its services to the city and its environs, including Lake LBJ, via automatic aid pacts and mutual support agreements with neighboring towns.

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Photo IDs - From left to right

Check Picture 1 - Representatives with LCRA and PEC presented a \$25,000 grant check to Horseshoe Bay Fire Chief Doug Fowler, and Horseshoe Bay City Manager Jeff Koska for new life-saving extraction equipment.



Check Picture 2 – Horseshoe Bay Fire Chief Doug Fowler, Dept. Firefighters and City Manger Jeff Koska hold LCRA-PEC \$25,000 Grant Check for new life-saving extraction equipment.



Picture 1 – Horseshoe Bay Fire Captain Kyle Schmidt and Fire Lieutenant Jason Blackmon supervise the proper methods in stabilizing overturned vehicles.



Picture 2 – Horseshoe Bay Firefighters gain knowledge on the use of battery powered rescue tools. Advanced Rescue Systems Instructor Bennie Marberry introduces firefighters in vehicle extrication techniques.



Picture 3 – Advanced Rescue Systems Instructor Bennie Marberry oversees Horseshoe Bay Firefighters removing a vehicle door to gain access to a simulated patient.

For media inquiries, please contact:

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