To build and strengthen new partnerships with State and local governments and the private sector, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires a single consolidated submission for the planning and application aspects of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Programs.

The overall goals of the community development and planning programs covered by the Consolidated Plan are to strengthen partnerships with jurisdictions and to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and nonprofit organizations, to enable them:

- to provide decent housing;
- to establish and maintain a suitable living environment; and
- to expand economic opportunities for every American, particularly for very low-income and low-income persons.

The purpose of the Consolidated Plan is to require the County to state in one document its plan to pursue these goals for all the community planning and development programs, as well as for housing programs. The FY 2015 Consolidated Plan serves the following functions:

1. A planning document for the jurisdiction, which builds on a participatory process at the lowest levels;
2. An application for federal funds under HUD’s formula grant programs;
3. A strategy to be followed in carrying out HUD programs; and,
4. An action plan that provides a basis for assessing performance.

The CDBG Program regulations at 24 CFR 570.700 Subpart M Loan Guarantees allows public entities to borrow CDBG Program funds for eligible Section 108 projects and to pledge the use of future CDBG Program grant allocations to make the interest and principal loan payments on the loan.

Fort Bend County, Texas has drafted a Section 108 Loan Guarantee application for HUD to finance a new water treatment plant (WTP) for the City of Arcola, Texas. The WTP will be located on property along State Highway 6, nearby and west of its intersection with FM 521. The City of Arcola acquired three parcels of land that together comprise a one-acre tract of land and is valued at $360,000.

The amount of the loan guarantee is $3,383,952. The term of the proposed loan guarantee is ten years from FY 2019 to FY 2028. Annual payments will average $308,604 plus interest. As
required additional security for the repayment of the Section 108 loan, the completed WTP will be security or collateral. During the loan term, it is possible that the City of Arcola will not receive any additional CDBG Program funds from the County, due to changes in the total amount of the County’s CDBG annual allocation.

The City of Arcola WTP project is eligible since it meets the CDBG Program National Objective of benefitting low- and moderate-income persons as a low- and moderate-income area benefit activity. According to HUD, the City of Arcola is 59.85 percent low- and moderate-income.

Fort Bend County’s Section 108 Loan Guarantee application draft for the City of Arcola’s new WTP will be available for public review and comment from Friday, January 3, 2020 to Tuesday, February 4, 2020. The public is encouraged to review this document and submit comments. The Section 108 Loan Guarantee application draft for the City of Arcola’s new WTP can be reviewed on the Fort Bend County Community Development Department website: http://www.fortbendcountytx.gov/ In addition, copies of the Loan Guarantee application draft are available from the Fort Bend Community Development Department, 301 Jackson St., Suite 602, Richmond, Texas, 77469. Please call the department at (281) 341-4410 or email comments to communitydevelopment@fortbendcountytx.gov

Public notice 30 day final