

**COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

August 28, 2020

Fort Bend County
301 Jackson St.
Richmond, Texas, 77469
281-342-3411

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Fort Bend County, Texas.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about September 16, 2020 the Fort Bend County will submit a request to the Texas General Land Office (TGLO) for the release of Fort Bend County CDBG-DR funds under the Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (Public Law 114-223), enacted on September 29, 2016, the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114-254), enacted on December 10, 2016, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31), enacted on May 5, 2017, to facilitate disaster recovery, restoration, and economic revitalization and to affirmatively further fair housing, in accordance with Executive Order 12892, in areas affected by the Texas Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding (DR-4266), the Texas Severe Storms and Flooding (DR-4269), and the Texas Severe Storms and Flooding (DR-4272), which are Presidentially-declared major disaster areas under Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. § 5121, et seq.) to undertake a project known as Homeowner Assistance Program (HAP). Under this Contract and Subrecipient's approved Application, the GLO sub awarded to Subrecipient an amount not to exceed \$10,636,203.35. The HAP program budget is \$2,513,500.01. Home reconstruction and new construction activities are available for residential dwellings determined to be beyond rehabilitation based on the costs necessary to address safety, damage level, and/or local building code requirements. Eligible activities include demolition of the storm-damaged residence, site / foundation preparation, well and utility line installation, septic and sewerage installation, and building a replacement of a single-family dwelling or installing new manufactured housing. The purpose of the housing rehabilitation/reconstruction program is to provide assistance to homeowners through the rehabilitation or construction and reconstruction of damaged homes to benefit households who are low to moderate-income being less than 80% area median income of Fort Bend County whose primary residence were damaged by the flooding event. All rehab properties must comply with minimum property standards (MPS) and all applicable local building codes and ordinances. Where a conflict arises in codes, the higher will prevail. All reconstructed housing units must comply with the universal design features in new construction, established by §2306.514, Texas Government Code, energy standard as verified by a REScheck certification, and the International Residential Code (IRC). The source of funding is through the Texas General Land Office Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program. The maximum amount of assistance for housing rehabilitation is \$65,000. The maximum amount of assistance for housing reconstruction is \$140,000. The estimated number of homes to receive assistance is approximately 31. The assistance will be provided in the form of a Note to the homeowner structured as a three-year Unsecured Forgivable Promissory Note. The Note has a three-year affordability period. The affordability period is the length of time that CDBG-DR program requirements are enforced on the housing rehabilitation project property and homeowner. Homeowner requirements are listed in Section VI. Homeowner Eligibility Requirements. To

facilitate environmental review of the proposed activities throughout the County, Fort Bend County is implementing a tiered environmental review approach in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 58.15. The environmental Review Record (ERR) is tiered as an Environmental Assessment (24 CFR 58.35 subpart E) subject to laws and authorities at 24 CFR 58.5, 24 C FR 58.6, and NEPA analysis.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Fort Bend County has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at Fort Bend County, 301 Jackson St. Richmond, Texas, 77469, and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Fort Bend County. All comments received by September 15, 2020 will be considered by the Fort Bend County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Fort Bend County certifies to the TGLO that KP George in his capacity as County Judge consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. TGLO's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Fort Bend County to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

TGLO will accept objections to its release of fund and the Fort Bend County certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Fort Bend County (b) the Fort Bend County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD/State; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Mr. Chris Reynolds at Texas General Land Office via PO Box 12873, Austin, TX 78711-2873 or by email at jill.seed.glo@recovery.texas.gov. Potential objectors should contact TGLO to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

KP George, County Judge Fort Bend County