October 3, 2018

Shanna Burke  
Interim Executive Director  
South East Regional Planning Commission  
2210 Eastex Freeway  
Beaumont, TX 77703

Re: South East Texas Regional Planning Commission Method of Distribution (MOD) — 2017 Hurricane Harvey CDBG-DR Funds

Dear Ms. Burke:

The Texas General Land Office Community Development and Revitalization program (GLO-CDR) has completed its review of materials submitted in support of South East Texas Regional Planning Commission’s (SETRPC) proposed MOD for the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds reserved for communities affected by Hurricane Harvey. We are happy to inform you that SETRPC’s MOD submitted on August 16, 2018, with supplemental material submitted on August 21, 2018, is approved.

GLO-CDR approves SETRPC’s proposed allocation of Local Buyout and Acquisition Program and Local Infrastructure Program funds to the identified entities. The terms of the approval are noted below:

1. As part of the application process, subrecipients are required to hold a public hearing and conduct outreach to local governments; housing advocacy organizations; faith-based organizations; community groups representing protected classes and vulnerable populations; groups interested in fair housing issues; and limited English proficient (LEP) persons.

2. Acceptance of the MOD does not indicate eligibility or approval of funding for any proposed projects.

3. SETRPC’s allocation must meet the requirement that 70 percent of funds benefit low- to moderate-income persons. Projects that do not meet HUD’s national objective for benefitting low- to moderate-income persons may not be approved until this allocation requirement is met.
4. Acceptance of the MOD does not indicate approval of any proposed re-allocation recommendations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (512) 475-5027, or Alexandra Gamble, Manager, Policy Development, at alexandra.gamble.glo@recovery.texas.gov or (512) 475-5021.

Sincerely,

Heather Lagrone, Deputy Director
Community Development and Revitalization
Texas General Land Office

cc: Alexandra Gamble, Manager, Policy Development, GLO-CDR
    Shawn Strange, Program Manager, Policy Development, GLO-CDR
    Zachary Stern, Planner, Policy Development, GLO-CDR
    Christopher Smith, Planner, Policy Development, GLO-CDR
MOD Summary Form
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC)  
Method of Distribution for  
2017 Hurricane Harvey CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation

Summary Information
Contact Information
Council of Government (COG): South East Texas Regional Planning Commission  
Principal Contact Name, Title: Shanna Burke, Disaster Recovery Division Director  
Principal Contact Telephone: (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516  
Principal Contact Email: sburke@setrpc.org  
Principal Contact Address: 2210 Eastex Freeway  
City, State, Zip: Beaumont, TX 77703

Allocation Summary
COG Allocation for All Programs: $156,700,835
Local Buyout and Acquisition Program Total: $51,687,614
Local Infrastructure Program Total: $105,013,221

Citizen Participation
Below is a description addressing how the COG complied with their Citizen Participation Plan regarding citizen and non-governmental organization outreach, and any additional efforts exceeding GLO minimum public participation requirements:

The SETRPC conducted three (3) Public Hearings to gather input and public comment regarding the Method of Distribution (MOD). In addition, a conference call was held with special interest groups to discuss local fair housing issues and to gain additional input related to the needs of, or gaps in services to, protected classes in the Southeast Texas area. The SETRPC’s Solicitation for Public Comment regarding the MOD was printed and distributed in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Email notification for the Solicitation for Comment was sent to our Hurricane Harvey Interested Party email distribution list that contains approximately 600 individuals representing various local faith-based organizations, citizen groups, fair housing advocacy groups, media outlets, federal state and local elected officials, local chambers of commerce, civil rights groups, etc. We encouraged citizen participation by posting information about meetings and the MOD on the SETRPC website and in hard copy at public posting areas within the SETRPC Offices. We also requested local elected officials post information regarding the Solicitation for Comment in their respective city/county public posting areas. Notices were published in English, Spanish and Vietnamese in our regional newspaper, The Beaumont Enterprise as well as The News (Port Arthur). They were published in English and Spanish in the Hardin County News, Lumberton Ledger, Silsbee Bee, Orange Record, and the Orange Leader and in Spanish in a local Hispanic publication, El Perico. Once completed, a Draft copy of the MOD was posted on the SETRPC’s website and available in hard copy at the SETRPC’s Offices.
First Public Hearing Information

Date/Time: May 24, 2018
Location: Lamar University – Galloway Building – Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Pkwy, Beaumont, TX
Attendance: 95
Public Planning Meeting: ☒

Personal Notice. As required, personal notice was sent to eligible entities at least five (5) days in advance of the public hearing using the following method(s) (at least one must be selected):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Date Sent</th>
<th>Documentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Mail</td>
<td>05/18/2018</td>
<td>Copy of email attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hand Delivery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Mail</td>
<td>05/18/2018</td>
<td>Copy attached.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Internet Notice. As required, public notice was distributed on the Internet at least five (5) days in advance using the following method:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Date Published</th>
<th>Documentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COG Website</td>
<td>05/18/2018</td>
<td>Copy of website screenshot attached.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Published Notice. As required, notice of the public hearing was published in at least one regional newspaper at least three (3) days in advance. Notice of public hearing was published in the following regional newspaper(s):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newspaper Name</th>
<th>Date Published</th>
<th>Documentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaumont Enterprise</td>
<td>05/19/2018</td>
<td>Notice attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The News (Port Arthur)</td>
<td>05/18/2018</td>
<td>Notice attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardin County News</td>
<td>05/23/2018</td>
<td>Notice attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Orange Leader</td>
<td>05/19-20/2018</td>
<td>Notice attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Perico</td>
<td>05/20/2018</td>
<td>Notice attached.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Citizen Comment Documentation

☒ The required copy of a sign-in sheet from the public hearing is attached.

☒ A summary of the citizen comments, responses, meeting discussion is attached.

Describe any efforts to notify and accommodate those with modified communication needs, such as posting information and providing interpretive services for other languages (persons with Limited English Proficiency).

 Notices of public hearings were provided in English, Spanish and Vietnamese text to various newspapers within the region, posted on the SETRPC’s website and were forwarded to all cities and counties within the Southeast Texas region for posting. In addition, notices were sent to Hispanic and Vietnamese radio stations serving the area, as well as advocacy groups serving Hispanic and Vietnamese populations.

All public hearing locations were fully accessible to persons with disabilities. Public hearing announcements included information for accessibility requests for individuals requiring auxiliary aids or other services. Spanish and Vietnamese interpreters were in attendance at all public hearings.
Second Public Hearing Information

Date/Time:  July 17, 2018  Location:  Orange Public Library Auditorium – 220 N. 5th Street, Orange, TX
Attendance:  47  Public Planning Meeting:  

Personal Notice. As required, personal notice was sent to eligible entities at least five (5) days in advance of the public hearing using the following method(s) (at least one must be selected):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Date Sent</th>
<th>Documentation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Mail</td>
<td>07/06/2018</td>
<td>Copy of email attached.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fax</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hand Delivery</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Mail</td>
<td>07/06/2018</td>
<td>Copy attached.</td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COG Website</td>
<td>07/06/2018</td>
<td>Copy of website screenshot attached.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The News (Port Arthur)</td>
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<td>Notice attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumberton Ledger</td>
<td>07/11/2018</td>
<td>Notice attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silsbee Bee</td>
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<td>Notice attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Perico</td>
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Citizen Comment Documentation

- The required copy of a sign-in sheet from the public hearing is attached.
- A summary of the citizen comments, responses, and meeting discussion is attached.

Describe any efforts to notify and accommodate those with modified communication needs, such as posting information and providing interpretive services for other languages.

Notices of public hearings were provided in English, Spanish and Vietnamese text to various newspapers within the region, posted on the SETRPC’s website and were forwarded to all cities and counties within the Southeast Texas region for posting. In addition, notices were sent to Hispanic and Vietnamese radio stations serving the area, as well as advocacy groups serving Hispanic and Vietnamese populations.

All public hearing locations were fully accessible to persons with disabilities. Public hearing announcements included information for accessibility requests for individuals requiring auxiliary aids or other services. Spanish and Vietnamese interpreters were in attendance at all public hearings.

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1 If COG held third public hearing, insert information after second public hearing information.
Third Public Hearing Information

Date/Time: **July 19, 2018**  
Location: Lumberton Performing Arts Center – 103 S. LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX  
Attendance: **41**  
Public Planning Meeting: □

*Personal Notice.* As required, personal notice was sent to eligible entities at least **five (5)** days in advance of the public hearing using the following method(s) (at least one must be selected):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Date Sent</th>
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Notice of public hearings were provided in English, Spanish and Vietnamese text to various newspapers within the region, posted on the SETRPC’s website and were forwarded to all cities and counties within the Southeast Texas region for posting. In addition, notices were sent to Hispanic and Vietnamese radio stations serving the area, as well as advocacy groups serving Hispanic and Vietnamese populations.

All public hearings location were fully accessible to persons with disabilities. Public hearing announcements included information for accessibility requests for individuals requiring auxiliary aids or other services. Spanish and Vietnamese interpreters were in attendance at all public hearings.
Long-Term Planning and Recovery
Below is an explanation of how the COG’s method of distribution fosters long-term community recovery that is forward-looking and focused on permanent restoration of infrastructure, housing and the local economy and primarily, how these activities will contribute to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing in the HUD-identified most impacted and distressed areas and/or other impacted areas.

Over the past thirteen years (13) years, the South East Texas region has been subjected to extensive damage due to direct hits from one (1) minor (Humberto) and three (3) major (Rita, Ike & Harvey) hurricanes. We also sustained marginal damage from the western side of Hurricane Gustav. Prior to Harvey, the region received funding that has been used to foster long-term recovery that was forward-looking and sought to target permanent restoration of infrastructure, housing and the local economy through various programs and projects. Our goal is to do the same in the aftermath of Harvey by taking what we have learned from each storm and applying that knowledge to prevent further damage of the same types.

While the Texas General Land Office (GLO) will be handling the restoration of housing, local Southeast Texas communities will be focused on conducting the buy-out and acquisition of properties as well as the restoration and hardening of infrastructure. This will be carried out as follows:

- Buy-out/Acquisition programs will be aimed at preventing repetitive loss and extreme risk to human health and safety to homeowners through the various types of eligible activities defined by HUD and the GLO.
- Infrastructure projects will focus on the repair, restoration and enhancement of critical infrastructure that was damaged or failed to function. These types of projects are essential for the long-term protection of housing and businesses as well as general community viability.

The overall goal of rebuilding efforts in Southeast Texas is to establish communities that can withstand future disasters as well as maintain or increase the populations in these areas.

Unmet Housing Needs
Below is an explanation of how unmet housing needs will be addressed or how economic revitalization or infrastructure activities will contribute to long-term recovery and restoration of housing in the HUD-identified most impacted and distressed areas and/or other impacted areas.

Buyout/acquisition and infrastructure activities are critical to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing within Southeast Texas.

- Buyout/acquisition activities will focus on the removal of homes and citizens from harm’s way, thereby preventing repetitive loss and the possibility of catastrophic human loss. Unmet housing needs of those located in these areas will be addressed and resolved through various eligible activities that will be planned and carried out by individual communities.

- Infrastructure is a vital and major component of a comprehensive long-term recovery program that includes addressing unmet housing needs. Crucial components will be repair and enhancement of local infrastructure and improved mitigation efforts at the individual community level, making each inhabitable and viable.
Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Statement
All subrecipients will certify that they will affirmatively further fair housing ("AFFH") in their grant agreements, and will receive GLO training and technical assistance in meeting their AFFH obligations. Additionally, all project applications will undergo AFFH review by GLO before approval of projects. Such review will include assessment of a proposed project's area demography, socioeconomic characteristics, housing configuration and needs, educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, environmental hazards or concerns, and all other factors material to the AFFH determination. Applications should show that projects are likely to lessen area racial, ethnic, and low-income concentrations, and/or promote affordable housing in low-poverty, nonminority areas in response to natural hazard related impacts.

Low-to-Moderate Income Requirement
Below is an explanation of how the method of distribution meets the 70 percent low-to moderate income (LMI) requirement for each program. This means that 70 percent of the funds must benefit areas that are 51% or more LMI households or benefit households with incomes below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI).

Per requirements of the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey – Round 1 – April 6, 2018 submitted to United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by the Texas General Land Office (GLO), at least 70 percent of all program funds will benefit low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons. All entities will be required to follow established rules and regulations related to the funding received.

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Local Buyout and Acquisition Program Method of Distribution Detail

The COG is required to prepare a method of distribution for the local buyout and acquisition program funds between the eligible cities, counties, and entities with eminent domain authority. The GLO has directed the COG to use a direct allocation technique based on objective and verifiable data.

**Distribution Factors**
The COG has selected the following distribution factors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution Factor*</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Documentation Source</th>
<th>Explanation of Factor Selection and Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Storm Impact</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>FEMA, USGS, NOAA, local jurisdictional reports.</td>
<td>All communities within the Southeast Texas region received the same type of damage (rising water) that is comparable therefore, impact was the only factor selected for use. See below for more detailed information**.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Add more rows if needed

All allocations must meet or exceed a floor of $1,000,000 to help ensure sufficient funds for the Local Buyout and Acquisition program.

** Storm impact represents the percentage of population in each jurisdiction that was affected by Harvey’s floodwaters. The first step to determine impact was to identify where floodwaters stood. In order to do this, data was collected from the Federal Office of Emergency Management (FEMA), United States Geological Survey (USGS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and local jurisdictions (volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys). This data was combined in Geological Information System (GIS) mapping software to create a representative model to identify areas that had six (6) inches or more of floodwater. The second step was to determine how much population was affected in these flooded areas in each jurisdiction. 2016 Census data was used to count the affected populations in each of these areas and was then divided by the total population of that jurisdiction, revealing a percentage affected within that jurisdiction. The third step was to apply all of this information to the funding formula provided by GLO to determine allocation amounts.

**Eligible Activities**
Activities must be specifically related to Hurricane Harvey, and must meet the following criteria as outlined in the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey (Section IV.F.2.d).

The COG has addressed prioritization of eligible activities as follows:

- The COG has chosen not to limit Grantees in the region to projects meeting regional priority activities.

-OR-

- The COG has limited Grantees in the region to selecting projects meeting the following regional priority activities:

  - Buyout
  - Activities designed to relocate families outside of floodplains
Ineligible Activities
Incentive payments to households that move to disaster-impacted floodplains. Activities located within the city limits of Houston and/or within Harris County are ineligible to participate in the program.

Local Infrastructure Program Method of Distribution Detail

The COG is required to prepare a method of distribution for the local infrastructure program funds between the eligible cities and counties. The GLO has directed the COG to use a direct allocation technique based on objective and verifiable data.

Distribution Factors
The COG has selected the following distribution factors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution Factor*</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Documentation Source</th>
<th>Explanation of Factor Selection and Weighting</th>
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<td>All communities within the Southeast Texas region received the same type of damage (rising water) that is comparable therefore, impact was the only factor selected for use. See below for more detailed information**.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Add more rows if needed

All allocations must meet or exceed a floor of $100,000 to help ensure sufficient funds for at least one eligible project.

** Storm impact represents the percentage of population in each jurisdiction that was affected by Harvey’s floodwaters. The first step to determine impact was to identify where floodwaters stood. In order to do this, data was collected from the Federal Office of Emergency Management (FEMA), United States Geological Survey (USGS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and local jurisdictions (volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys). This data was combined in Geological Information System (GIS) mapping software to create a representative model to identify areas that had six (6) inches or more of floodwater. The second step was to determine how much population was affected in these flooded areas in each jurisdiction. 2016 Census data was used to count the affected populations in each of these areas and was then divided by the total population of that jurisdiction, revealing a percentage affected within that jurisdiction. The third step was to apply all of this information to the funding formula provided by GLO to determine allocation amounts.

Eligible Activities
Activities must be specifically related to Hurricane Harvey, and must meet the following criteria as outlined in the State of Texas Plan for Disastery Recovery: Hurricane Harvey (Section IV.F.7.d).
Each infrastructure activity must demonstrate how it will contribute to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing. The COG has addressed prioritization of eligible activities as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>☒</th>
<th>The COG has chosen not to limit Grantees in the region to projects meeting regional priority activities.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-OR-</td>
<td>-OR-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>The COG has limited Grantees in the region to selecting projects meeting the following regional priority activities:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Water Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Sewer Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Other Public Utilities (gas, et al)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Street Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Flood and Drainage Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Debris Removal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Community Centers &amp; Emergency Shelters (Existing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Fire Protection Facilities and Equipment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ineligible Activities**

Ineligible activities for the local infrastructure program are outlined in the State of Texas Plan for Disastery Recovery: Hurricane Harvey (Section IV.F.7.e) and should be referenced accordingly.

**Proposed Reallocation of Unused Funds**

Subject to GLO approval, wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.

**Approval and Signatory Authority**

A Resolution of the COG is attached approving the method of distribution and authorizing its submittal to the Texas General Land Office. I certify that the contents of this document and all related attachments are complete and accurate.

Signature

Date 8-15-18

Shaun P. Davis
Printed Name

Executive Director
Title

sdavis@setrpc.org
Email Address

(409) 899-8444, ext. 6041
Telephone Number
Allocation Summary Spreadsheet
### SETRPC - BUYOUTS/ACQUISITIONS PROGRAM

**REVISED POST-COMMENT VERSION -- FINAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City, County or Eligible Entity</th>
<th>Impacted Population</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Impact Factor Measure (FM)</th>
<th>Factor Measure Maximum (FMmax)</th>
<th>Weight (W)</th>
<th>Weighted Factor Wx(FM/FMmax)</th>
<th>Weighted Factor Total (EFtot)</th>
<th>Weighted Factor Total (WFtot)</th>
<th>Proportional Weighted Factor (PWF) EWFtot/ WFtot</th>
<th>Housing Allocation for Formulaic Distribution (AFD)</th>
<th>Proportional Distribution PWF x AFD + $1m</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bevil Oaks</em></td>
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<td>0.000</td>
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<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
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<td>0.000</td>
<td>$51,687,614.00</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Pine Forest</em></td>
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<td>8.1733</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>$51,687,614.00</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Rose City</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Rose Hill Acres</em></td>
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<td>$25,687,614.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Port Neches</strong></td>
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<td>$3,041,446.86</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The formula above identifies impact of the storm on individual communities by determining the percentage of a jurisdiction’s population directly affected compared to its overall population.

*A special allocation was made to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received 100% damage.

**Jurisdictions opted out of the Buyouts/Acquisitions Program
## REVISITED POST-COMMENT VERSION -- FINAL

### SETRPC - INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City, County or Eligible Entity</th>
<th>First Distribution Factor: IMPACT</th>
<th>Maximum Factor Measure: 0.8936</th>
<th>Factor Weight: 100%</th>
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<td>1,242</td>
<td>1,242</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Pine Forest</em></td>
<td>508</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Rose City</em></td>
<td>523</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Rose Hill Acres</em></td>
<td>445</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
</tr>
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<td>21,838</td>
<td>32,160</td>
<td>0.6790</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silsbee</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>6,735</td>
<td>0.0569</td>
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<tr>
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<td>337</td>
<td>1,832</td>
<td>0.1840</td>
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<td>0.4695</td>
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<td>92,296</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>5,133</td>
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<td>Orange Co Unincorporated</td>
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<td>1,138</td>
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<td>Vidor</td>
<td>4,898</td>
<td>10,958</td>
<td>0.4470</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Orange</td>
<td>2,006</td>
<td>3,456</td>
<td>0.5804</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The formula above identifies impact of the storm on individual communities by determining the percentage of a jurisdiction's population directly affected compared to its overall population.

*A special allocation was made to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received 100% damage.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City, County or Eligible Entity</th>
<th>Local Buyout and Acquisition Program</th>
<th>Local Infrastructure Program</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Allocation</td>
<td>Percentage of Allocation</td>
<td>Allocation</td>
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<td>*Bevil Oaks</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
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<td>*Pine Forest</td>
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<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Rose City</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
<td>3.87%</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Rose Hill Acres</td>
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<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Silsbee</td>
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Percentage of Total Allocation: 32.98% 67.02%

Low-to-Moderate Income Benefit Requirement: 70% $109,690,584.50

*A special allocation was made to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received 100% damage.

**Jurisdictions opted out of the Buyouts/Acquisitions Program
<table>
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<th>City, County or Eligible Entity</th>
<th>Impacted Population</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
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<th>Factor Measure Maximum (FM/Max)</th>
<th>Weight (W)</th>
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<th>Weighted Factor Total (WFtot)</th>
<th>Proportional Weighted Factor (PWF) EWFtot/ WFtot</th>
<th>Housing Allocation for Formulaic Distribution (AFD)</th>
<th>Proportional Distribution PWF x AFD + $1m</th>
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<td>31,833</td>
<td>0.4695</td>
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<td>0.8936</td>
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<td>0.7014</td>
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<td>0.0811</td>
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<td>$3,083,223.82</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The formula above identifies impact of the storm on individual communities by determining the percentage of a jurisdiction's population directly affected compared to its overall population.

*A special allocation was made to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received 100% damage.

**Jurisdiction opted out of the Buyouts/Acquisitions Program
## SETRPC - INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

**First Distribution Factor: IMPACT**

**Maximum Factor Measure:** 0.8936

**Factor Weight:** 100%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City, County or Eligible Entity</th>
<th>Impacted Population</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Impact Factor Measure (FM)</th>
<th>Factor Measure Maximum (FMmax)</th>
<th>Weight (W)</th>
<th>Weighted Factor Wx(FM/FMmax)</th>
<th>Weighted Factor Total (WTot)</th>
<th>Proportional Weighted Factor (PWF) EW/(WTot)</th>
<th>Non-Housing Allocation for Formulaic Distribution (AFD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bevil Oaks</em></td>
<td>1,242</td>
<td>1,242</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
<td>8.4250</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
<td>$105,013,221.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pine Forest</em></td>
<td>508</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
<td>8.4250</td>
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<td>$105,013,221.00</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>0.7802</td>
<td>0.8936</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.8731</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The formula above identifies impact of the storm on individual communities by determining the percentage of a jurisdiction's population directly affected compared to its overall population.

*A special allocation was made to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received 100% damage.*
### SETRPC - SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City, County or Eligible Entity</th>
<th>Local Buyout and Acquisition Program Required Allocation</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Allocation</th>
<th>Local Infrastructure Program Required Allocation</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Allocation</th>
<th>Total Required Allocation</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Regional Allocation</th>
<th>70% Low-to-Moderate Income Benefit Requirement</th>
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<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
<td>1.90%</td>
<td>$4,000,000.00</td>
<td>2.55%</td>
<td>$2,800,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Rose City</em></td>
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<td>1.90%</td>
<td>$4,000,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Rose Hill Acres</em></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>$9,983,527.96</td>
<td>6.37%</td>
<td>$6,988,469.57</td>
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<td>Vidor</td>
<td>$2,078,547.24</td>
<td>4.02%</td>
<td>$3,872,391.42</td>
<td>3.69%</td>
<td>$5,950,938.66</td>
<td>3.80%</td>
<td>$4,165,657.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Orange</td>
<td>$3,083,223.82</td>
<td>5.97%</td>
<td>$7,479,559.29</td>
<td>7.12%</td>
<td>$10,562,783.11</td>
<td>6.74%</td>
<td>$7,393,948.18</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Allocation</strong></td>
<td>$51,687,614.00</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td><strong>$105,013,221.00</strong></td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td><strong>$156,700,835.00</strong></td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td><strong>$109,690,584.50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A special allocation was made to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received 100% damage.
** Jurisdictions opted out of the Buyouts/Acquisitions Program
Correspondence with Local Jurisdictions
Dear Shanna,

Due to The City of Kountze not having any known Eligible or Ineligible projects, the City of Kountze does not intend to use any Buy-Out/Acquisition funds.

Thank You,

Rod Hutto/City of Kountze /City Administrator

On Friday, June 8, 2018 11:21 AM, Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org> wrote:

Local Elected Southeast Texas Officials:

Per the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey – Round 1 – April 6, 2018 (Action Plan), Southeast Texas is slated to receive $51,687,614 in funds for local buy-outs and acquisitions in order to remove homes from harm’s way. Due to the nature of the activity, these funds are to be administered by local units of government and entities with the power of eminent domain authority. While there are multiple uses for these funds (see the attached sheet for a full list of eligible and ineligible activities) the most anticipated use will be for actual buy-outs and acquisitions. The distinction between the two (2) is as follows:

- Buy-outs are for the purchase of property at pre-storm value, that will then become the property of the unit of local government that purchases it, must be used for green space for perpetuity and will come off the tax rolls.
- Acquisitions are for the purchase of property at post-storm value, that will then become the property of the unit of local government that purchases it but can be resold/redeveloped and remain on the tax rolls.

At this time, the SETRPC is working on a Method of Distribution (MOD) to allocate funds to the twenty-four (24) cities and counties in the Southeast Texas region for this purpose. The Action Plan requires that we “implement a minimum of $1,000,000 in CDBG-DR funds to any local entity receiving funding through the MOD”. What this means is each community will receive a base allocation of $1,000,000 then additional funds available will be distributed using an allocation formula.
It has been brought to our attention that there may be communities within the region that are not interested in doing a buy-out/acquisition program and subsequently would not utilize any funding provided for those activities. We are, therefore, conducting this poll to identify any community that does not intend to use any buy-out/acquisition funds allocated to them. If this is the case for your jurisdiction, it is requested that the Chief Official (Mayor or County Judge) respond to this email and state that your community does not anticipate having a Buy-Out/Acquisition Program and is not interested in receiving an allocation for that purpose. The deadline for responses is noon, Friday, June 15, 2018.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke, PHR, SHRM-CP
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77703
Ph – (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516
Fax – (409) 347-0138
Email – sburke@setrpc.org
Shanna Burke

From: Andre' Wimer <AWimer@ci.port-neches.tx.us>
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2018 10:21 AM
To: Shanna Burke
Subject: RE: URGENT RESPONSE REQUESTED - Harvey MOD Buy-Out/Acquisition Funding

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Shanna –

Please accept this e-mail as notification that the City of Port Neches does not anticipate having a property buyout/acquisition program and, as such, a funding allocation for such a purpose is not necessary.

Glenn Johnson
Mayor
City of Port Neches

From: Shanna Burke [mailto:sburke@setrpc.org]
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2018 11:22 AM
To: Alvin Roberts (Email) <Alvin.Roberts@Co.Hardin.TX.US>; Ann Galassi (Email) <agalassi@srax.org>; Barbara Otto (botto@beaumonttexas.gov) <botto@beaumonttexas.gov>; Barry Burton (Email) <bburton@co.orange.tx.us>; Becky Kelley (Email) <Bkelley@lumbertonfirerescue.org>; Becky Ames (Email) <bames@beaumonttexas.gov>; Bonnie Stephenson (Email) <cityofrosecity@yahoo.com>; Brad Bailey (Email) <kbutler@ cigrovestx.com>; Brad Childs (Email) <tanderson@orangetx.org>; Brandon Creighton (Email) <brandon.creighton@senate.state.tx.us>; Brent Weaver email <pct2@co.jefferson.tx.us>; Brian Gipson (Email) <generalmanager@mauricevillemud.com>; Bruce Robinson (Email) <BrucexRobinson@gmail.com>; C.A. "Pete" Shelton (E-mail) <cas@portofbeaumont.com>; Cathy Nagel (Email) <cityofpineforest@gt.rr.com>; Charlotte Moses (Email) <charlotte.moses@portarthurtx.gov>; Chris Boone (chris.boone@beaumonttexas.gov) <chris.boone@beaumonttexas.gov>; Chris Kirkendall (Email) <chris.kirkendall@co.hardin.tx.us>; Cisco Abshire - Beaumont ISD (cabshir@bmtisd.com) <cabshir@bmtisd.com>; Dade Phelan (Email) <dade.phelan@house.state.tx.us>; Dale Fontenot (E-mail) <dalefont@pgisd.org>; Dan Mohon (Email) <dmohon@gt.rr.com>; Daniel J. Diaz (Email) <ddiaz@jcesd3.com>; David Maniscalco (Email) <clumberton@gt.rr.com>; David Rutledge (Email) <stisdale@bridgecitytx.com>; Derrick Freeman (Email) <derrick.freeman@portarthurtx.gov>; Joni Underwood <JUnderwood@ci.nederland.tx.us>; Don Carona (Email) <dcarona@orangecountydrainage.com>; Dwaine K. Augustine (Email) <daugustine@hfthorns.net>; Eddie Arnold (E-mail) <eddiearnold@co.jefferson.tx.us>; Eugene "Gene" Bouillon (Email) <gbouillon@portoforange.com>; Everette "Bo" Alfred (Email) <ealfred@co.jefferson.tx.us>; Fred Jackson <f.jackson@co.jefferson.tx.us>; Fred Williams (E-mail) <kmch@sbcglobal.net>; Glenn Johnson <GJohnson@ci.port-neches.tx.us>; Herbert Muckleroy (email) <deeanncityofsiltsbee.com>; James White (Email) <james.white@house.state.tx.us>; Jay Killgo (Email) <jkillgo@vidorisd.org>; Jeff Branick (Email) <jbranick@co.jefferson.tx.us>; Jody Crump (Email) <jcrump@co.orange.tx.us>; Joe Deshotel (Email) <jddeshotel@gmail.com>; John Comeaux (Email) <jacomeaux123@aol.com>; John Durkay (Email) <johndurkay@istc.net>; John Gothia (Email) <jgothia@co.orange.tx.us>; John L. Johnson (Email) <jles53@gmail.com>; John W. Frossard (Email) <cguidro@bmtisd.com>; Johnny Trahan (Email) <jtrahan@co.orange.tx.us>; Josh W. Allen Sr. (Email) <josh@jallenmgmt.com>; Judge Dean Crooks (Email) <dcrooks@co.orange.tx.us>; Kelly Carder (Email) <kcarder@co.orange.tx.us>
Local Elected Southeast Texas Officials:

Per the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey – Round 1 – April 6, 2018 (Action Plan), Southeast Texas is slated to receive $51,687,614 in funds for local buy-outs and acquisitions in order to remove homes from harm’s way. Due to the nature of the activity, these funds are to be administered by local units of government and entities with the power of eminent domain authority. While there are multiple uses for these funds (see the attached sheet for a full list of eligible and ineligible activities) the most anticipated use will be for actual buy-outs and acquisitions. The distinction between the two (2) is as follows:

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Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke, PHR, SHRM-CP
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77703
Ph – (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516
Fax – (409) 347-0138
Email – sburke@setrpc.org
Resolution
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION AND SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH EAST TEXAS METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION

WHEREAS, the Southeast Texas Region was adversely affected by Hurricane Harvey; and

WHEREAS, the Southeast Texas Region has been allocated $156,700,835 in Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Funding for buyout/acquisition and infrastructure activities through the Texas General Land Office; and

WHEREAS, the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, is responsible, with local input, in determining how to allocate funding; and

WHEREAS, the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, is responsible, with local input, in determining activities; and

WHEREAS, the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission has detailed a plan for the allocation of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds in Southeast Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission has reviewed the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission Method of Distribution for 2017 Hurricane Harvey CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation to be submitted to the Texas General Land Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Executive Committee of the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission approves the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission Method of Distribution for 2017 Hurricane Harvey CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation and authorizes its submission to the Texas General Land Office.

That this Resolution is endorsed and passed by the Executive Committee of the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission on this day, Wednesday, August 15, 2018.

Chris Kirkendall, President, SETRPC
County Commissioner, Hardin County

ATTEST:

Michael “Shane” Sinegal, Secretary, SETRPC
County Commissioner, Jefferson County
Citizen Participation Plan
Citizen Participation Plan
COG Method of Distribution
Hurricane Harvey CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation

Summary Information

Contact Information
Council of Government (COG): South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
Principle Contact Name, Title: Shanna Burke, Disaster Recovery Division Director
Principle Contact Telephone: (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516
Principle Contact Email: sburke@setrpc.org
Principle Contact Address: 2210 Eastex Freeway
City, State, Zip: Beaumont, Texas 77703

Citizen and Non-Governmental Organization Outreach
The COG will encourage citizens, with particular emphasis on persons of low-to-moderate income and other vulnerable populations to submit their views regarding community development and housing needs resulting from the disaster(s) in the following ways:

Citizens will be encouraged through the SETRPC website, public notices, notices to local advocacy groups and the Method of Distribution (MOD) prepared for public review, to submit their views and comments regarding community development and needs resulting from the disaster. Citizens will be instructed to submit comments and concerns via written letter or email to the SETRPC, or voice a comment in person by attending any of the three scheduled public hearings.
The following local organizations that provide services or housing for low-to-moderate income persons, including but not limited to, the local Public Housing Authorities, the local Health and Human Services offices, the local mental health and MHMR offices, Community Development Corporations and Community Housing Development Organizations, will receive written notification concerning the date, time, location and topics to be covered at the method of distribution public hearings:

Beaumont Housing Authority, Port Arthur Housing Authority, Orange Housing Authority, Health & Human Services Offices, Southeast Texas Community Development, Legacy Community Housing Development Organization, Orange County Longterm Recovery Group, Hardin County Disaster Recovery Group, Help! I’m Hurting! LTRG, Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, Nederland Chamber of Commerce, Port Neches Chamber of Commerce, Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce, Bridge City Chamber of Commerce, Orange Chamber of Commerce, Silsbee Chamber of Commerce, Sour Lake Chamber of Commerce, Lumberton Chamber of Commerce, Kountze Chamber of Commerce, Spindletop Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Family Services of Southeast Texas, Lamar University, Southeast Texas Workforce Development Board, Hardin County Emergency Family Services, Ubi Caritas, Some Other Place, United Board of Missions, Salvation Army, Shalom Builders, Orange Christian Services, Community Care Prayer Outreach, Catholic Charities, Nutrition and Services for Seniors, Golden Triangle Interfaith, Beaumont Area Disaster Ministries – Conference of United Methodist Churches, Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Social Services, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Boat People SOS. In addition to these entities, local elected officials, faith-based organizations, various other non-profit agencies and local media outlets will receive written notification regarding scheduled public hearings.

The following organizations interested in fair housing issues and representing protected classes of individuals will be contacted to gain additional perspective on fair housing and civil rights issues in the region, and how the people they represent were affected by the disaster(s). Approaches beyond simple written notification of public hearings are required and detailed below:

Lone Star Legal Aid, Texas Housers and Texas Appleseed.

Along with written notification to each entity above, the SETRPC will be releasing information to local media outlets informing them of upcoming public hearings and topics of discussion. See list of special media outlets to be contacted below that serve protected classes in Southeast Texas.

The COG acknowledges that language differences may play a role in effectively reaching non-English speaking residents. The COG will address these potential barriers by providing notification efforts as follows:

Notifications of public hearings will be provided in English, Spanish and Vietnamese text. Notices will be posted in the following Southeast Texas newspapers: The Beaumont Enterprise (Regional Newspaper), The Port Arthur News, The Hardin County News and The Orange Leader. Notices for the two additional hearings will also be published in the Lumberton Ledger, The Silsbee Bee and the Orange County Record. The will also be posted on the SETRPC’s website and will be forwarded to all cities and counties in the Southeast Texas area to be posted. Notices will also be sent to El Perico (Hispanic newspaper), La Raza (Hispanic radio station), Radio Saigon (Vietnamese radio station), LULAC – League of United Latin American Citizens (Hispanic Advocacy Group), Cathedral Church – Spanish Congregation Pastor and Boat People SOS (Vietnamese Advocacy Group).
Public Hearing Content
The public hearings will include a discussion of the following topics:

- The development of housing and community development needs resulting from the disaster(s);
- The amount of funding available;
- All eligible activities under the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery program, including linking activities to the disaster(s) through direct damage or failure to function;
- Proposed objective factors;
- The COG’s draft Method of Distribution.

Required Meeting and Public Hearing Information
To the extent possible, the COG will adhere to the following schedule of hearings and notifications:

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution for Public Review
Date/Time: July 6, 2018
Website Address: www.setrpc.org

Public Hearings Scheduling Information
Public Planning Meeting – 1st Public Hearing
Date/Time: May 24, 2018
Location: Lamar University – Galloway Business Bldg. – Landes Auditorium

2nd Public Hearing During Comment Period
Date/Time: July 17, 2018
Location: Orange Public Library Auditorium, Orange, Texas

3rd Public Hearing During Comment Period
Date/Time: July 19, 2018
Location: Lumberton Performing Arts Center, Lumberton, Texas

Notification consistent with GLO requirements will be provided on or before the following dates:

Dates Personal Notice of Hearings will be sent to entities:
May 18, 2018 for 1st Public Hearing and five days prior to additional hearing dates.

Dates Notice of Hearings will be published on the COG’s Website:
May 18, 2018 for 1st Public Hearing & July 6, 2018 for additional hearings.

Dates Notice of Hearings will be published in regional newspaper(s):
May 20, 2018 for 1st Public Hearing and July 11, 2018 for additional hearings.

The COG understands public hearings shall be held at a time and location compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries. The hearing must include accommodations for persons with disabilities. The COG will accommodate these needs in the following ways:

- Public hearing locations will be fully accessible to persons with disabilities. Public hearing announcements will include information on accessibility requests for individuals requiring an interpreter, auxiliary aids or other services.

The COG understands its responsibility to provide interpretive services when a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate in the public hearing. If these services are determined to be necessary, the COG will address this need as follows:
The SETRPC will have a Spanish speaking individual at all public hearings to provide interpretation, if necessary. We will also have an individual who speaks Vietnamese on stand-by via phone should those services be needed. If requests for an interpreter are received prior to hearing, we will ensure someone will be in attendance on-site to accommodate this request.

**Efforts Exceeding Minimum Participation Requirements**

The GLO has encouraged the COG to seek public participation when developing the method of distribution. In pursuit of this goal, the COG held additional meetings and took other additional actions as follows:

The SETRPC held a telephone conference with local organizations interested in fair housing issues and that represent protected classes of individuals to gain their perspectives on priorities and issues in the area.

In addition to the two public hearings required, the SETRPC will schedule a third public hearing for the citizens to fairly represent the third county the SETRPC covers. By adding a third public hearing, the SETRPC ensures citizens have the flexibility to attend on three different dates in three different locations in the Jefferson County, Hardin County and Orange County.

The SETRPC will promote the comment period of the draft MOD by posting on its website and making it available at its offices for public review. In addition, all local cities and counties will be sent the public hearing notices to post in their public areas, as well as have a copy of the MOD available for public review.
Meeting #1 Materials
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC)
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

SPECIAL INTEREST/ADVOCACY GROUP
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RESPONSES/DISCUSSION
CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
Special Interest/Advocacy Groups
Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution (MOD)
Friday, May 25, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) held a conference call with Special Interest/Advocacy Groups to get input and perspective on fair housing and civil rights issues as they may relate to the SETRPC’s development of a Method of Distribution (MOD) for buy-out/acquisition and infrastructure funds in the Southeast Texas area.

- Welcome and Introductions

- Comments by Shaun Davis – SETRPC
  - Wanted to make sure we get feedback from special interest groups on our thinking and processes as we work to develop a MOD.
  - Take in as much perspective as possible to develop a distribution of funds and how it is divided out.
  - Shanna Burke will go through the handouts that detail eligible projects and the amount of funds available.

- Comments by Shanna Burke – SETRPC
  - Detailed discussion held of handout and funding.
    - Buyout/Acquisition
      - Funding Availability
      - LMI Requirements
        - Eligible Entities
      - Eligible Activities
      - Ineligible Activities
    - Local Infrastructure Program
      - Funding Availability
      - LMI Requirements
        - Eligible Entities
      - Eligible Activities
      - Ineligible Activities
    - Further explanation of LMI requirement.
      - Distribution of funds for LMI – each community must meet 70% threshold.
    - Each community gets a base amount of funds but some may not meet that minimal threshold to spend all the funds.
• Comments by Amy Dinn – Lone Star Legal Aid
  o Attorney on the Environmental Adjustment Team.
  o Spent time in Port Arthur.
  o There were pockets that were hard hit.
  o Carver Terrace is environmentally unsound.
  o Prince Hall Village – had 1st floor flooding.
  o St. Louis Manor – environmental concerns – is within a mile of major refineries
    and has been affected by the German Pellet events.
  o Recommend complete acquisition and rebuild.
  o With regard to infrastructure, better drainage is needed all around Port Arthur.
  o There were many pump failures.
  o Other than buy-out of neighborhoods, need to reinforce communities to stay
    where they are.
  o Issues with sump pumps, Alligator pump station, need a Vista Village drainage
    pond and repairs for flood control.
  o There is a lack of drainage maintenance by the City.
  o El Vista – fence line property that faces industry flooded significantly.
  ▪ SD: In this process, not going down to the project level – these will be done
    at the jurisdictional level.
  ▪ SD: Our approach for the MOD will be to determine the impacted areas of
    the region vs. who has the biggest project; focus on how much population
    was impacted.
  ▪ AD: Will try to tailor written comments with this in mind.
  ▪ SD: Comments given were very appropriate and appreciated, just wanted to
    give a little clarification.
    • We were involved in the rebuilding of Carver Terrace and know
      Prince Hall was in need.
    • State is doing the housing portion of the program and anticipate
      multi-family rental being included.

• Comments by Clinton McNair– Texas Housers
  o Attended the Public Hearing last night, was really well run and lots of good info
    given out.
  o Regarding the Port Acres Community – there is a need to focus on the amount of
    damage and number of people served.
  o Concerned with elderly communities in floodplains, what will be done with buy-
    outs to help?
    ▪ SD: in the past, SETRPC storm programs have always prioritized the
      poorest of the poor and worked out way up. Have had a priority on
      serving elderly and disabled.
- SD: Noted Port Acres is considered part of Port Arthur.
- SB: Will ensure GLO is told our priorities are still the elderly and disabled as well as LMI communities specifically related to housing.
- SD: Attempting to see where highest impact took place.

- Comments by Marty Orozco, Lone Star Legal Aid
  - Absolutely see the need to see where highest impact took place.
  - Have seen a void where FEMA has and has not stepped in.
  - Some communities that are richer have been able to access FEMA funds.
    - SD: In the past have include an LMI component.
      - Don’t see that as something we have to have in the initial formula because of the LMI mandate.
      - Want to keep the formula simple for overall population affected.
      - Because this is a special storm, this time a singular type of damage, rising water.
      - By mapping where water was and the varying depth we believe this will be a good indicator of impact. The thought right now is to look at applying to a map.
      - Have 0-2 feet, 2-4 feet, 4-6 feet, 8 feet plus or something like that. Do a map overlay of the region to determine how many in different depths of water were affected.
      - Discussed FEMA numbers. Our experience is it nearly impossible to get trustworthy FEMA numbers.
      - Our goal is to map out the storm impact, think it’s a consistent method.
      - Does that seem fair.

- Comments by Amy Dinn, Lone Star Legal Aid
  - Aware of the inundation map done by the Army Corp of Engineers for Port Arthur.
  - Complicating factor was the drainage issues.
  - Montrose 1 & 2 had water for weeks, subsequent compounding due to drainage, twice flooded – once by rain & later by drainage issues.
  - Drainage caused additional damage or consequential damage.
    - SD: Eye test can tell if there was damage.
      - Other factors are what can be brought up during the comment period.
      - As a starting point, are looking at an inundation map.
      - If you have another idea we are all ears.
      - Is that a good starting point?
• Comments by Marty Orozco, Lone Star Legal Aid
  o Have concern about FEMA data, if you can even get it.
  o Think flood maps are a good start..
    • SD: Please understand we have to translate all this into a quantifiable formula.
    • Have to have a mathematical equation.
    • Is a big challenge but we have done it before.
    • Input is apricated.
    • Will spend the next couple of weeks working on maps, next public hearing will be to roll out a draft MOD.
  o MO: Appreciate the invitation to be at the table, will work on written comments as well.
    • SD: Thank you we consider y’all as partners.
AGENDA
PUBLIC HEARING - HURRICANE HARVEY ROUND 1
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING
(BUY-OUTS/ACQUISITION AND INFRASTRUCTURE)
Lamar University – Galloway Business Building – Landes Auditorium
Thursday, May 24, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.

• Welcome

• Discussion of Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Funding
  • Types of Funding Available
  • Amount of Funding Available
  • Eligible Activities
  • Ineligible Activities

• Discussion of South East Texas Regional Planning Commission’s Method of Distribution

• Open Public Comment Period (Public Comment limited to 3 minutes per person)
  (Those not wishing to publicly comment may submit written comments by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m., Thursday, May 31, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, SETRPC, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – sburke@setrpc.org)

• Closing Remarks
HURRICANE HARVEY – ROUND 1
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING INFORMATION
(BUY-OUTS/ACQUISITION AND INFRASTRUCTURE)

**Local Buyout and Acquisition Program**
The local buyout and acquisition program will remove homes from harm’s way.

**Funding Availability**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Funding</td>
<td>$51,687,614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMI Amount (70% of Total)</td>
<td>$36,181,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method of Distribution Requirements**
A minimum of $1,000,000 will be allocated to each local entity receiving funding through the MOD.

**Eligible Entities**
Units of local government and entities with the power of eminent domain authority.

**Eligible Activities**
- Buyouts;
- Acquisition;
- Relocation Assistance with buyout or acquisition activities;
- Down-payment Assistance with buyout or acquisition activities;
- Demolition only;
- Activities designed to relocate families outside of floodplains;
- Public service within the 15 percent cap (e.g., housing counseling, legal counseling, job training, mental health and general health services);
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) cost share.

**Ineligible Activities**
Incentive payments to households that move to disaster-impacted floodplains.

**Local Infrastructure Program**
The Local Infrastructure Program will provide disaster relief, long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure for local communities impacted by Hurricane Harvey. Each infrastructure activity must demonstrate how it will contribute to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing.

**Funding Availability**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Funding</td>
<td>$105,013,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMI Amount (70% of Total)</td>
<td>$ 73,509,255</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method of Distribution Requirements**
A minimum of $100,000 will be allocated to each local entity receiving funding through the MOD.
Eligible Entities
Unites of local government (cities and counties).

Eligible Activities
All activities allowed under CDBG-DR, including but not limited to:

- Flood control and drainage repair and improvements, including the construction or rehabilitation of storm water management systems;
- Restoration of infrastructure (such as water and sewer facilities, streets, provision of generators, removal of debris, bridges, etc.);
- Demolition, rehabilitation of publicly or privately-owned commercial or industrial building and code enforcement;
- Economic development (such as microenterprise and small business assistance, commercial rehabilitation and special economic development activities, including; prioritizing assistance to businesses that meet the definition of a small business);
- Public service (such as job training and employment services, healthcare, child care and crime prevention within the 15 percent cap.)

Ineligible Activities

- CDBG-DR funds may not be used to enlarge a dam or levee beyond the original footprint of the structure that existed prior to the disaster event. CDBG-DR funds for levees and dams are required to:
  - Register and maintain entries regarding such structures with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Levee Database or National Inventory of Dams;
  - Ensure that the structure is admitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers PL84-99 Rehabilitation Program (Rehabilitation Assistance for Non-Federal Flood Control Projects);
  - Ensure the structure is accredited under the FEMA Nation Flood Insurance Program;
  - Maintain file documentation demonstrating a risk assessment prior to funding the flood control structure and documentation that the investment includes risk reduction measures.
- Funds may not be used to assist a privately-owned utility for any purpose.
- Buildings and facilities used for the general conduct of government (e.g., city halls, courthouses and emergency operation centers).
- No disaster recovery assistance will be considered with respect to any part of a disaster loss that is reimbursable by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), insurance or another source due in part to the restrictions against duplication of benefits outlined in the Action Plan. An activity underway prior to the Presidential Disaster Declaration will not qualify unless the disaster directly impacted said project.
- By law, (codified in the HCD Act as a note to 105(a)), the amount of CDBG-DR funds that may be contributed to a USACE project is $250,000 or less.
SOUTHEAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC) METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG- DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

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SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC)
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

1ST PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY OF
COMMENTS/RESPONSES/DISCUSSION
MEETING SUMMARY/COMMENTS
Public Hearing Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution (MOD)
Lamar University – Galloway Business Building - Landes Auditorium
Thursday, May 24, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.

• Welcome

• Comments by Shaun Davis – SETRPC
  o Our region received an allocation from the State.
  o Discussed timeline – this is first public hearing out of three, there are two more to come in the coming weeks. Will host one meeting in each county.
  o This first hearing is to get public input, then we will begin putting together the formula for a Method of Distribution to each community in the region to determine how much goes to each community.
  o We need help determining priorities and need – we can talk about housing, but we are focusing on infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions.
  o Make sure everyone has agenda and comment card.
  o Shanna Burke will be going over the handout; what’s eligible and what is not; after, Shanna will ask for public comment.
  o Described SETRPC, what it does, fixes big problems, Disaster Recovery is a big problem.

• Comments by Shanna Burke – SETRPC
  o Detailed discussion held of handout and funding.
    • Buyout/Acquisition
      o Funding Availability
      o LMI Requirements
      o Eligible Entities
      o Eligible Activities
      o Ineligible Activities
    • Local Infrastructure Program
      o Funding Availability
      o LMI Requirements
      o Eligible Entities
      o Eligible Activities
      o Ineligible Activities
  o Further explanation of LMI requirement.
    • Distribution of funds for LMI – each community must meet 70% threshold.
  o Each community gets a base amount of funds but some may not meet that minimal threshold to spend all the funds.
If housing is not being covered, what is relocation assistance?

- All funding available will touch housing.

**Comments by Shaun Davis – SETRPC**
- SETRPC is tasked with developing a Method of Distribution to determine how much money each community gets. We are taking input at this hearing.
- Anything you want to say, we will hear.
- If you have ideas on how money is spent, particular needs that are important to you, ideas about how funding is assigned/spent.

**Local Public Comments**

**Comments by Ben Stafford – Lamar Port Arthur**
- Dean of Workforce and Continuing Education
- Conducted a survey of 3,000 students – 1,000 responded and said that 40% received damage.
- Lamar Port Arthur maintained a food bank, housed refugees and gave away 200 laptops.
- He addressed job training needs; said that they’ve trained 67 people already in ½ year.
- They have programs for drywall and construction and cannot turn students out fast enough because the community need is so great.

**Comments by Michelle Smith – Community In-Power & Development Association, Inc**
- Addressed community building needs.
- Commented on the buyouts program and said that many find it unfeasible to remain in the area – residents want and need buyouts.
- Regarding elevation, they’re struggling to get permits because they have to elevate first, then repair.
- Feels like help is needed for renters for basic needs – cookware, clothing and food.
- Gave typed out comment as well.

**Comments by Derrick Freeman – Mayor of Port Arthur**
- Asked that SETRPC adhere to guidelines and requirements of GLO and HUD to address long term recovery and distressed areas.
- Port Arthur is most affected area from storm.
- $76m in real property loss; 7,000 homes damaged; 5,000 had no insurance.
- Discussed assessments based on FEMA and HUD.
- Port Arthur has identified drainage, roadway and infrastructure needs.
- Port Arthur will oppose any plan that does not meet GLO goals.
- Thank you SETRPC, DD7 and Jefferson County.
- Comments by Greg Richard – Port Arthur resident
  - Expressed a need for rental property restoration and help.
  - His 3 properties were trashed, his home and two of his rental properties.
  - Said that FEMA funds don’t go to rental properties.
  - Referenced Phil Kelley and DD7 has three canals that run through his area and expressed that there needs to be a redesign of water flow or retention ponds, and if there would have been, he would not have flooded so quickly because those canals acted like highways of rushing water.

- Comments by Marion Tanner – Garth House
  - Discussed families and children in our area.
  - Many families are not in their homes and living with others.
  - Garth House has seen an escalation in interviews.
  - Stress flows down to the children, who are in turn having issues.
  - Families are under an enormous amount of stress.
  - Garth House is seeing a big rise in all three counties in cases.

- Comments by Michael Sperling – Port Arthur resident
  - Concerned about veterans being excluded from plans.
  - Without vets, we would not have the freedom to plan what we are planning.
  - Please include vets in planning.

- Comments by John Beard, Jr. – Port Arthur Community Action Network (CAN)
  - Thank you to SETRPC.
  - Will make a formal written comment by the date.
  - Port Arthur is a unique area – encompassed by water on three sides.
  - Buyouts should be available within Port Arthur.
  - Elevation is needed.
  - Port Arthur was most impacted area by zip code other than Houston, and they have income issues, many residents cannot come home because they have nothing to come home to.
  - Lamar University has helped, but 7,000 residents have been located away, creating pockets of no man’s land.
  - Buyouts would be detrimental to the city.
  - Infrastructure funds are needed for improvements to mitigation in historically flooded areas.
  - Greater likelihood of Harvey-like storms and worse due to global warming.
  - Those most impacted and those living in critical areas that have economic impact need funds.
  - Gave typed comments as well.
• Comments by Clarissa Provost – Beaumont resident
  o She had three rental properties damaged in Beaumont off of Pine St. and did not get funding from FEMA or SBA because they don’t provide assistance for rentals.
  o She said she is at a loss and does not know what to do.
  o She is concerned about the Neches River and flooding.
  o Also, to get community help, mostly only helping primary residences, but now 8 months out and she’s not getting any rental income.
  o She had homeowners insurance, but did not have flood.
  o Interested in buyout program.
    ▪ SD: When the State does public hearings on housing, need to tell the need for a single-family rental program.
    ▪ Do not know if a program will exist but the fact it is needed needs to be known.
    ▪ CP: How do we know about the meetings?
    ▪ SD: Check to the SETRPC website and the GLO website. We also got email addresses for everyone in attendance and those will be put on a master list.

• Question by Marion Tanner – Garth House
  o Where do nursing homes fare?
    ▪ SD – These are privately owned would have to be privately insured. However, economic development activities are listed as an Infrastructure activity.

• Question by Becky Underhill – City of Port Arthur
  o Is there an additional allocation other than the one GLO is doing as a funding source (referring to Economic Development)?
    ▪ SD: You can either use your city allocation of tap into GLO’s funds if they do a special allocation.
Meeting #2 Materials
• Comments by Robert Viator – City of Vidor
  o I greatly appreciate SETRPC efforts on this MOD
  o I know there is no perfect system
  o Water was over Vidor, TX
    ▪ Pine Forest and Rose City were hardest hit
  o I would like to see the map used
  o The map is only showing 30% of people in Vidor were affected, I feel that the map is unrepresentative of the local community
    ▪ SD: We used the data available to us; we are subject to the available data; we can’t just use anecdotal information, it must be verifiable information
  o I would like to see the maps used and compare to the maps we have
    ▪ SD: No problem, but you will need to prove verifiable data to present
  o I have to fight for my community, I’m in no way attacking what has been done, just trying to fight for and represent my community

• General question by Joel Ardoin – Orange County Emergency Management (did not fill out comment card)
  o Discussion of what buy-out/acquisition can be used for – elevation discussion
    ▪ SD: From what we have heard, but not 100% sure, we believe the jurisdiction has to use one or the other to make sure money is spent equally within the community; elevation will likely be on the housing side

• General question by a citizen/homeowner – Orange (did not fill out comment card)
  o City of Orange Meeting last week on buy-out/acquisitions – what are the different pots of money?
    ▪ SD: Last week was likely a meeting with FEMA Hazard Mitigation funds, this is CDBG funding that does not require a price match
  o How do we know which one to apply for?
    ▪ SD: Stay in contact with your local officials for the requirements/eligibility of each program
SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds
Related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for $156,700,835 in Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds. Both written and oral comments will be accepted.

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution – Friday, July 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. at www.setrpc.org and in hard copy at the SETRPC’s Offices.
A Draft Method of Distribution is posted on the SETRPC website and is available in hard copy at the SETRPC Offices located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Written comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – harveycmments@setrpc.org.

Orange County Public Hearing – Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Orange Public Library Auditorium, 220 North 5th Street, Orange, TX.
The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Hardin County Public Hearing – Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lumberton Performing Arts Center located at 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX.
The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Adoption/Denial of Proposed Method of Distribution – Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. at the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.
The purpose will be for designated voting members of the SETRPC Executive Committee to adopt or deny the Proposed Method of Distribution.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 48-hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6386 for assistance.

For information about this posting, please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6386.
Meeting #3 Materials
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC)
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

3RD PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY OF
COMMENTS/RESPONSES/DISCUSSION
MEETING SUMMARY/COMMENTS
Public Hearing Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution (MOD)
Lumberton Performing Arts Center
Thursday, July 19, 2018–6:00 p.m.

• Welcome

• Comments by Shaun Davis – SETRPC
  o This is the third and final public hearing.
  o Process of developing MOD from planning to draft MOD to public hearings.
  o In the State of Texas Action Plan SETRPC was tasked with developing a MOD for our region.
  o Our region received an allocation from the State $105,000,000.
  o Introduced both programs and went through the SETRPC thought process of how/where we collected data.
    ▪ Discussed Impact factor – how it was determined and how it was calculated to determine the allocation for each jurisdiction.
  o Asked for input and prospective regarding the proposed MOD; if someone has an alternate proposed method, we will be happy to review and analyze the proposal.
  o All input is important to the final MOD that will be presented to the SETPRC’s Executive Committee for approval.
  o Thank you for attending.
  o Shanna will be going over the MOD (handout); after, Shanna will ask for public comment; Introduction of Shanna.

• Comments by Shanna Burke – SETRPC
  o Welcome
  o Reading of Solicitation Notice line by line with some further clarification on dates to submit written comments, etc.
  o Opening up for comments at the end.
  o Discussion of MOD handout; read line by line.
    ▪ Citizen Participation – three public hearings, conference call, solicitation for public comment; newspaper postings.
      • Public Hearings – went through all three public hearing locations, times, etc.
        o This is last public hearing.
    ▪ Long-Term Planning and Recovery
      • All the money that our region has received for these storm-related funds over the years has been for long-term planning and recovery.
      • Application of what we’ve learned from previous storms to prevent further damage of same type.
Housing program will be implemented at the State level - GLO will be handling restoration of housing, local communities will be focused on conducting buyout and acquisition of properties as well as the restoration and hardening of infrastructure.
  - Further explanation of the Buyout/Acquisition definitions and eligible activities.

- Unmet Housing Needs
  - Further explanation of the Buyout/Acquisition definitions and eligible activities.

- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Statement
  - Meeting needs and showing how projects are likely to lessen area racial, ethnic, and low-income concentrations, and/or promote affordable housing in low-poverty, nonminority areas.

- Explanation of LMI requirement
  - Read through MOD statement.
  - All jurisdictions will be required to adhere to requirements.
  - Distribution of funds for LMI – each community must meet 70% threshold.

- Shaun Davis – We were tasked with creating a formula to determine the amount of money each jurisdiction in our area will receive.
  - In the past storms, State sent FEMA numbers and that was relatable because that’s how many folks were impacted.
    - This time, FEMA numbers were not reliable and were not usable for our region.
  - Since we all sustained the same type of damage, rising water, we went through many sources and gathered data points (coordinates and addresses) and input those in to our GIS mapping system. We then overlaid the FEMA inundation map that was created after Harvey for another source. Our GIS system mapped the boundaries of the jurisdictions and then counted the population within those inundation boundaries to give us the number of people impacted by the rising water.
    - We then took that number and divided it by the total population of that jurisdiction to give us a percentage of the jurisdiction that was impacted.
    - The higher percentage, the less likely or harder of a time the community would have recovering.

- Shanna Burke continued discussion of MOD
  - Local Buyout and Acquisition Program Method of Distribution Detail
    - HUD -> GLO -> local jurisdictions: once set, GLO will contract with local jurisdictions to carry-out submitted projects.
      - Further explanation of the Buyout/Acquisition definitions and eligible activities.
• Go through distribution factor, weight, sources, and explanation
  o Floor of $1,000,000 for each community established by GLO.
  o SETRPC chose not to limit regional priority activities

  o Infrastructure Program
    ▪ Floor of $100,000 for each community established by GLO.
    ▪ Same method of distribution and formula used for both programs.
    ▪ Extensively discussed as above in buyout/acquisition program.
    ▪ Also chose not to limit projects.
      ▪ List includes eligible activities.

  o Reallocation Statement
    ▪ If a community cannot use funds, with GLO approval, we are hoping that
      money will be reallocated to the projects with the greatest impact on LMI
      in the county where the funds originated.

  o Now open for comments – if you have any comments/questions on the draft
    MOD, please let us know. If you would, fill out a comment card. Comments will
    be recorded and responded to in our MOD.

• Shaun Davis – one more thing
  o The impact factor measure – that’s the highest number of that category, which, in
    this case, was Port Arthur with 89%.
    ▪ Within that water inundation boundary, Port Arthur had 89% of
       their population so that becomes the 100% that everything else is
       compared to – it normalizes the rest of the communities.

Local Public Comments

• Comment by Dean Robinson – Silsbee citizen speaking in favor of the Silsbee Vocational
  Career Center
  o Thank you for allowing us to speak.
  o President of EDA Grant Board – we work on projects to bring jobs to the area.
  o Area has a lot of underemployed people – students can get good jobs if they have
    skills.
  o EDA specialists like the project and like to see the project develop
    ▪ SD: We can only allocate to cities and counties
      ▪ If eligible the city can prioritize the project.
      ▪ Money can be used for match – be aware that CDBG money has
        specific and possibly different strings attached.

• Comments by Paul Trevino – Silsbee ISD (Principal at Silsbee High School)
  o Thank you for the opportunity to speak.
  o Our community has a need for welders, operators, automotive technicians, etc.
- We would like to have a partnership with LIT, career and tech education would be a workforce training facility where skilled laborers can come out of high school.

- Question by Commissioner Ken Pelt (did not fill out comment card)
  - How does a community with 70 affected get so much more than say Sour Lake that has more impacted?
    - SD: This is by percent affected, these are infrastructure funds, not looking at this as a household.
    - Also, remember any money not used will go back to redistribution.

- Question by Judge Wayne McDaniel (did not fill out comment card)
  - This is a 2-yr grant, correct – how long is the project period?
    - SD: Once allocation is in place, GLO and the jurisdictions will make plans/negotiate eligibility and then GLO will establish benchmarks on how long jurisdictions will have to spend the money.
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Executive Director - Shaun P. Davis  
2210 Eastex Freeway Beaumont, Texas 77703-4929  
(409) 899-8444 | (409) 347-0138 fax

setrpc@setrpc.org | http://www.setrpc.org
**HURRICANE HARVEY METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION PUBLIC HEARING**
Lumberton Performing Arts Center
Thursday, July 19, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

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<td>Curtis Lynn Mason</td>
<td>Rose Hill Acres</td>
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<td>Christy Heisher</td>
<td>Silsbee EDC</td>
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<td>KEN PELT</td>
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<td>INCIND CAPIES</td>
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<td>Clay &amp; Meagan Kuykendall</td>
<td>Pinewood Resident</td>
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<td>John Honeycutt</td>
<td>Silsbee 15J</td>
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<td>Teresa Segars</td>
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<td>Gary Cantue</td>
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President – Chris Kirkendall, Hardin County | 1st VP – John Gothia, Orange County | 2nd VP – Rebecca Ford, Bevil Oaks
3rd VP – Mary Adams, Kountze | Treasurer – Kirk Roccaforte, Bridge City | Secretary – Michael Sinegal, Jefferson County

Executive Director - Shaun P. Davis
2210 Eastex Freeway Beaumont, Texas 77703-4929
(409) 899-8444 | (409) 347-0138 fax
setrpc@setrpc.org | http://www.setrpc.org
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<td>David Tselle</td>
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<td>Claude Lacy</td>
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<td>Ann Davidson</td>
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Outreach and Contacts
SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds Related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for $156,700,835 in Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds. Both written and oral comments will be accepted.

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution – Friday, July 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. at www.setrpc.org and in hard copy at the SETRPC’s Offices.
A Draft Method of Distribution is posted on the SETRPC website and is available in hard copy at the SETRPC Offices located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Written comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – harveycomments@setrpc.org.

Orange County Public Hearing – Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Orange Public Library Auditorium, 220 North 5th Street, Orange, TX.
The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Hardin County Public Hearing – Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lumberton Performing Arts Center located at 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX.
The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Adoption/Denial of Proposed Method of Distribution – Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. at the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.
The purpose will be for designated voting members of the SETRPC Executive Committee to adopt or deny the Proposed Method of Distribution.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 48-hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6386 for assistance.

For information about this posting, please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6386.
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC)
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

1ST PUBLIC HEARING EMAILED NOTICE
Shanna Burke

From: Shanna Burke
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 12:01 PM
To: 'A.C. Williams'; 'Aaliyah Noble'; 'Alan Gonzalez'; 'Alice Teeler'; 'Amy Dubea'; 'Amy Everett'; 'Amy Guidroz (aguidroz@ci.port-neches.tx.us)'; 'Amy Johnson'; 'Amy Obernuefemann'; 'Andre' Wimer (awimer@ci.port-neches.tx.us); 'Antoinette Hardy'; Antoinette Hardy (ahardy1969@aol.com); 'Arnold, Olivia (Libby)'; 'Barbara Lange'; 'Beaumont NAACP'; 'Becky Buford'; 'Belinda Richard'; 'Billy Perkins'; 'Bob Hyneckal'; Bonnie Brooks; Bonnie K. Loi dice (bloiodice@lamar.edu); 'Brandy Robertson'; 'Brenda & Bob Griffin'; 'Brenda Vaughn'; 'Buffy Knight'; 'Camilla Williams'; 'Carl Dahlquist'; 'Carol Flores'; Carol Riley (criley@beaumonttexas.gov); 'Carol Skewes'; 'Carolyn Fernandez'; 'Carolyn Guidry'; 'cdr@glo.gov'; 'Chad Mason'; 'Charles Pederson'; 'Cheryl Doyle'; 'Cheryl Robinson'; 'Cheryl Williams'; 'Chester R. Jourdan (chester.jourdan@redcross.org)'; Chris Duque - City of Nederland (cduque@ci.nederland.tx.us); Christine Jackson; 'Christine Vara'; 'Christopher Robertson'; 'Chuck Mason'; 'Clark Moore'; 'Claude Guidroz'; 'Codie Vasquez'; Colleen Halliburton; Collin Sheldon; 'Curtis Alexander'; 'Curtis Sharif'; 'Cynthia Fann'; D. E. Sosa - City of Groves (dsosa@citigrovestx.com); 'Dale Farris'; Dan Maher (dmaher@catholiccharitiesbmt.org); 'Dana Hogg'; 'Daniel Maher'; 'Daniel Ramsey'; 'Danny Dubuisson'; 'David Pecora'; 'David Vaughan'; 'Deanna Andrews'; 'Deanna Poland-Stemock'; 'Debby Schamber'; 'Debi Derrick'; 'Deborah Drago'; 'Deborah Hebert'; 'Deborah Sulatan'; 'Deborah Tomov'; 'Debra Huffman'; 'Debra Phillips'; 'Dee Hall'; DeeAnn Zimmerman (Email); 'Dejenell Jordan'; 'Delenza King'; 'Don Miller'; 'Donald Marvels'; 'Donna Rae Wisor'; 'Effie Sharp'; Elaine Shellenberger (elaine@seniormeals.org); 'Elise Fulton Smith'; 'Elise Johnson'; 'Elizabeth Barnhill'; 'Elizabeth Simon'; 'Eloise Chaison'; 'Emanuel Preston'; 'Enrique Cabrera'; 'Eric Samuel'; 'Eugenia Chargois'; 'Frank Zuniga'; 'Frankco Higdon'; 'G. Cantue'; 'Gail Bertrand'; 'Garland Flakes'; Gay Ferguson (gferguson@ci.nederland.tx.us); 'Gerald Davis'; 'Glenda Alston'; 'Glenn Burdine'; 'Greg Edwards (Rev.)'; Greg Fountain (gfountain@co.jefferson.tx.us); 'Gregory Wilson'; 'Guido Persiani'; Guy Goodson - Germer Gertz, L.L.P. (ggoodson@germer.com); 'H. Harold Brown'; 'Harland Merriam'; 'Harvey Howell'; Harvey Robinson (Email); 'Harvy Zernial'; Heather Sala; 'Hunt, Charles'; 'Isaac Clark'; 'Jack Leggett'; Jack Provost - City of Sour Lake (jprovost@cityofsourlake.com); 'Jamie Smith'; 'Jan Zuniga'; 'Janet Walker'; 'Janet Walker2'; 'Janice Patillo'; 'Janie Johnson'; 'Janna Morgan'; 'Jay Sanderson'; 'Jeff Ross'; 'Jennifer Pinney'; 'Jennifer Stubbs'; Jerry Jones (jjones@bridgecitytex.com); 'Jesus Abrego'; 'Jim Hamilton'; 'Jimmy Adams'; 'Jo Adams'; 'JoAnn Patillo'; 'Joe Higgs'; 'Joe Miller'; 'John Adolph (Dr.)'; Johnny Beatty (jbeatty@beaumonttexas.gov); 'Judge Pace'; 'Julie Reid'; 'Julie Tucker'; 'Karen Do'; 'Karen Swenson'; 'Karyn Husbands'; 'Kasia Ridgeway'; 'Kate MacMullan'; 'Ken Hill'; 'Kendall Boyd'; 'Kim Redmon'; 'Kratst Betros'; Kyle Hayes - City of Beaumont (khayes@beaumonttexas.gov); Larry A. Kelley (larryk@portofportarthur.com); 'Latineya Henderson'; 'Laura Stager'; 'Lauren Van Gerven'; 'Leo Hargrove'; 'Leslie Billot'; 'Lesly Johnson'; 'Lillie Boudreaux'; 'Linda Buser'; 'Linda Hughes'; 'Lisa Foy'; 'Lisa Maddux'; 'Lisa Rose'; 'Lord & Blessing Group'; 'Lori Higgins'; 'Lucy Spivey'; 'Lynda Davis'; Maddie Sloan (Texas Appleseed email); 'Madison Hopson'; 'Mallory Carlson'; 'Marc Keith'; 'Margaret Harris-Junious'; 'Marie "Mel" Moreau'; 'Marlyn Smith (MarlynSmith@setworks.org); Marion Tanner (mattanner@arthouse.org); 'Mark Min'; 'Martha Higdon'; 'Mary Dodson'; 'Mary Essex'; 'Mary McKenna'; 'Mary Young'; 'Maureen McAllister'; 'Melissa Falcon'; 'Mellie Bevilaqua - Foundation for SET (Director@cfsctx.org); Michael Stelly (mstelly@cityofwestorange.com); 'Michelle Bean'; 'Michelle Brewer'; 'Michelle Richard (Cavill)'; 'Michelle Tubbleville'; 'Mike Dodson'; 'Miryam Morgan'; 'Morales, Damian'; 'Myia Barton'; 'Natalie Warren'; 'Nicholas Crouch'; 'Orange NAACP'; 'Oveal Walker'; 'P.K.'
Moore; 'Paige Snyder'; Pam Lewis; 'Pamela Wise'; 'Pat Coldeway'; 'Patti A. O'Neill'; Paul Brown; Paul Latiolais - Lamar University (paul.latiolais@lamar.edu); 'Paul Price'; Paula O'Neal (paulaoneal1@sbcglobal.net); 'Paula Watts'; 'Phillip Potter'; 'Ramona Bridges'; Randi Fertitta (rfurtitta@catholiccharitiesbmt.org); Randy Clark (randyclark@triumphchurch.com); 'Randy Feldschau'; 'Randy Reese'; 'Randy Vaughn'; 'Raymond Morris'; 'Raymond Young'; 'Rebecca Bromley'; 'Reecie Goodman'; 'Regina J. Rogers (regina@reginarogers.org); 'Reyna Burns'; 'Richard Rosario'; 'Rick Ramirez'; 'Rob McWilliams'; 'Robert Edgar'; 'Robert Gazaway'; 'Robin Meek'; Roderick Hutto - City of Kountze (rhkh@sbcglobal.net); 'Ronnie Hicks'; 'Rosie Jones'; 'Ruby Lafleur'; 'Rusty Senac'; Sally Broussard (sally.broussard@bhset.net); 'Sally Burman'; 'Sandra Myers'; 'Sandy Wilson (swilson@orange.tx.org); 'Sara Torres-Garcia'; 'Scott Doss'; 'Shae'qua Jones'; Shanna Burke; 'Sharon Greig'; 'Sharon Sabom'; 'Sharon Smith'; Shaun Davis; 'Shauna Rayburn'; 'Sheena Fowler'; 'Sheila Smith'; 'Shilo Herrington'; 'Shirley Figari'; Sinclair Oubre (aos-beaumont@sbcglobal.net); 'StaffCal'; Stephanie Pearson; 'Stephanie Williams'; Steve Clark (sclark@gtbizclass.com); Sue Lardry; 'Susan Anaya'; 'Susan Detweiler'; Suzanne Carver; 'Suzanne Stafford'; 'Syed Mohuiddin'; 'Tai Hopson'; Tammie Weatherford; 'Teri Hawthorne'; 'Terrell Chatman'; 'Theresa Donaghy'; 'Tina Spangler'; 'Tisha Armstead'; 'Todd Jackson'; 'Tollie Corder'; 'Traci Dillard'; 'Tricia Garcia'; 'Trina Arceneau'; Uliana Trylowsky (uliana@beaumonthabita.org); 'Unita Grimes'; 'United Missions'; 'Vanessa Myrick'; 'Vanessa Williams'; 'Vaughn Ploeger'; 'Vickie Edgery'; 'Vilma Conner'; 'Virginia Crook'; 'Virginiia Jordan'; 'Vivian Ballou'; 'Vivian Ballou 2'; 'Wanda Charles'; 'Wesley Coleman'; 'Willemaretta Lowe'; 'Yolanda Roberts'; Ana Pereda (apereda@bmtcoc.org); 'Bill McCoy (Email)'; Debbie Plaha - Port Neches Chamber of Commerce (pncoc@swbell.net); Diana LaBorde - Nederland Chamber of Commerce (nedcocf@nederlandtx.com); Ida Schossw (president@orangetexashamber.org); Kayla Bishop (Email); Lauri Thompson - Kountze Chamber (contact@kountzechamber.org); President Bridge City Chamber of Commerce (bcchamber@bridgecitychamber.com); Rebecca Gardiner - Sour Lake Chamber of Commerce (sourlakechamber@gmail.com); Representative Vidor Chamber of Commerce (vidorchamber@sbcglobal.net); Ronnie Boneau (gchamberofcommer@gt.rr.com); Sandra Womack (sandra@lumbertonconc.com); 'Alvin Roberts (Email)'; 'Ann Galassi (Email)'; 'Barbara Otto (botto@beaumonttexas.gov)'; 'Barry Burton (Email)'; 'Beckie Kelley (Email)'; 'Becky Ames (Email)'; 'Bonnie Stephenson (Email)'; 'Brad Bailey (Email)'; 'Brandi Childs (Email)'; 'Brandon Creighton (Email)'; 'Brent Weaver email'; 'Brian Gipson (Email)'; 'Bruce Robinson (Email)'; 'C.A. "Pete" Shelton (E-mail)'; 'Cathy Nagel (Email)'; 'Charlotte Moses (Email)'; Chris Boone (chris.boone@beaumonttexas.gov); 'Chris Kirkendall (Email)'; 'Cisco Abshire - Beaumontisd (cabsir@btmsisd.com); 'Dade Phelan (Email)'; 'Dale Fontenot (E-mail)'; 'Dan Mohon (Email)'; Daniel J. Diaz (Email); 'David Maniscalco (Email)'; 'David Rutledge (Email)'; 'Derrick Freeman (Email)'; 'Don Albanese (Email)'; 'Don Carona (Email)'; 'Dwaine K. Augustine (Email)'; 'Eddie Arnold (Email)'; 'Eugene "Gene" Bouillon (E-mail)'; 'Everette "Bo" Alfred (E-mail)'; 'Fred Jackson'; 'Fred Williams (E-mail)'; 'Glenn Johnson (Email)'; 'James White (Email)'; 'Jay Killgo (Email)'; 'Jeff Branick (Email)'; 'Jody Crump (Email)'; 'Joe Deshotel (Email)'; 'John Comeaux (Email)'; 'John Durkay (E-mail)'; 'John Gotha (Email)'; 'John L. Johnson (Email)'; 'John W. Fossard (Email)'; 'Johnny Trahan (Email)'; 'Josh W. Allen Sr. (Email)'; 'Judge Dean Crooks (Email)'; 'Kelly Carder (Email)'; 'Ken Duhon (E-mail)'; 'Ken Pelt (E-mail)'; 'Kerry Abney (Email)'; 'Kirk Roccoafarze (Email)'; 'L.W. Cooper (Email)'; 'LaWanda Finney (Email)'; 'LeRoy McCall Jr. (Email)'; Mark Porterie (mporterie@paisd.org); 'Mary Adams (Email 2)'; 'Michael "Shane" Sinegal (Email)'; Michael Getz - City of Beaumont (email); 'Mike Kunst (Email)'; 'Nicholas Carter (Email)'; 'Norman Blackman (Email)'; 'Pete Runnels (E-mail)'; Phil Kelley (pkelley@dd7.org); 'Phil Owens (email)'; 'R. A. "Dick" Nugent (E-mail)'; 'Rebecca Ford (Email)'; 'Richard Beaumont (Email)'; 'Rick Thomisee (Email)'; 'Robbie Hood (Email)'; 'Robert "Danny" Frue (Email)'; 'Robert Arnold (Email)'; 'Robert Nichols (Email)'; 'Robert Viator Jr. (Email)'; Robin Mouton
Subjects: (Email); 'Roy McDonald (E-mail); 'Scott Sheldon (Email); 'Scott Hall (Email); 'Shane Rich (Email); 'Shawn Oubre (E-mail); 'Shirley Bonnin (email 2); 'Shirley Bonnin (E-mail); 'Sue Bard (Email); Terri Gauthier (Email); 'Terry Jackson (email); 'Todd Lintzen (Email); 'Tom Woolley (Email); Twila Baker (Email); Wayne McDaniel (Email); 'William "Butch" Sanders (Email); 'Blake Hopper (Email); 'Christian Manuel (Email); Grant Murray (Email); J.D. Hale (Email); Jason Fuller (Email); 'Jay_Guerrero (E-mail); 'Jed Webb (Email); Jennifer Harris (Email); 'Kelly Waterman (Email); 'Lanie Brown (Email); Lauren Perkins (Email); 'Shawn Dunn (Email); 'Tara Garcia (Email); 'Zach Johnson (Email); 'Betty J. Reynard (reynardbj@lamarpa.edu); 'Kenneth Evans; 'Lonnie Howard (Email); Michael Shahan (michael.shahan@lsco.edu); 'Adrian Scott (Cumulus email); 'An Duong (Email); 'Armando Ruiz (armando@noticiomerodia.com); 'Caleb Avila (El Perico Newspaper email); 'CUH Communications, Inc. (info@cushinc.com); 'Danny Reneau (E-mail); 'David Ingram; 'David Lowell (Email); 'Don J. Dodd (E-mail); 'Gary Stelly (E-Mail); 'George Garza (E-mail); 'Gerry Dickert (Email); 'Gershon Haston (Gershon.mytv22@gmail.com); 'Glen Earle (kogtradio@ymail.com); 'Hardin County News (localnews@beaumontenterprise.com); 'Harold Mann (harolmdmann@iheartmedia.com); 'Jennifer Steeley (E-mail); 'Jim Love (jimlove@iheartmedia.com); 'Judy Johnson (E-mail); 'Karen Gilman (E-mail); 'KBMTTV12; 'La Raza Radio; 'Lynda Guidry (Email); 'Paul Bergen (Email); 'Paula Hayward (Email); 'Pt. Arthur News Assignment Editor; 'Radio Saigon; 'Richard Nelson (E-mail); 'Scott Lawrence (Email); 'Scott Price (Email); 'Tim Kelly (E-mail); 'Bill Carpenter (Email); 'Chris Fisher (E-mail); 'Floyd J. Gaspard (E-mail); 'Orlando Cirameilla (E-mail); 'Sherri Droddy (Email); Tcm Harmon (tharmon@portoforange.com); Bob Dickinson (bdickinson@setrpc.org); Cheryl Kizer; Dean T. Robinson (dean.robinson.b4ob@statefarm.com); Floyd Batiste (fbatiste@paedic.org); 'Jay Trahan (Email); Jessica Hill (jhill@orangecountypedc.com); Jim Rich - Southeast Texas Economic Development Foundation (www.jrich@setedcf.org); Karl Segura (Email); Kay DeCuir (kdecuir@nededc.com); 'Melissa Bochat; 'RaNoda McClain-Lee; 'Sam R. Bethea (sbethea@entergy.com); 'Terry Schwertner; 'Allen D. Sims,PE (asims@cbiemeng.com); 'Cody Crole; 'David J. Waxman; 'Gary Traylor '; 'Hubert Oxford IV (hoxfordiv@benoxford.com); 'J. Rice '; 'Kelle Odom; 'Leslie Waxman; 'Maryella Begley; 'Randi Blanks '; 'Ray Vann '; 'Sherry Tarrant; 'Tim Stinson; 'Tina Lewis; 'Toby Davis; 'Allison Landrum; 'Cele Quesada (E-mail); 'Karen B. Knolley; 'Robert Reyna (E-mail)

Subject: Solicitation for Public Comment - Hurricane Harvey Infrastructure and Buy-Out/Acquisition Funding


SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds
Related to Infrastructure and Buy-Outs/Acquisition

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input in order to determine community needs as it prepares to develop a Method of Distribution for $5,024,215,000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds. The first meeting to obtain comments will be held as follows:

First Public Hearing – Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Lamar University in the Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.
The purpose will be to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out/acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to help develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds.
Subsequent meetings related to the MOD will follow and be announced as time and date are determined.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 24 hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 for any accommodation needs.

Written comments may be submitted by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m., Thursday, May 31, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – sburke@setrpc.org.

NOTE: The PDF Documents attached to this email contain the above notice in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. It is requested that you please post the notices on your website and/or in public posting areas in your offices for public review. Notices are also available for review on the SETRPC website (www.setrpc.org) in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.
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Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds
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SOLICITUD PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant
Fondos de recuperación de desastres
Relacionados con la infraestructura y las compras / adquisiciones

Se da aviso de que South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) está buscando aportes para determinar las necesidades de la comunidad mientras se prepara para desarrollar un Método de Distribución (MOD) por $ 5,024,215,000 en Fondos de Recuperación de Desastres en Subvenciones en Bloque de Desarrollo Comunitario. La primera reunión para obtener comentarios se llevará a cabo de la siguiente manera:

Primera audiencia pública - jueves, 24 de Mayo de 2018 a las 6:30 p.m. en Lamar University en Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.
El propósito será obtener comentarios de la comunidad con respecto a la infraestructura y las necesidades de compra / adquisición en la región del sureste de Texas para ayudar a desarrollar un método de distribución de fondos.

Las reuniones posteriores relacionadas con el MOD seguirán y se anunciarán a medida que se determinen la hora y la fecha.

El SETRPC proporcionará acomodaciones razonables para las personas que asistan a las funciones de SETRPC. Las solicitudes de personas que necesitan adaptaciones especiales deben ser recibidas por el personal de SETRPC 24 horas antes de la función. Las audiencias públicas se llevarán a cabo en inglés. Las solicitudes de intérpretes de idiomas u otras necesidades especiales de comunicación deben realizarse al menos 48 horas antes de una función. Por favor llame al (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 para cualquier necesidad de alojamiento.

Los comentarios por escrito pueden enviarse a mano, correo postal, fax o correo electrónico antes de las 12:00 p.m., del jueves 31 de mayo de 2018 a: Shanna Burke a South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; correo electrónico - sburke@setrpc.org.
Phần điều trần công khai
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Quỹ Phát triển Công động Tài trợ cho Quỹ Cứu trợ Thiên tai
Liên quan đến cơ sở hạ tầng và mua lãi

Thông báo được cho là South East Texas Regional Planning (SETRPC) đang tìm kiếm đầu vào để xác định nhu cầu của công động khi chuẩn bị phát triển phương pháp phân phối cho số tiền $5,024,215,000 trong Quỹ Phát hối Thiên tai. Cuộc họp đầu tiên để cơ quan này kiếm sẽ được tổ chức như sau:

Mục đích sẽ là thu thập ý kiến đóng góp của công động về cơ sở hạ tầng và nhu cầu mua lãi ở khu vực Southeast Texas để giúp phát triển phương thức phân phối tiền.

Các cuộc họp tiếp theo liên quan đến phương pháp phân phối sẽ được thực hiện và được công bố theo thời gian và ngày được xác định.


Các nhận xét bằng văn bản có thể được gửi bằng chuyển phát bằng tay, thư, fax hoặc email trước 12:00, Thứ Năm, ngày 31 tháng 5 năm 2018 tới: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; email - sburke@setrpc.org.
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC) METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

1ST PUBLIC HEARING CERTIFIED MAIL NOTICE
SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds
Related to Infrastructure and Buy-Outs/Acquisition

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The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 24 hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 for any accommodation needs.

Written comments may be submitted by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m., Thursday, May 31, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – sburke@setrpc.org.
SOLICITUD PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant
Fondos de recuperación de desastres
Relacionados con la infraestructura y las compras / adquisiciones

Se da aviso de que South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) está buscando aportes para determinar las necesidades de la comunidad mientras se prepara para desarrollar un Método de Distribución (MOD) por $ 5,024,215,000 en Fondos de Recuperación de Desastres en Subvenciones en Bloque de Desarrollo Comunitario. La primera reunión para obtener comentarios se llevará a cabo de la siguiente manera:

Primera audiencia pública - jueves, 24 de Mayo de 2018 a las 6:30 p.m. en Lamar University en Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.
El propósito será obtener comentarios de la comunidad con respecto a la infraestructura y las necesidades de compra / adquisición en la región del sureste de Texas para ayudar a desarrollar un método de distribución de fondos.

Las reuniones posteriores relacionadas con el MOD seguirán y se anunciarán a medida que se determinen la hora y la fecha.

El SETRPC proporcionará acomodaciones razonables para las personas que asistan a las funciones de SETRPC. Las solicitudes de personas que necesitan adaptaciones especiales deben ser recibidas por el personal de SETRPC 24 horas antes de la función. Las audiencias públicas se llevarán a cabo en inglés. Las solicitudes de intérpretes de idiomas u otras necesidades especiales de comunicación deben realizarse al menos 48 horas antes de una función. Por favor llame al (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 para cualquier necesidad de alojamiento.

Los comentarios por escrito pueden enviarse a mano, correo postal, fax o correo electrónico antes de las 12:00 p.m., del jueves 31 de mayo de 2018 a: Shanna Burke a South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; correo electrónico - sburke@setrpc.org.
Phản đối tranh công khai

Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Quý Phát triển Công động Tài trợ cho Quý Cứu trợ Thiên tai
Liên quan đến cơ sở hạ tầng và mua lại

Thông báo được cho là South East Texas Regional Planning (SETRPC) đang tìm kiếm đầu vào để xác định nhu cầu của công động khi chuẩn bị phát triển phương pháp phân phối cho số tiền $5,024,215,000 trong Quý Phúc hội Thiên tai. Cuộc họp đầu tiên để có được ý kiến sẽ được tổ chức như sau:

Mục đích sẽ là thu thập ý kiến đóng góp của công động về cơ sở hạ tầng và nhu cầu mua lại ở khu vực Southeast Texas để giúp phát triển phương pháp phân phối tiền.

Các cuộc họp tiếp theo liên quan đến phương pháp phân phối sẽ được thực hiện và được công bố theo thời gian và ngày được xác định.


Các nhận xét bằng văn bản có thể được gửi bằng chuyển phát bằng tay, thư, fax hoặc email trước 12:00, Thứ Năm, ngày 31 tháng 5 năm 2018 tới: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; email - sburke@setrpc.org.
USPS Tracking®

Track Another Package +

Tracking Number: 9171999991703040552828

Expected Delivery by

MONDAY 21 MAY 2018 by 8:00pm

Delivery Attempt: Action Needed

May 21, 2018 at 5:20 pm
Notice Left (No Authorized Recipient Available)
BEAUMONT, TX 77703

Text & Email Updates

Schedule Redelivery

*Indicates a required field

What's your delivery address?
The delivery address must match the address that is on your package.

*First Name

First

M.I.

https://tools.usps.com/go/TrackConfirmAction?tLabels=9171999991703040552828

5/22/2018
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC)
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

1ST PUBLIC HEARING WEBSITE POSTING NOTICE
Public Hearing Notices

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) Disaster Recovery Division (DRD) will be conducting a public hearing, Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Landes Auditorium of the Galloway Business Building at Lamar University.

The purpose of the hearing will be to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out /acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds. For more information please click on the notice(s) below.

1st Public Hearing Notice (English) - Round 1- May 2018
1st Public Hearing Notice (Spanish) - Round 1- May 2018
1st Public Hearing Notice (Vietnamese) - Round 1- May 2018

Public Comment Period and Public Hearings

The Transportation and Environmental Services Division is announcing a public comment period to be held from May 14, 2018 – June 16, 2018 so that the public can comment on the “Draft” JOHRTS Exempt FY 2019-2022 TIP. A series of public meetings will be held May 29, 2018 – June 1, 2018 for the public to learn and comment on these documents. For more information visit the Transportation and Environmental Services website at http://www.setrpc.org/terp/.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS for SENIOR NUTRITION and TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is accepting proposals for the counties of Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange for the following:

Area Agency on Aging of Southeast Texas (AAASET) – congregate meals, home delivered meals, and transportation services for seniors for FY 2019 (October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019). Services include a four (4) year renewal option, subject to satisfactory performance and available funding. The SETRPC anticipates receiving funding from the Texas Department of Health & Human Services Commission for the entire region in the following amounts; $427,000 for congregate meals, $176,000 for home delivered meals, and $50,000 for transportation.

Specifications may be obtained at www.setrpc.org on April 11, 2018. The deadline for receipt of the Proposals is June 1, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Amendment 1 - Changes in Procurement Schedule Dates
Request For Proposals
FFY19 Instructions for Completing the Uniform Rate Negotiation Budget Workbook
FFY19 Uniform Rate Negotiation Budget Workbook
Chart A
In-Kind Forms
1ST PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TO GLO
Attached please find notices for the SETRPC’s 1st Public Hearing which will serve as a public planning meeting to gather information related to the Method of Distribution of Harvey funds for Southeast Texas. I have included copies in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Should you have questions or need additional information please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke, PHR, SHRM-CP
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77703
Ph – (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516
Fax – (409) 347-0138
Email – sburke@setrpc.org
SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds Related to Infrastructure and Buy-Outs/Acquisition

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input in order to determine community needs as it prepares to develop a Method of Distribution for $5,024,215,000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds. The first meeting to obtain comments will be held as follows:

First Public Hearing – Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Lamar University in the Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.

The purpose will be to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out/acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to help develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds.

Subsequent meetings related to the MOD will follow and be announced as time and date are determined.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 24 hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 for any accommodation needs.

Written comments may be submitted by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m., Thursday, May 31, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – sburke@setrpc.org.
SOLICITUD PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS
Hurricane Harvey Round I Community Development Block Grant
Fondos de recuperación de desastres
Relacionados con la infraestructura y las compras / adquisiciones

Se da aviso de que South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) está buscando aportes para determinar las necesidades de la comunidad mientras se prepara para desarrollar un Método de Distribución (MOD) por $ 5,024,215,000 en Fondos de Recuperación de Desastres en Subvenciones en Bloque de Desarrollo Comunitario. La primera reunión para obtener comentarios se llevará a cabo de la siguiente manera:

Primera audiencia pública - jueves, 24 de Mayo de 2018 a las 6:30 p.m. en Lamar University en Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.

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Las reuniones posteriores relacionadas con el MOD seguirán y se anunciarán a medida que se determinen la hora y la fecha.

El SETRPC proporcionará acomodaciones razonables para las personas que asistan a las funciones de SETRPC. Las solicitudes de personas que necesitan adaptaciones especiales deben ser recibidas por el personal de SETRPC 24 horas antes de la función. Las audiencias públicas se llevarán a cabo en inglés. Las solicitudes de intérpretes de idiomas u otras necesidades especiales de comunicación deben realizarse al menos 48 horas antes de una función. Por favor llame al (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 para cualquier necesidad de alojamiento.

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Phiên điều trần công khai
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Quỹ Phát triển Công động Tài trợ cho Quỹ Cứu trợ Thiền tai
Liên quan đến cơ sở hạ tầng và mua lại

Thông báo được cho là South East Texas Regional Planning (SETRPC) đang tìm kiếm đầu vào để xác định nhu cầu của công động khi chuẩn bị phát triển phương pháp phân phối cho số tiền $5,024,215,000 trong Quỹ Phục hồi Thiền tai. Cuộc họp đầu tiên để có được ý kiến sẽ được tổ chức như sau:

Mục đích sẽ là thu thập ý kiến dòng góp của công động về cơ sở hạ tầng và nhu cầu mua lại ở khu vực Southeast Texas để giúp phát triển phương pháp phân phối tiền.

Các cuộc họp tiếp theo liên quan đến phương pháp phân phối sẽ được thực hiện và được công bố theo thời gian và ngày được xác định.


Các nhận xét bằng văn bản có thể được gửi bằng chuyển phát bằng tay, thư, fax hoặc email trước 12:00, Thứ Năm, ngày 31 tháng 5 năm 2018 tới: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; email - sburke@setrpc.org.
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC) METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG- DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

1st PUBLIC HEARING NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION NOTICES
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared: Victoria Bond, who after being duly sworn, says that she is a NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE for THE BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE, a daily newspaper published in Jefferson County and generally circulated in Jefferson, Hardin, Tyler, Newton, Orange, Jasper, Liberty, Sabine, Chambers, San Augustine, Angelina and Galveston Counties, Texas, and that the publication, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published to wit:

May 19, 2018 – Job#202705801

Account: Southeast Texas Transit - Acct# 058892105

Victoria Bond, Newspaper Representative

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this ___22___ day of ____May, 2018________________ A.D.

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

ERIKA ACEVEDO
126948353
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF TEXAS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
MAY 16, 2020
SHOOTING
Homemade explosives found, police allege teen used father's guns

Continued from page 1A

students — and wounding
50 others at the school, which is about two hours
southwest of Beaumont in Galveston County.
One of the wounded was a school police officer, John
Burns, who had retired from big-city police work at the
Houston Police Department for a job that would let him
take a closer look at the family. Santa Fe High School
was just the place for that, until now.

After running inside the school to engage the
shooter, Burns was shot in both arms and lost so much blood that his heart stopped twice — once on the way to the hospital and once in surgery — before doctors revived him, according to Houston Police
Department Capt. James Dale, a close friend.

Some students heard a fire alarm before they heard the gunfire. The school’s
security guards were able to flee to safety, where
reporters soon arrived to ask the same questions parents
were asking at school shootings around the
country.

"Was there a part of you (that thought this couldn't happen in my
school)?" one Houston TV reporter asked Paige Curry, 17.

"No, there wasn't," Curry replied with the world-weariness
many American high school students have experienced
living in the post-Columbine era. "It's been happening everywhere. I've
always felt there was a possibility that it was just going to happen to me,
too."

President Donald Trump ordered flags to be flown half-mast at the White House. He
had been in a meeting before Texas called, according to a White House official.

A priest was killed and another was wounded at a school in the district.

While the Uvalde school was being evacuated, a
suicide bomber was being investigated by the FBI. The bomber was
allegedly a suspect in the shooting.

The FBI has been investigating the bomber since 2017.

The bomber was a student at the same high school.

The FBI has not released any information about the bomber.

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SOLICITATION FOR Comment
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds
Related to Infrastructural and Buy-Outs Acquisitions

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input in order to determine community needs so it prepares the Method of Distribution for $5,024,215,000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds. The first meeting to obtain comments will be held as follows:

First Public Hearing – Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:20 p.m. at Lamar University in the Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.

The purpose is to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out/acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to help develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds.

Subsequent meetings related to the MOD will follow and be announced as time and date are determined.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions so it prepares the Method of Distribution. Special accommodations should be requested by SETRPC staff 24 hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours in advance of a function. Please call (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 for any accommodation needs.

Written comments may be submitted by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m. Thursday, May 31, 2018 to Shanne Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; email - sburke@setrpc.org.

SOLICITAD PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS
Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Fondos de recuperación de desastres Relacionados con la infraestructura y las compras / adquisiciones

Se da aviso de que South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) está buscando aportes para determinar las necesidades de la comunidad, ajustes que preparará el Método de Distribución (MOD) por $5,024,215,000 en Fondos de Recuperación de Desastres en Subvenciones en Bloque de Desarrollo Comunitario. La primera reunión para tomar comentarios se llevará a cabo de la siguiente manera:

Primera audiencia pública – jueves, 24 de Mayo de 2018 a las 6:30 p.m. en la Universidad Lamar en Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.

El propósito será obtener comentarios de la comunidad respecto a la infraestructura y las necesidades de infraestructura / adquisición en la región del sureste de Texas para ayudar a desarrollar un método de distribución de fondos.

Las reuniones posteriores relacionadas con el MOD se seguirán anunciando a medida que se determinen la hora y la fecha.

El SETRPC proporcionará acomodaciones razonables para las personas que asistan a las funciones de SETRPC que necesiten adaptaciones especiales deben ser recibidas por el personal de SETRPC 24 horas antes de la función. Las audiencias públicas se llevarán a cabo en inglés. Las solicitudes de intérpretes de lenguas y otras necesidades especiales de comunicación deben realizarse al menos 48 horas antes de una función. Por favor llame al (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 para cualquier necesidad de acomodación.

Los comentarios por escrito pueden enviarse a mano, correo postal, fax o correo electrónico antes de las 12:00 p.m. del jueves 31 de mayo de 2018 a Shanne Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; correo electrónico - sburke@setrpc.org.
Publisher's Certificate of Publication

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

Rich Macke, being duly sworn, on oath says he is and during all times herein stated has been an employee of The Port Arthur Newsmedia publisher and printer of the The Port Arthur News (the "Newspaper"), has full knowledge of the facts herein stated as follows:

1. The Newspaper printed the copy of the matter attached hereto (the "Notice") was copied from the columns of the Newspaper and was printed and published in the English language on the following days and dates:

05/19/18

2. The sum charged by the Newspaper for said publication is the actual lowest classified rate paid by commercial customer for an advertisement of similar size and frequency in the same newspaper in which the Notice was published.

3. There are no agreements between the Newspaper, publisher, manager or printer and the officer or attorney charged with the duty of placing the attached legal advertising notice whereby any advantage, gain or profit accrued to said officer or attorney

[Signature]

Rich Macke, publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th Day of May, 2018

[Signature]

Jeree Powell, Notary Public
State of Texas at large
My commission expires 04-25-2022

Account # PAN00017310
Ad # 510789

SOUTHEAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLAN
2210 EASTEX FREEWAY
BEAUMONT TX 77703
United Way grants boost agencies’ efforts

The United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County recently presented three agencies with special grants totaling $135,000 to support their programs that have been struggling during recent Hurricanes and Tropical Storm Harvey.

Community Investment Grant Volunteers and United Way staff members made surprise site visits to the three programs receiving funds that will help to reestablish full programming.

The community has been a strong partner and supporter of the United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County. With the support of the donors we are able to create positive and lasting impacts in the lives of our neighbors. Ren Fletcher, United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County board president.

The United Way donated $75,000 to the Women’s and Children’s Shelter.

The United Way said a grant for $25,000 will support the summer program and purchase of larger items as they eventually move into a permanent site.

The Sherrington Center, $35,000. United Way said the center helps families facing specific challenges through a variety of therapies. Known for their work with autism and Down syndrome, the center helps children achieve milestones through speech therapy, art, music and activities.

The Boys & Girls Club, $35,000. United Way said literacy materials, such as books and the like, have a new permanent location. The Boys & Girls Clubs will grow with the help of United Way.

The Salvation Army, Boys & Girls Club of Port Arthur, $35,000. The Salvation Army is working to secure a temporary location for summer programming. It lost its facility and all contents in the storm. The Boys & Girls Club will need sports equipment.

NEDERLAND POLICE BLOTTERT

Nederland Police responded to the following calls from May 5 through May 13.

May 9

• A complainant reported a subject on the 200 block of Nederland Avenue.

May 11

• A complainant reported a burglary on the 1200 block of Marshall Street.

May 12

• A complainant reported a theft on the 200 block of North 14th Street.

May 13

• A complainant reported a burglary on the 1200 block of Marshall Street.

SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

HURRICANE HARVEY ROUND 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds Related to Infrastructure and Buy-Outs/Acquisitions

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETPC) is seeking input in order to determine community needs as it prepares to develop a Method of Distribution for $5,024,215.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Disaster Recovery Funds. The first meeting to obtain comments will be held as follows:

First Public Hearing – Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Lamar University in the Chandler Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77785.

The purpose of the meeting is to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out/acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to help develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds.

Subsequent meetings related to the MOD will be held at:

Se da aviso de que South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETPC) está buscando aportes para determinar las necesidades de la comunidad mientras se prepara para desarrollar un Método de Distribución (MOD) por $5,024,215.00 en Fondos de Recuperación de Daños y Agencias de Desarrollo de Recuperación. La primera reunión para obtener comentarios se llevará a cabo de la siguiente manera:

Primera audiencia pública – jueves, 24 de Mayo de 2018 a las 6:30 p.m. en la Universidad Lamar en los edificios Chandler, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77785.

El propósito será obtener comentarios de la comunidad con respecto a la infraestructura y las necesidades de compra y adquisición en la región del sureste de Texas para ayudar a desarrollar un método de distribución de fondos.

Las reuniones posteriores relacionadas con el MOD seguirán y se anunciarán a medida que se determinen...
The United Way donated $75,000 to the Women’s and Children’s Shelter.

The center helps families facing specific challenges through a variety of therapies. Known for their work with autism and Down syndrome, the center helps children achieve milestones through special programming. One program involves aquatics. Harvey rented the pool and the program that helped children with therapy and was used to teach families water safety and swimming.

The shelter, built in collaboration with partners to secure funding, has been a large gap preventing the realization of the full shelter. The United Way of Mid and South Jefferson is happy to help with a portion of the gap and to stand with Family Services to end the cycle of domestic violence.

**SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

**HURRICANE HARVEY ROUND 1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

Disaster Recovery Funds

Related to Infrastructure and Buy-Out Acquisitions

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input in order to determine community needs as it prepares to develop a Method of Distribution for $5,024,215,000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds. The first meeting to obtain comments will be held as follows:

**First Public Hearing**
- **Thursday, May 24, 2018**
- **6:30 p.m.**
- **Lamar University in the Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.**

The purpose will be to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to help develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds.

Subsequent meetings related to the MOD will follow and be announced as time and date are determined.

**SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours before a function.**

**Written comments may be submitted by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, May 31, 2018**
- **Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – sburke@setrpc.org.**

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**SOLICITUD PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS**

**HURRICANE HARVEY ROUND 1 COMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

Fondos de recuperación de desastres relacionados con la infraestructura y las viviendas/ adquisiciones

Se da aviso de que South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) está buscando aportes para determinar las necesidades de la comunidad necesitadas para desarrollar un Método de Distribución (MOD) por $5,024,215,000 en Fondos de Recuperación de Desastres en Subvenciones en Bloque de Desarrollo Comunitario. La primera reunión para obtener comentarios se llevará a cabo de la siguiente manera:

**Primera audiencia pública**
- **jueves, 24 de Mayo de 2018**
- **6:30 p.m.**
- **Lamar University en el Galloway Business Building, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas, 77705.**

El propósito será obtener comentarios de la comunidad con respecto a la infraestructura y las necesidades de compra / adquisición en la región del sureste de Texas para ayudar a desarrollar un método de distribución de fondos.

Las reuniones posteriores relacionadas con el MOD seguirán y se anunciarán a medida que se determinen la hora y la fecha.

El SETRPC proporcionará acogeduramiento razonables para las personas que asistan a las funciones de SETRPC. Solicitudes de personas que necesitan adaptaciones especiales deben ser recibidas por el personal de SETRPC 24 horas antes de la función. Las audiencias públicas se llevarán a cabo en inglés. Las solicitudes de intérpretes idiomáticas o otras necesidades especiales de comunicación deben realizarse al menos 48 horas antes de una función. Para favorecer el idioma español, por favor llame al (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 para cualquier necesidad de alojamiento.

Los comentarios por escrito pueden enviarse a mano, correo postal, fax o correo electrónico antes de las 12:00 p.m., del jueves 31 de mayo de 2018 a: Shanna Burke a South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; correo electrónico – sburke@setrpc.org.
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared: Victoria Bond, who after being duly sworn, says that she is a NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE for THE BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE dba HARDIN COUNTY NEWS, a daily newspaper published in Jefferson County and generally circulated in Jefferson, Hardin, Tyler, Newton, Orange, Jasper, Liberty, Sabine, Chambers, San Augustine, Angelina and Galveston Counties, Texas, and that the publication, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published to wit:

May 23, 2018 – Job#202705901

______________________________

Account: Southeast Texas Transit - Acct# 058892105

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______________________________

______________________________

Victoria Bond

Newspaper Representative

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this __24__ day of ____May, 2018__________A.D.

______________________________

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas
SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds Related to Infrastructure and Buy-Own / Acquisitions

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input in order to determine community needs as it prepares to develop a Method of Distribution for $5,024,215,000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds. The first meeting to obtain comments will be held as follows:

First Public Hearing – Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Lamar University in the Galloway Business Bldg, Landes Auditorium, 4400 S. MLK Pkwy, Beaumont, Texas, 77710.

The purpose will be to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out/ acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to help develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds.

Subsequent meetings related to the MOD will follow and be announced as time and date are determined.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests for persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 24 hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special accommodation needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516 for any accommodation needs.

Written comments may be submitted by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 1, 2018 to: Shannon Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastway Pkwy, Beaumont, Texas, 77703, fax – (409) 347-0138; email – sburke@setrpc.org.

FLOOD CONTROL

Cornylin pushes Ike Dike study

By Steve Bice

With hurricane season beginning in mere days, Texas U.S. Sen. John Cornyn announced last week he is introducing legislation to expedite a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers study on a coastal barrier to mitigate storm surge along the Southeast Texas coast.

The measure, called the Coastal Protection Act, is directed at advancing the construction of a long-awaited “Ike Dike” in Galveston County - proposed after Hurricane Ike in 2008 – to better protect the Gulf Coast from storm damage.

“We've been working with local stakeholders as well as state officials to try to encourage this process to move along quickly,” Cornyn said. “The Corps of Engineers is an instrument of the federal government, and we want the money to flow so that these studies can come up with a plan that the stakeholders and the state can agree upon, and then we will work hard to make sure that coastal protection plan is funded.”

The proposed system of flood gates, dikes and sea walls has an estimated price tag of around $11 billion for the six-county coastal region spanning from Orange to Harris counties. The project has taken on greater urgency since Harvey hit the region with severe flooding late last August.

Cornyn, the No. 2 Republican in the Senate, indicated that the measure would be included in a pending water resources bill. The state’s junior senator, Republican Ted Cruz, is a co-sponsor of the coastal protection bill.

BUYOUTS

Key to flood control program

Continued from page 1A

A program to protect them announced last week by the Department of Housing and Urban Development funds some of the housing assistance which is earmarked specifically for buyouts.

But because of inflation and bureaucracy, none of that money has yet made it to areas impacted by the August storms. In addition, the Texas General Land Office typically coordinates the state’s application for HUD funds. The process is laborious; HUD takes months to come up with rules for each federal program.

The law office creates a small plan, and submits it to HUD, which evaluates the proposal and approves use of the money. Local governments then prioritize projects and submit them for state approval. The process takes months, if not longer.

Major changes from FEMAT

State legislators have heard testimony on the issue, said Coleman, who also chairs the House Coastal Studies Committee. He said he planned to look into some of the investor purchases as a type of price gouging.

State flood control leaders have begun talking to officials and FEMA about the possibility of additional federal assistance, and the possibility of getting some of the money available.
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ORANGE

Bobby Tingle, being duly sworn, on oath says he is and during all times herein stated has been an employee of Orange Newsmedia publisher and printer of the The Orange Leader circulated in Orange County, Texas (the "Newspaper"), has full knowledge of the facts herein stated as follows:

1. The Newspaper printed the copy of the matter attached hereto (the “Notice”) was copied from the columns of the Newspaper and was printed and published in the English language on the following days and dates:

05/19/18

2. The sum charged by the Newspaper for said publication is the actual lowest classified rate paid by commercial customer for an advertisement of similar size and frequency in the same newspaper in which the Notice was published.

3. There are no agreements between the Newspaper, publisher, manager or printer and the officer or attorney charged with the duty of placing the attached legal advertising notice whereby any advantage, gain or profit accrued to said officer or attorney

Bobby Tingle, publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th Day of May, 2018

Jeree Powell, Notary Public
State of Texas at large
My commission expires 04-25-2022

Account # PAN00017310
Ad # 512147

SOUTHEAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLAN
2210 EASTEX FREEWAY
BEAUMONT TX 77703
Dr. Suzanne Crockett has a heart to serve students, community

(From the Orange Leader, May 19, 2018, page 12)

Dr. Suzanne Crockett of the third grade class that she wanted to teach a teacher, but, just out of high school, she got married and had four children, taking a teaching job in her home state of Louisiana, helping people get healthcare. And although she said the job was very rewarding, she felt a calling to do more.

In the early 90's, Crockett said the Lord opened a door. Her husband, Ronnie, a pastor, received a job at Mount Olive church in Orange and the family moved there. Even with four children at home, she continued her education at Lamar, then Sam Houston, eventually getting her Master's in Education Administration.

Crockett recalled that third grade teacher who inspired her: “My, Dear Wanda Cox was my third teacher in third grade at Lamar Elementary, in Pineville (Louisiana),” Crockett said. “She turned on the light for me and gave me a real for learning. She made me want to learn. I'm forever grateful.”

So, she started attending 9th grade algebra, the same subject she herself had failed at that age.

“I wanted to be a teacher because I have always been good at math,” Crockett said. “When I was young, I was in the gifted and talented program. I didn’t think I could do math because I didn’t know what I was doing. When I got to college, I took math courses and started doing well.”

We take the students as they are and bring them to where they need to be, that's what Developmental Education is,” Crockett said. "Helping students reach their dreams of higher education because they’re as intimidated by math and science, and they have a dream of getting a degree. So Developmental Education can be a hurdle for them, but I teach them to jump those hurdles. And that has been the most rewarding thing in my career, seeing a person achieve their dream of higher education.”

The women and students from her teaching days recognize the woman at Lamar, that’s the image on the cake. “That says you did a good job,” Crockett said.

In addition, Crockett created the Kids 2 College day camp for children aged 14 to 17.

“Dr. Suzanne Crockett, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all that you have done for the students and their parents,” one of the students said.

SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds Related to Infrastructure and Buy-Outs/Acquisitions

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input in order to determine community needs as it prepares to develop a Method of Distribution for $5,024,215,000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds. The first meeting to obtain comments will be held as follows:

First Public Hearing — Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Lamar University in the Galloway Business Building, 4400 S. MLK Pkwy, Beaumont, Texas, 77710

The purpose will be to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out/acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to help develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds.

SOLICITACION PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS

Hurricane Harvey Round 1 - Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds Related to Infrastructure and Buy-Outs/Acquisitions

Se da aviso de que el Comité de Planificación Regional de Texas del Este (SETRPC) está buscando apoyos para determinar las necesidades de la comunidad para desarrollar un Método de Distribución (MOD) con $5,024,215,000 en Fondos del Desarrollo Comunitario de la Depresión en la Aglomeración de infraestructura. La primera reunión para obtener comentarios se llevará a cabo en las siguientes condiciones:

Primera audiencia pública - jueves, 34 de mayo de 2018 a las 6:30 p.m. en Universidad Lamar en Galloway Business Building, 4400 S. MLK Pkwy, Beaumont, Texas, 77710. El propietario será informado sobre las actividades de la comunidad en relación a la infraestructura y las necesidades de compra / adquisición en el condado de los estados de Texas para ayudar a desarrollar una metodología de distribución.
In the early 80s, Crockett said the Lord opened a door. Her husband Ronnie, a pastor, received a job at Monti. Olive church in Orange and the family moved here. She also started classes at Lamar working on her Associates Degree in Business Administration. Even with four children at home, she continued her education at Lamar, then Sam Houston, eventually getting her Master's in Education Administration.

Crockett recalled that third grade teacher who inspired her. "Mr. Darwaun Dot was my teacher in third grade at Lakeside Elementary, in Pearland (Louisiana)." Crockett said. "She turned on the light for the zeal for learning. She made me want to work, Pay it forward.

So, she started teaching 9th grade algebra, the same subject she herself had failed at that age.

Because in high school you don't see a lot of bulletin boards, but in my classroom when you walked in, a big sign would say welcome to the wonderful world of mathematics. And there were all kinds of colorful bulletin boards everywhere.

"English. History has a lot of warm fuzzy stuff. Your chemists have experiments, to keep you occupied," Crockett said. "I didn't want you to have a worksheet in my class, I wanted you to have a manipulative to work with, so that's why I created bulletin boards and they worked.

In 2004, she started working at Lamar State College-Orange. Three years ago, she was named Director of Mathematics, Education, and Leisure Learning.

"My passion is helping under-prepared students prepare for high school, work alongside her husband with his congregation at Monti Olive, and is also on the Greater Orange Area Chamber Board of Directors, a great organization, we were able to keep people shopping locally.

"The city of Orange. Boing a report for our local chamber. When we had Harvey, I worked side by side with my husband, to pass out items," Crockett said. "I like to get to know people and connect.

"I especially love Loeb Tennis, and that even the shows she's seen in New York can't compare to the Crystal Loeb music and Shangri-La are treasures. Next year I also have the wife of a pastor, but she was the daughter of one as well. Her faith, Crockett said, is a major part of her life, and she feels honored to be able to share her faith with others.

In addition, Crockett created the Kids 2 College day camp for children aged nine to 14.

SOLICITAT PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS

Hurricane Harvey Round 1
Community Development Block Grant Disasters Recovery Fund

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission is soliciting input in order to determine community needs as it prepares to develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) for $5,024,215.000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds. The first meeting to obtain comments will be held as follows:

First Public Hearing - Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Lamar University in the College of Business, Business Building, 4409 S. MLK Pwy, Beaumont, Texas 77706.

The purpose is to obtain community input regarding infrastructure and buy-out acquisition needs in the Southeast Texas region to help develop a Method of Distribution (MOD) of funds.

Subsequent meetings related to the MOD will follow and be announced as time and date are determined.

The SETRIP will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities.

Public hearings will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call (409) 899-8444, ext. 716 for any accommodation needs.

Written comments may be submitted by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 to: Janessa Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 East Pkwy, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax: (409) 347-0138; email - janessa.burke@starp.org.
ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF Jefferson §

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared

Caleb Avila ____________________________________________, who being by me duly sworn, deposes

and says that (s)he is the owner

of the El Perico Spanish Newspaper ___________; that said newspaper or publication is
generally circulated in Jefferson County ____________________________________________, Texas;

that the enclosed notice was published in said newspaper or publication on the following date(s):

May 20, 2018

________________________________________________________
(newspaper or publication representative’s signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 22 day of May ____________, 2018,
to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.

[Signature]
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

(Seal)

Manuel Rodriguez
Print or Type Name of Notary Public

4-17-2022
My Commission Expires
EN ALGÚN PAÍSES DEL MUNDO:
Nuestra Señora de Altarica – República Dominicana:
Mientras hablaba, un hombre de edad avanzada y largas barbas, que también iba de paso, acostó su alfombra a un pequeño lienzo enrollado y se lo entregó al mercado diciéndole: “Esto es lo que usted busca”. Entonces, Vírgenes de la Altarica. Al amanecer el anciano había desaparecido envuelto en el mistério. El cuadro de Ntra. Sra. de la Altarica tiene 33 centímetros de ancho por 45 de alto y según la opinión de los expertos es una obra primica de la escuela española pintada a fines del siglo XV y miembro del folio XVI. El lienzo, que muestra una escena de la Natividad, fue cautivadormente restaurado en España en 1978, para poderse apreciar ahora todo su belleza y su colorido original, pues el tiempo, sus inclemencias, el humo de las velas y el roce de las manos de los devotos, habían alterado notablemente la superficie del cuadro hasta hacerla casi irreconocible. Sobre una delgada tela aparece pintada la escena del nacimiento de Jesús, la Virgen, los santos y unas casas con pequeñas ventanas, una blanca escarcha cayendo por delante de sus vestidos. (continúa...)

NOTICIAS: MISAS SEMANALES:
Misa de la mañana a las 8:15am-Bilingüe.
MISA: SÁBADO: 4:00PM en inglés.
DOMINGOS: 8:00am en español; 11:00am en inglés y 5:00PM bilingüe. ADORACIÓN DEL SANTISIMO: Todos los viernes desde la misa de 8:15.

PÁRROCO: Fr. E. RODRÍGUEZ: Tel. 991-970-940.
MISA EN INGLÉS: Sábados a las 11:00AM.

FRANCISCO: “El Espíritu Santo es el gobernador de la comunidad de las diferencias”. Hace visitar la comunidad de las diferencias”. Ese es el clave de la vida de los creyentes. Una comunión que da la posibilidad de “desarrollar las fracciones”. Ese fue el origen de la difusión de Francisco a la Asociación “Joven de Bélgica”.

“El Espíritu Santo es el misterio, el jefe del proyecto”, destacó Franciscu a los asistentes, a los que dijo “hacer crecer, con vuestro testimonio de vida, una cultura del encuentro y del diálogo en medio de la sociedad”. Es su discurso, el Papa Salvador a los miembros de esta Asociación que se encuentran visitando en Roma y han apostado por las diversas iniciativas que lleva adelante. “Con ustedes – afirmó el Papa –, ofrece una solución que esa la ha permitido llegar a la fuente y recuperar la sencillez original del Evangélico y hacer surgir el proyecto Iglesia, que tan en la parte, que es punto de partida del Papa”. La Prensa Pública, que en el ámbito de una sociedad secularizada, donde algunos quisieran relegar la religión a la esfera del interior de las personas, el objetivo de nuestra Asociación, agrupar a los que tienen la misma fe ante la presencia de esta Asociación en el ámbito público y los medios de comunicación, los animamos a seguir dando testimonio de Cristo y de poder en prácticas sus palabras en favor del desarrollo de nuestros talentos y de nuestras capacidades en el servicio del hombre, y que el Vaticano es la vía de humanización en la escuela de Jesucristo, nuestro Señor y nuestro Maestro, no como el que salvan el mundo y se dan a las personas, sino con dulzor y respeto, sin cansarse de hacer el bien”. Por ello, el Obispo de Roma les ha alentado a seguir adelante con las diversas iniciativas que desarrolla esta Asociación, para dar así testimonio del deseo de la Iglesia de acompañar, junto con estos nuevos vientos para nuestra juventud a los que se van a ver a las personas, las mayores propuestas en favor de la dignidad de la persona y del bien común.” Tengan presente de manifestar – puntualizó el Papa –. sus palabras y sus acciones, que la fe es jesucristismo y no jamás se haga de la gente a Dios ofrecido a todos los hombres como un camino más liberador de la historia del.
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC) METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG- DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> PUBLIC HEARING EMAILED NOTICE
Shanna Burke

From: Shanna Burke  
Friday, July 06, 2018 3:19 PM  

Sent:  

To: Ana Pereda (apereda@bmntcoc.org); Bill McCoy (Email); Debbie Plaia - Port Neches Chamber of Commerce (pncoc@swbell.net); Diana LaBorde - Nederland Chamber of Commerce (nedcofc@nederlandtx.com); Ida Schossow (president@orangetexaschamber.org); Kayla Bishop (Email); Lauri Thompson - Kountze Chamber (contact@kountzeechamber.org); President Bridge City Chamber of Commerce (bcchamber@bridgecitychamber.com); Rebecca Gardiner - Sour Lake Chamber of Commerce (sourlakechamber@gmail.com); Representative Vidor Chamber of Commerce (vidorcoc@gmail.com); Ronnie Boneau (gchamberofcommergt.tt.com); Sandra Womack (sandra@lumbertoncoc.com); Alvin Roberts (Email); Ann Galassi (Email); Barbara Otto (botto@beauumonttexas.gov); Barry Burton (Email); Beckie Kelley (Email); Becky Ames (Email); Bonnie Stephenson (Email); Brad Bailey (Email); Brad Childs (Email); Brandon Creighton (Email); Brent Weaver (Email); Brian Gipson (Email); Bruce Robinson (Email); C.A. "Pete" Shelton (E-mail); Cathy Nagel (Email); Charlotte Moses (Email); Chris Boone (chris.boone@beauumonttexas.gov); Chris Kirkendall (Email); Cisco Abshire - Beaumont ISD (cabshir@bmtisd.com); Dade Phelan (Email); Dale Fontenot (Email); Dan Mohon (Email); Daniel J. Diaz (Email); David Maniscalco (Email); David Rutledge (Email); Derrick Freeman (Email); Don Albanese (Email); Don Carona (Email); Dwaine K. Augustine (Email); Eddie Arnold (Email); Eugene "Gene" Bouillon (E-mail); Everette "Bo" Alfred (Email); Fred Jackson; Fred Williams (Email); Glenn Johnson (Email); Herbert Muckerley (email); James White (Email); Jay Killgo (Email); Jeff Branick (Email); Jody Crump (Email); Joe Deshotel (Email); John Comeaux (Email); John Durkay (E-mail); John Gothia (Email); John L. Johnson (Email); John W. Fossard (Email); Johnny Trahan (Email); Josh W. Allen Sr. (Email); Judge Dean Crooks (Email); Kelly Carder (Email); Ken Duhon (E-mail); Ken Pelt (E-mail); Kerry Abney (Email); Kirk Roccaforte (Email); Kyle Hayes - City of Beaumont (khayes@beauumonttexas.gov); L.W. Cooper (Email); LaWanda Finney (Email); LeRoy McCall Jr. (Email); Mark Porterie (mporterie@paisd.org); Mary Adams (Email 2); Michael "Shane" Singal (Email); Michael Getz - City of Beaumont (Email); Mike Kunst (Email); Nicholas Carter (Email); Norman Blackman (Email); Pete Runnels (E-mail); Phil Kelley (pkelley@dd7.org); Phil Owens (email); R. A. "Dick" Nugent (E-mail); Rebecca Ford (Email); Richard Beaumont (Email); Rick Thomisee (Email); Robbie Hood (Email); Robert "Danny" Fruge (Email); Robert Arnold (Email); Robert Nichols (Email); Robert Viator Jr. (Email); Robin Mouton (Email); Roy McDonal'd (E-mail); Scot Sheldon (Email); Scott Hall (Email); Shane Rich (Email); Shaun Davis; Shaun Oubre (E-mail); Shirley Bonnin (email 2); Shirley Bonnin (E-mail); Sue Bard (Email); Terri Gauthier (Email); Terry Jackson (email); Todd Lintzen (Email); Tom Woolley (Email); Twila Baker (Email); Wayne McDaniel (Email); William "Butch" Sanders (Email); Blake Hopper (Email); Christian Manuel (Email); Cydnye Couthran (cydnye.couthran@house.texas.gov); Grant Murray (Email); J.D. Hale (Email); Jason Fuller (Email); Jay_Guerrero (E-mail); Jed Webb (Email); Jennifer Harris (Email); Kelly Waterman (Email); Lanie Brown (Email); Lauren Perkins (Email); Saul L. Mendoza (saul.mendoza@house.texas.gov); Tara Garcia (Email); Zach Johnson (Email); Betty J. Reynard (reynardbj@lamarpa.edu); Kenneth Evans; Lonnie Howard (Email); Michael Shahan (michael.shahan@lsco.edu); Adrian Scott (Cumulus email); An Duong (Email); Armando Ruiz (armando@noticeromedia.com); Caleb Avila (El Perico Newspaper email); CUSH Communications, Inc. (info@cushinc.com); Danny Reneau (Email); David Ingram; David Lowell (Email); Debbie Schamber (Email); Don J. Dodd (E-mail); Gary Stelly (E-mail); George Garza (Email); Gerry Dickert (Email); Gershon Haston (Gershon.mytv22@gmail.com); Glen
To:
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Cc:
Shaun Davis; Shanna Burke; Suzanne Carver; Collin Sheldon
Subject:
SETRPC Hurricane Harvey Draft Method of Distribution and Public Hearing Notices
Attachments:

SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds Related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

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Shanna Burke

From: Shanna Burke
Sent: Friday, July 06, 2018 3:28 PM
To: 

'A.C. Williams'; 'Aaliyah Noble'; 'Alan Gonzalez'; 'Alice Teeler'; 'Amy Dinn'; 'Amy Dubea'; 'Amy Everett'; 'Amy Guidroz (aguidroz@ci.port-neches.tx.us)'; 'Amy Johnson'; 'Amy Obermueffmann'; 'Andre' Wimer (awimer@ci.port-neches.tx.us); 'Andrea Brown'; 'Angela Carter'; 'Antoinette Hardy'; Antoinette Hardy (ahardy1369@aol.com); 'Arnold, Olivia (Libby)'; 'Aunsnelle White (SVDP)'; 'Barbara Lange'; 'Beaumont NAACP'; 'Belinda Richard'; 'Bessie Coleman (SVDP)'; 'Beverly Hatcher'; 'Billy Perkins'; 'Bob Hyneckal'; Bonnie Brooks; Bonnie K. Loiodice (bloiodice@lamar.edu); Brandy Crane (SVDP); 'Brandy Robertson'; 'Brenda & Bob Dalcour'; 'Brenda Beadle'; 'Brenda Dalcour (SVDP)'; 'Brenda Vaughn'; 'Bridget Johnson'; 'Buddy Hughes'; 'Buffy Knight'; 'Camella Williams'; 'Carl Dahlquist'; 'Carol Flores'; Carol Riley (criley@beaumonttexas.gov); 'Carol Skees'; 'Carolyn Fernandez'; 'Carolyn Guidry'; 'cdr@glo.org'; 'Chad Mason'; 'Charles Pederson'; 'Cheryl Doyle'; 'Cheryl Robinson'; 'Cheryl Williams'; 'Chesler Jourdan (cherester.jourdan@redcross.org); 'Chris Duque - City of Nederland (cdoque@ci.nederland.tx.us); 'Chriselle Palay'; 'Christine Jackson'; 'Christine Vara'; 'Christopher Robertson'; 'Chuck Mason'; 'Claude Guidroz'; 'Codie Vasquez'; Colleen Halliburton; Collin Sheldon; 'Curtis Alexander'; 'Curtis Sharif'; 'Cynthia Fann' D. E. Sosa - City of Groves (dsosa@ cigrovestdx.com); 'Dale Farris'; 'Dana Hogg'; 'Daniel Maher'; 'Daniel Ramsey'; 'Danny Dubrisson'; 'David Pecora'; 'David Vaughn'; 'Deanna Andrews'; 'Deanna Polean-Stemock'; 'Debby Schamber'; 'Debi Derrick'; 'Deborah Drago'; 'Deborah Hebert'; 'Deborah Sultani'; 'Deborah Tomov'; 'Debra Huffman'; 'Debra Phillips'; 'Dee Hall'; 'DeeAnn Zimmerman (Email)'; 'Dejennell Jordan'; 'Delena King'; 'Demetrius Moffett'; 'Denise Berry'; 'Dianne Brady (SVDP)'; 'Don Miller'; 'Donald Marvels'; 'Donna Gleden'; 'Donna Rae Wisor'; 'Effie Sharp'; 'Elaine Shellenberger (elaine@seniormeals.org)'; 'Elise Fulton Smith'; 'Elise Johnson'; 'Elizabeth Barnhill'; 'Elizabeth Simon'; 'Elmo Chaisson'; 'Emanuel Preston'; 'Enrique Cabrera'; 'Eric Samuel'; 'Eugenia Chargois'; 'Frank Zuniga'; 'Frankco Higdon'; Fredrick Voorhies (fredrickvoorhies@yahoo.com); 'G. Cantue'; 'Gail Bertrand'; 'Garland Flakes'; Gay Ferguson (gferguson@ci.nederland.tx.us); 'Gentry Wiebusch'; 'Gerald Davis'; 'Glenda Alston'; 'Glenn Burdine'; 'Greg Edwards (Rev.)'; 'Gregory Wilson'; 'Guido Persiani'; 'Guy Goodson - Germer Gertz, L.L.P. (ggoodson@germer.com)'; 'H. Harold Brown'; 'Harland Merriam'; 'Harvey Howell'; Harvey Robinson (Email); 'Harvy Zernial'; Heather Sala; 'Hector Maldonado (SVDP)'; 'Hunt, Charles'; 'Ida Schossow (president@orangelatexachamber.org)'; 'Isaac Clark'; 'Isha Wiltz (SVDP)'; 'Jack Leggett'; Jack Provost - City of Sour Lake (jprovost@ci.ofoursourlake.com); 'Jamie Smith'; 'Jan Zuniga'; 'Janet Walker'; 'Janet Walker 2'; 'Janice Patillo'; 'Janice Johnson'; 'Janna Morgan'; 'Jay Sanderson'; 'Jeff Ross'; 'Jennifer McWilliams'; 'Jennifer Pinney'; 'Jennifer Stubbs'; 'Jenny Boudoin'; 'Jerry Dean'; 'Jerry Jones (jjones@bridgecitytx.com)'; 'Jesus Abrego'; 'Jim Hamilton'; 'Jimmy Adams'; 'Jo Adams'; 'JoAnn Patillo'; 'Jocelyn Wright (SVDP)'; 'Joe Higgs'; 'Joe Miller'; 'John Adolph (Dr.)'; Johnny Beatty (jbeatty@beaumonttexas.gov); 'Jordan Gamez'; 'Judy Jensen'; 'Judy Pace'; 'Julie Reid'; 'Julie Tucker'; 'Karen Do'; 'Karen Swenson'; 'Karyn Husbands'; 'Kasia Ridgeway'; 'Kate MacMullan'; 'Katherine Hightower (SVDP)'; 'Ken Hill'; 'Kendall Boyd'; 'Kerri Carr'; 'Kia Watts'; 'Kim Redmon'; 'Kristal Betros'; 'Kyle Hayes - City of Beaumont (khayes@beaumonttexas.gov)'; 'Lanis McWilliams'; 'Larry A. Kelley (larryk@portofportarthur.com); Latinessa Henderson'; 'Laura Stager'; Lauren Rahe (lbrahe@ubericartas.org); 'Lauren Van Gerven'; 'Laurie Gordon'; 'Lawrence White'; 'Lee Towns'; 'Lenora Hargrove'; 'Leslie Billot'; 'Lesly Johnson'; 'Lillie Boudreaux'; 'Linda Buser'; 'Linda Hughes'; 'Lisa Foy'; 'Lisa Maddux'; 'Lisa Rose'; 'Lori Higgins'; 'Lynda Davis'; 'Maddie Sloan (Texas Appleseed email)'; 'Madison Hopson'; 'Mai Nguyen (SVDP)'; 'Mallory
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Cc: Shaun Davis; Shanna Burke; Suzanne Carver; Collin Sheldon

Subject: SETRPC Hurricane Harvey Draft Method of Distribution and Public Hearing Notices


SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds
Related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

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SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC) METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

2nd and 3rd PUBLIC HEARING CERTIFIED MAIL NOTICE
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SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC)
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} PUBLIC HEARING WEBSITE POSTING NOTICE
DRAFT HURRICANE HARVEY METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION

LEARN MORE

SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

A voluntary association of local governments that serves Hardin, Jefferson & Orange Counties.

Learn more about SETRPC

http://www.setrpc.org/
DRAFT HURRICANE HARVEY METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION

Jul 6, 2018 | Disaster Recovery

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) has released its Draft Method of Distribution (MOD) for 2017 Hurricane Harvey CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for Buyout/Acquisition and Infrastructure funding. A copy can be downloaded below.

The Method of Distribution is open for public comment though Friday, July 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Details about how to submit comments are available on the attached notices.

- Draft MOD
- Solicitation for Public Comment Harvey MOD
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC)
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

2nd and 3rd PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TO GLO
Attached please find a copy of Public Hearing Notices for the SETRPC’s Public Hearings in order for the community to provide feedback on our Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution for Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke, PHR, SHRM-CP
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77703
Ph – (409) 899-8444, ext. 7516
Fax – (409) 347-0138
Email – sburke@setrpc.org
SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds
Related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for $156,700,835 in Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds. Both written and oral comments will be accepted.

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution – Friday, July 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. at www.setrpc.org and in hard copy at the SETRPC’s Offices.
A Draft Method of Distribution is posted on the SETRPC website and is available in hard copy at the SETRPC Offices located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Written comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – harveycomments@setrpc.org.

Orange County Public Hearing – Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Orange Public Library Auditorium, 220 North 5th Street, Orange, TX.
The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Hardin County Public Hearing – Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lumberton Performing Arts Center located at 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX.
The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Adoption/Denial of Proposed Method of Distribution – Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. at the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.
The purpose will be for designated voting members of the SETRPC Executive Committee to adopt or deny the Proposed Method of Distribution.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 48-hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6386 for assistance.

For information about this posting, please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6386.
SOLICITUD PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS
Subsidios en bloque para el desarrollo comunitario del huracán Harvey Fondos suplementarios para la recuperación de desastres relacionado con Fondos de Adquisiciones/Adquisición y Fondos de Infraestructura

Se da aviso de que la Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sudeste de Texas (SETRPC) está solicitando información sobre el método de distribución por $ 156,700,835 en Fondos Complementarios de Recuperación de Desastres de Subsidios en Bloque de Desarrollo Comunitario relacionados con Adquisiciones/Adquisiciones e Fondos de Infraestructura. Se aceptarán comentarios escritos y orales.

Publicación del Borrador del Método de Distribución - Viernes, 6 de julio de 2018 a las 5:00 p.m. en el sitio web SETRPC www.setrpc.org y un Borrador del Método de Distribución está disponible en copia impresa en las Oficinas SETRPC ubicadas en 2210 Eastex Frwy, Beaumont, TX 77703.

Los comentarios por escrito sobre el Método de distribución deben recibirse por correo postal, fax o correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. Viernes, 20 de julio de 2018 a: Shanna Burke, Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sureste de Texas, 2210 Eastex Frwy, Beaumont, TX 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; correo electrónico – harveycomments@setrpc.org.

Audiencia Pública del Condado de Orange - martes, 17 de julio de 2018 a las 6:00 p.m. en el Auditorio de la Biblioteca Pública de Orange, 220 North 5th Street, Orange, TX. El propósito será obtener comentarios sobre el Borrador del Método de Distribución.

Audiencia Pública del Condado de Hardin - Jueves, 19 de julio de 2018 a las 6:00 p.m. en el Lumberton Performing Arts Center ubicado en 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX. El propósito será obtener comentarios sobre el Borrador del Método de Distribución.

Adopción/denegación del método de distribución propuesto - Miércoles, 15 de agosto de 2018 a las 12:00 p.m. en la Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sureste de Texas - 2210 Eastex Frwy, Beaumont, TX 77703. El objetivo será que los miembros con derecho a voto designados del Comité Ejecutivo de SETRPC adopten o denieguen el Método de Distribución Propuesto.

El SETRPC proporcionará acomodaciones razonables para las personas que asistan a las funciones de SETRPC. Las solicitudes de personas que necesitan adaptaciones especiales deben ser recibidas por el personal de SETRPC 48 horas antes de la función. Las audiencias públicas se realizarán en inglés y las solicitudes de intérpretes de idiomas u otras necesidades especiales de comunicación se deben realizar al menos 48 horas antes de una función. Por favor llame al 409-899-8444, ext. 6386 para asistencia o para obtener información sobre esta publicación.
KHUYẾN NGHỊ CÔNG BÌNH
Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplement Disaster Recovery Funds
Liên quan đến quy mua lại / và cơ sở hạ tầng

Thông báo được đưa ra là South East Texas Regional Planning Commision (SETRPC) đang tìm kiếm phương thức phân phối cho $156.700.835 trong Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds có liên quan đến Quỹ Mua lại / và Cơ sở hạ tầng. Cả hai ý kiến bằng văn bản và bằng lời nói sẽ được chấp nhận.

Đăng tải phương pháp phân phối dự thảo - Thứ Sáu, ngày 6 tháng 7 năm 2018 lúc 5:00 chiều tại www.setrpc.org và bạn in tại văn phòng của SETRPC.

Một phương pháp phân phối dự thảo được đăng trên trang mạng của SETRPC và có sẵn bạn in tại các văn phòng của SETRPC tại 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Các nhận xét bằng văn bản về Phuong thức phân phối phải được nhận qua thư, fax hoặc email trước 5:00 chiều. Thứ Sáu, ngày 20 tháng 7 năm 2018 gửi đến: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commision, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax - (409) 347-0138; email – harveycomments@setrpc.org

Buổi Điều Trần Công Cộng Cty Orang County - Thứ Ba, ngày 17 tháng 7 năm 2018 lúc 6:00 chiều tại thư viện Orange Public Library Auditorium, 220 North 5th Street, Orange, TX.

Mục đích sẽ là để có được bình luận về dự thảo phương pháp phân phối.

Buổi Điều trần Công Cộng Hardin County - Thứ Năm, ngày 19 tháng 7 năm 2018 lúc 6:00 chiều tại Lumberton Performing Arts Center tại 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX.

Mục đích sẽ là để có được bình luận về dự thảo phương pháp phân phối.

Thông qua / Tự chở phương pháp phân phối - Thứ Tư, ngày 15 tháng 8 năm 2018 lúc 12:00 chiều tại South East Texas Regional Planning tại 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Mục đích sẽ dành cho các thành viên bộ phiếu được chỉ định của Ủy ban điều hành SETRPC chấp nhận hoắc từ chủ phương pháp phân phối.

SETRPC sẽ cung cấp chỗ họp lý cho những người tham dự các chức năng SETRPC. Yêu cầu từ những người can nhận viên đặc biệt cần được nhận viên SETRPC tiếp nhận 48 giờ trước khi thực hiện chức cục hợp. Các phiên điều trần công khai sẽ được tiến hành bằng tiếng Anh và yêu cầu thông dịch viên ngôn ngữ hoặc các nhu cầu giao tiếp đặc biệt khác phải được thực hiện ít nhất 48 giờ trước khi có một chức cục hợp. Vui lòng gọi 409-899-8444, ext. 6386 để được hỗ trợ.

Để biết thông tin về bài đăng này, vui lòng gọi 409-899-8444, ext. 6386.
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC)
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS

2nd and 3rd PUBLIC HEARING NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION NOTICES
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared: Victoria Bond, who after being duly sworn, says that she is a NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE for THE BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE, a daily newspaper published in Jefferson County and generally circulated in Jefferson, Hardin, Tyler, Newton, Orange, Jasper, Liberty, Sabine, Chambers, San Augustine, Angelina and Galveston Counties, Texas, and that the publication, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published to wit:

July 11, 2018 – Job#202857901

Account: Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission. - Acct# 027760003

Victoria Bond
Newspaper Representative

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this ___7___ day of ___August, 2018___ A.D.

Charles E. Walichowski
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas
**IMMIGRATION**

**Reunited children scooped up into parents’ arms**

By Brett Sims

SAN DIEGO — Lamenting the “little backpacks,” one immigrant father described how his children were scooped up into their parents’ arms Thursday at the Homeland Security Agency’s (DHS) main facility in San Diego, after being separated from them for months.

The children were “just holding them and hugging them and telling them that everything was fine and that they were safe,” he said.

Melva Alva Lopez holds her son, Adam, 8, after being reunited in Phoenix, Ariz., on Tuesday after being separated from him by immigration officials.

**POLITICS**

**Heroes or criminals? Trump pardons 2 Oregon marines**

By Andrew Sally

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump commuted two prison sentences and granted pardons on Thursday, a day before he is set to leave office.

Trump signed a number of executive actions at the White House on his last full day in office, including a pardon for former Special Forces Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, who was convicted in 2015 of 16 counts of murder and 16 counts of attempted murder.

Trump is also pardoning former President George W. Bush’s former national security advisor, Dr. Augusto Paez, and former Defense Secretary Robert Gates.

**KHIEN NGH LANG BING**

Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds

Lóa quän đầu năm và / và có và / và có

Thống bò được dạy và = tại South Texas Regional Planning Commission (STEP) đăng ký phòng thi phòng cấp cho $135,700,000 trong Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds thuộc Province/Province & Infrastructure Funds. Báo tiến văn và os chính còn tự nhiên.

Post of Draft Method of Distribution – Final Version

Huỳnh Nguyễn Văn Công

Philadelphia Business Journal

The purpose of the above statement will be to provide us in the Draft of Method of Distribution.

Approval/Revise of Proposed Method of Distribution

Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. at the STEP office located at 2210 Eastway, Beaumont, TX, 77706.

The purpose of the above statement will be to provide us in the Draft of Method of Distribution.

Adoption/Revise of Proposed Method of Distribution

Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. at the STEP office located at 2210 Eastway, Beaumont, TX, 77706.

The purpose of the above statement will be to provide us in the Draft of Method of Distribution.

SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyout/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South Texas Regional Planning Commission (STEP) is holding a hearing on Thursday, Jan. 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of receiving comments on the Draft of Method of Distribution.

**PHOTO CREDIT**

Melva Alva Lopez holds her son, Adam, 8, after being reunited in Phoenix, Ariz., on Tuesday after being separated from him by immigration officials.
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

Rich Macke, being duly sworn, on oath says he is and during all times herein stated has been an employee of The Port Arthur Newsmedia publisher and printer of the The Port Arthur News (the "Newspaper"), has full knowledge of the facts herein stated as follows:

1. The Newspaper printed the copy of the matter attached hereto (the "Notice") was copied from the columns of the Newspaper and was printed and published in the English language on the following days and dates:

07/11/18

2. The sum charged by the Newspaper for said publication is the actual lowest classified rate paid by commercial customer for an advertisement of similar size and frequency in the same newspaper in which the Notice was published.

3. There are no agreements between the Newspaper, publisher, manager or printer and the officer or attorney charged with the duty of placing the attached legal advertising notice whereby any advantage, gain or profit accrued to said officer or attorney.

Rich Macke, publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th Day of July, 2018

Jeree Powell, Notary Public
State of Texas at large
My commission expires 04-25-2022

Account # PAN00017310
Ad # 554808

SOUTHEAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLAN
2210 EASTEX FREEWAY
BEAUMONT TX 77703
Purple yam power!

We usually have sweet potatoes around here. Yams are different things from different places, but we're kind of used to them all being orange inside. I was at the grocery store and saw a sign for yams, so I bought one and kept it on the counter a while before cooking it. Imagine my surprise when I cut into it and it was purple. It must have been a Dioscorea alata, which I learned about through Internet "research" long after I consumed it.

So if you happen to find a purple yam, I can imagine a certain group of royal classmates in Port Nicos and Grenos who would love such a meal presentation. I froze some for breakfast and the purple paste with egg yolk was an early morning pop of color. So back to sweet potatoes...

How do you like them? For years I've been baking them like regular potatoes and serving them with butter, Greek yogurt and every powder. If you're lucky enough, have some bacon and green onions. That'll work, too.

My mom made a sweet potato and the vines have been making a bush crawl up a trellis every summer. Sometimes I harvest the leaves and enjoy them in a salad. I learned this trick by finding leaves for sale at a farmer's market. Happily, the vine loves this treatment and produces more with every cut.

Half a honey bun

Here's a breakfast trick everyone will be willing to try. It involves sharing.

Sometimes an extra honey bun, doughnut, fritter or something like that comes into your life. You know it tastes good, but just looking at it makes you feel a tad guilty. So many extra calories you didn't plan for.

I actually find these little gifts more flavorful if sliced thin and grilled in butter to a certain crispiness.

From there I can fry an egg or two around these sweet, crunchy bites and then that one pastry becomes breakfast for a French toast kind of way.

Sharing becomes easier when you think about great flavor at half the calories. If you try this, let me know what you think.

Darragh Doran is a Port Arthur area foodie always looking to get the most out of her three squares a day. Tweet! Send her love via darraghcoff@iol.com

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SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for $156,700,835 in Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyout/Acquisition & Infrastructure Funds. Both written and oral comments will be accepted.

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution

Friday, July 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. on the SETRPC website www.setrpc.org and available in hard copy at the SETRPC’s offices located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77703.

Written comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77703; Fax: (409) 347-0138; Email: hurwvcomments@setrpc.org.

Orange County Public Hearing

Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

at the Orange Public Library Auditorium.
Purple Yam power!

We usually have sweet potatoes around here. Yams are different things from different places, and we're kind of used to them all being orange inside. I was at the grocery store and saw these for yams, so I bought one and kept it on the counter a while before using it.

Imagine my surprise when I cut into it and it was purple. It must have been a Dioscorea zibethica, which I learned about through Internet "research" long after I consumed it.

So if you happen to find a purple sweet potato, be sure to check out the Norris farm in Groves and Groves who would love such a meal presentation.

I sliced some up for breakfast and the purple potato was an early morning pop of color.

To go with sweet potatoes...

What do you like to do with them? For years I've been baking them like regular potatoes and serving them with mashed potatoes and gravy. Purple mashed potatoes and gravy! What a treat!

In the mood for something different? Try using purple food coloring in your strawberry milkshakes! It's a fun way to add a pop of color to your drinks.

SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for $156,700,835 in Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds. Written and oral comments will be accepted.

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution—Friday, July 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. on the SETRPC website www.setrpc.org and available in hard copy at the SETRPC's offices located at 2210 East Fwy, Beaumont, TX 77703.

Written comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 27, 2018 to Shanna Burke, South Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 East Fwy, Beaumont, TX 77703; Fax – (409) 347-0138; Email – harveycomments@setrpc.org.

Orange County Public Hearing—Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Orange Public Library Auditorium, 226 North 3rd St, Orange, TX.

Hardin County Public Hearing—Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lumberton Performing Arts Center, 103 South LHS Dr., Lumberton, TX.

The purpose of the above hearings will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Adoption/Denial of Proposed Method of Distribution—Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. at the SETRPC located at 2210 East Fwy, Beaumont, TX 77703.

The purpose will be for designated voting members of the SETRPC Executive Committee to adopt or deny the Proposed Method of Distribution.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests of persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 48-hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours in advance of the function. Please call 409-899-3444, ext. 638 for assistance or for more information about this posting.

SOLICITUD PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS

Subsidios en bloque para el desarrollo comunitario del fondo Harvey Fúndes suplementarios para la recuperación de desastres relacionado con Adquisiciones/ Adquisiciones y Fondos de Infraestructura

Se da aviso de que la Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sureste de Texas (SETRPC) está solicitando información sobre el método de distribución por $156,700,835 en Fondos Complementarios de Recuperación de Desastres en Bloque para el desarrollo comunitario relacionados con Adquisiciones/Aduanas y Fondos de Infraestructura. Se aceptarán comentarios escritos o orales.

Publicación del Boletín del Método de Distribución—Viernes, 6 de julio de 2018 a las 5:00 p.m. en el sitio web www.setrpc.org y en copias impresas en las oficinas del SETRPC en 2210 East Fwy, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Los comentarios por escrito sobre el Método de distribución deben ser recibidos por correo postal, fax o correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. el viernes, 20 de julio de 2018 a Shanna Burke, Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sureste de Texas, 2210 East Fwy, Beaumont, TX 77703; Fax – (409) 347-0138; correo electrónico – harveycomments@setrpc.org.

Auditorio Público del Condado de Orange—Martes 17 de julio de 2018 a las 6:00 p.m. en el Auditorio de la Biblioteca Pública de Orange, 226 North 5th Street, Orange, TX.

Auditorio Público del Condado de Hardin—Jueves, 19 de julio de 2018 a las 6:00 p.m. en el Lumberton Performing Arts Center ubicado en 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX.

El propósito de las audiencias públicas será obtener comentarios sobre el Boletín del Método de Distribución.

Adopción/denegación del método de distribución propuesto—Miércoles, 15 de agosto de 2018 a las 12:00 p.m. en la Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sureste de Texas ubicada en 2210 East Fwy, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

El objetivo será que los miembros con derecho a voto designados del Comité Ejecutivo de SETRPC adopten o deneguen el Método de Distribución Propuesto.

El SETRPC proporcionará acomodaciones razonables para personas que necesiten acomodaciones que se ajusten a las funciones de SETRPC. Las solicitudes de personas que necesitan adaptaciones especiales deben recibir atención por parte de SETRPC 48 horas antes de la función. Las audiencias públicas se realizarán en inglés y los solicitantes de inmigrantes de idiomas u otras necesidades de comunicación deben realizar al menos 48 horas antes de una función. Para hacer esto llame al 409-899-3444, ext. 638 para asistencia o para obtener información sobre esta publicación.
SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Substantive in block for the development of plans and strategies for the continued operation of the State Lottery.
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HARDIN

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared **Danny Reneau**, Publisher of *The Silsbee Bee*, a newspaper of general circulation, which has been regularly and continuously published in the City of Silsbee, County of Hardin, State of Texas for more than a year, who on his oath says that the hereto attached notice was published in *The Silsbee Bee* in the issue(s) of said newspaper dated **July 11, 2018** and that the printed copy attached hereto is a true and correct copy of said notice.

Publication Fee $780

[Signature]
Danny Reneau, Publisher

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE me this the **20th** day of July 2018.

[Signature]
Deborah L. Gordon
Notary Public, State of Texas
Local Happenings

Head start roundup slated for July 12

KOUNTZE — Kountze Head Start, 1565 South Pine St., is conducting a “roundup” on Thursday, July 12, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Children age 5 and up can enroll in Kountze Head Start/Early Head Start and Lamarbton Early Head Start-CCP.

Parents need to bring proof of child’s age, up-to-date immunization records; proof of income for the past 12 months (check stubs, income tax statement Form 1040, child support, SS1); proof of any assistance received such as WIC, SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, childcare assistance, grants, scholarships, child support or SSI, current ECI paperwork in applicable. For more information, call 409-346-3081 (HIS), 409-246-8410 (EHS) or 409-751-5439 (ECC-CCP).

Camp Noah dates, sites set

Camp Noah, a nationally recognized resiliency and preparedness experience that brings hope and healing to children who have experienced disaster-related trauma, will be scheduled at two locations in Hardin County.

Woodcrest United Methodist Church, 1684 U.S. 96 South in Lumberton, will host Camp Noah on Monday, July 16 to Friday, July 20 and Apostolic Lighthouse, 195 N. Cameron Street in Neches, will host from July 23-27.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration is open with a first come, first served basis and is limited to 50 children.

Through the Rebuild Texas Grant, Hardin County Strong has received funding to bring Camp Noah to Hardin County.

Music at the Museum

The Ice House Museum will host a second concert in the Summer Music Series this weekend.

The Slisbee High School Jazz Band will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 14. Admission is $5 per ticket.

The museum is located at 818 Earnest Ave., Slisbee. For more information, call 409-385-3444.

Church hosting gospel concert

SPURGER — Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, located on FM 2992, will host its Friday night gospel concert at 7 p.m. Friday, July 13. “The Stanley’s” will be in concert.

Bro. Robert McClelland is the pastor.

Local coin club meetings set

The Slisbee Coin Club meets the last Monday each month at 7 p.m. at St. John’s Episcopal Church on Rood

Legals

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the
Eastern District of Texas

Washington Mutual Mortgage Securities Corp.,

Plaintiff(s),

v.

Brian E. Riley et al.,

Defendant(s)

Civil Action No: 1:17cv308

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: Stacey Darlene Riley,
324 Pinewood Drive,
Slisbee, TX 77656

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) or 60 days if you are the United States or a State of the United States, or an agency or employee of the United States, as described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (2)(2) or (y), you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff’s attorney, whose name and address are:

County Matthews Jacobuck
2201 W. Royal Lane, Suite 155
Irving, TX 75063

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT
David A. Biddle
Date: 6/17/18

Summary of Suit for Citation by Publication

You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by Washington Mutual Mortgage Securities Corp., its successors and assignees, as plaintiff against Brian E. Riley, Stacey Darlene Riley, and Terry L. McKinney, and any other person claiming any right, title, interest or possession in or to the property located at 324 Pinewood Drive, Slisbee, Texas 77656, and legally described to wit:

BEING A TRACT OR PORTION OF LAND CONTAINING 0.26 ACRES OF LAND OUT OF AND AN A PART OF THE JACOBS HILL LEASE, ABSTRACT 31, IN HARDIN COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING OUT OF THE E.M. HEWITT 56.50 ACRE TRACT AND OUT OF AND A PART OF LOTS 4 AND 5, BLOCK 1 OF THE PREWITT SUBDIVISION R&D 0.26 ACRE TRACT BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF FOR ALL PURPOSES.

Plaintiff’s attorney is Stacey Darlene Riley, 324 Pinewood Drive, Slisbee, Texas 77656.

SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds

Related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for $156,700,000 in Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds. Both written and oral comments will be accepted.

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution — Friday, July 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. at www.setrpc.org and in hard copy at the SETRPC’s Offices.

A Draft Method of Distribution is posted on the SETRPC website and is available in hard copy at the SETRPC’s Offices located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Written comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 to: Shannon Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax — (409) 347-0138; email — HarveyComments@setrpc.org.

Auction of HARDIN COUNTY SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

2000 Cat Excavator
Telescopic Boom
Auction of surplus equipment will be handled online by Rene Bates Auctioneers starting July 12, 2018 through July 18, 2018. The web address is www.reneebates.com. Viewing will be held at Hardin County. Bids are to be placed before the auction. Bidder registration is required. Pre-Bid by appointment only.

Auction of HARDIN COUNTY SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

IN AND FOR THE STATE OF HARDIN COUNTY

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS

GREETING:

You are hereby commanded to appear before the COUNTY COURT of HARDIN COUNTY, TEXAS at the Courthouse of said County in the City of Kountze, HARDIN COUNTY, TEXAS at or before 10:00 o’clock A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of publication of this citation by filing a written answer to a petition filed in said Court on June 28, 2018 in Cause No. 18-00142 in the interest of WILLIAM JOHN JASPER.

This is a brief statement of the nature of the petition is as follows, to wit: DETERMINE HERITAGE.

As is more fully shown by the petition on file in this cause. The officer executing this process shall promptly execute the same according to law, and make due return as the law directs. If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after the day of issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the said Court at Office in Kountze, Texas, this 29th day of June, 2018.

GLENDA ALSTON, COUNTY CLERK
HERITAGE, COUNTY, TEXAS
CONNIE BECKET, DEPUTY

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids for Fuel, Coolant, Transmission Fluid and Motor Oil are addressed to Kirsten Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, Slisbee Independent School District, 415 Highway 32 West, Slisbee, Texas 77656 will be received at the address above in the Business Office, 415 Highway 32 West, Slisbee, Texas 77656, telephone (409) 669-8800, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday). Forms may also be obtained from the district website, www.slisbeesisd.org.

Richard Ban, Jr., Superintendent

Kirsten Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance

Auction will be handled online by Rene Bates Auctioneers starting July 12, 2018 through July 18, 2018. The web address is www.reneebates.com. Viewing will be held at Hardin County. Bidder registration is required. Pre-Bid by appointment only.
County Matthews-Jacocks
2201 W. Royal Lane, Suite 155
Irving, TX 75063

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT
David A. O'Toole
Date: 6/4/16

Summary of Suit for Citation by Publication.
You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by Washington Mutual Mortgage Securities Corp., its successors and assigns, as plaintiff against Brian E. Riley, Stacey Darlene Riley, and Terry L. McKinney and any other person claiming any right, title, interest or possession in and to the property located at 342 Firewood Drive, Shibee, Texas 77656, and legally described to wit:

BEING A TRACT OF OR PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 0.65 ACRES OF LAND OUT OF AN A PART OF THE JACOB HILLIEIC, ABSTRACT 91, IN HARDIN COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING OUT OF THE E.M. PREWIT T66.50 ACRES TRACT AND OUT OF A PART OF LOTS 4 AND 5, BLOCK 1 OF THE PREWIT SUBDIVISION NO. 2, AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION SAID 0.65 ACRES TRACT BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF FOR ALL PURPOSES.

Plaintiff's Petition is styled Washington Mutual Mortgage Securities v. Brian E. Riley, Stacey Darlene Riley and Terry L. McKinney. The Plaintiff seeks to rescind the vendor's lien and assert superior title to the above-described property.

SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for $516,700,833 in Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds. Both written and oral comments will be accepted.

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution — Friday, July 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. at www.setrpc.org and in hard copy at the SETRPC's Office.

A Draft Method of Distribution is posted on the SETRPC website and is available in hard copy at the SETRPC Offices located at 2210 East Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Written comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 East Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77702, fax - (409) 347-0138; email - shanna.burke@setrpc.org.

Orange County Public Hearing — Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Orange Public Library Auditorium, 200 North 6th Street, Orange, TX.

The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Hardin County Public Hearing — Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lumberton Performing Arts Center located at 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX.

The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Adoption/Denial of Proposed Method of Distribution — Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. at the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission located at 2210 East Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

The purpose will be for designated voting members of the SETRPC Executive Committee to adopt or deny the Proposed Method of Distribution.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 48 hours prior to the function. Public hearing will be conducted in English and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call 409-295-8444, ext. 6438 for assistance.

For information about this posting, please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6396, 281

Auction of surplus equipment will be handled online by René Bates Auctioneers starting July 12, 2018 through July 26, 2018. The web address is www.renebates.com. Viewing will be held at Hardin County Precinct 2 by appointment only. Bids must be submitted online by July 25, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. for additional information, please contact Commissioner Precinct 2 at (409) 295-8551, or Purchasing Department at (409) 246-5124, www.co.hardin.tx.us. 282

PUBLIC HEARING
The Hardin County Drainage Advisory Committee will hold a Public Hearing to discuss potential drainage projects utilizing H&H grant funding on July 25, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., at the Lumberton Performing Arts Center/Come, located at 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, Texas 77657.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids for Fuel, Coolant, Transmission Fluid and Oil are invited from one or more responsible companies, able to furnish the items required as follows:

Item 1: Diesel fuel at a price per gallon
Item 2: Coolant at a price per gallon
Item 3: Transmission fluid at a price per gallon
Item 4: Oil at a price per gallon

Bids will be accepted at the office of the County Auditor of Hardin County, Texas, on or before 1:00 p.m. on August 1, 2018.

The Hardin County Precinct 2 is responsible for conducting the sale.

Hardin County Precinct 2
County Auditor
Hardin County, Texas

CONNEE BECTON, DEPUTY

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids for Fuel, Coolant, Transmission Fluid and Oil are invited from one or more responsible companies, able to furnish the items required as follows:

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Hardin County Precinct 2
County Auditor
Hardin County, Texas

CONNEE BECTON, DEPUTY
PUBLISHER’S AFFIDAVIT
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF Orange

(Insert County)

BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY, ON THIS DAY PERSONALLY APPEARED Ray Dunn, WHO BEING BY ME DULY

Insert Publisher’s Name/Publisher’s Representative

SWORN, DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT HE/SHE IS THE PUBLISHER OF THE Picard Newspaper THAT SAID NEWSPAPER IS

(Insert Newspaper’s Name)

REGULARLY PUBLISHED IN Orange COUNTY

(Insert County/Counties Name)

(COUNTIES), TEXAS, AND GENERALLY CIRCULATED IN Newton

(Insert ALL Counties of General Distribution)

COUNTY (COUNTIES), TEXAS; AND THAT THE NOTICE, A COPY OF WHICH IS HERETO ATTACHED, WAS PUBLISHED IN SAID NEWSPAPER ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS:

July 11, 2018

(Insert Date(s))

__________________________________________

PUBLISHER/PUBLISHER’S REPRESENTATIVE

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO ME ON THIS THE 2nd DAY OF August, 2018, TO CERTIFY WHICH WITNESS MY HAND

AND SEAL OF OFFICE.

Phyllis J. Dunn
NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

Phyllis J. Dunn
PRINT OR TYPE NAME OF NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 3-23-2021

(Affix Notary Seal Above)
Paula Abdul announces fall tour with Lake Charles stop

By Tommy Mann Jr. - The Times Beach

One of the biggest tours of the fall has been announced and it includes a stop in Southwest Louisiana.

Pop artist Paula Abdul announced her "Straight Up" 2008 North American tour stops Monday at a chuck a performance at the Golden Nugget Casino in Lake Charles, La., on Friday, Oct. 19. Ticket go on sale to the public at 10 a.m. Friday, July 19, for fans 21 and older and an excess of information can be obtained at theasonic.com or you can call 1-800-745-3000.

The tour site will include a host of hit songs from her string of chart-topping hits in the 90’s and early 90’s, including "Straight Up," "Opposites Attract," "Forever Your Girl," "Rush Rush," "One Night Only" and 17 additional multiple singles all over the world. Visit www.paulaabdul.com for more information on the current upcoming tour.

California Corndogs' Hoffpaur is BC Chamber employee of July

The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that Logan Hoffpaur, who works at California Corndogs has been named July Employee of the Month.

Logan was presented his award, sponsored by Sabine River Ford, by B.J. Janson, Director of the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce, at the chamber’s July Networking Coffee hosted by CSA of the Sabine Neches Region.

Logan has worked at California Corndogs, more commonly known as the "corn dogs" by Bridge City Walmart, for one year and five months. He was nominated for employee of the month by Pat Hecks.

"Truly, I am so pleased to announce Logan because of his helpfulness, friendly demeanor, and good manner matters if the weather is cold, wet, or dry," said Pat Hecks.

He received gifts and gift certificates from the following businesses: Sabine Federal Credit Union, Total Impressions, Joe’s Fabrics, The Penny Market, Bridge City Dairy Queen, The Chop House, Nichols Federal Credit Union, Complete Bullfins, Tiger Rock Martial Arts of Bridge City, and more.

Ike's sizzles in Lake Charles

The Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting on June 14th for Answered Prayers Ribbon Cutting, located at 311 Main Street in Orange. Owner Malaysa Wilson has been in business for many years, and works with many levels of patient care. For more information please call (409) 761-1546.

SOLICITACION PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS

Naturales que requieren el desarrollo comunitario de la zona Harvery Fundos para la recuperación de las áreas boscosas Aquí se encuentra la Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sureste Fronterizo (SRTR) en colaboración con el Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, para promover la recuperación de áreas boscosas en el Sureste Fronterizo.

La comisión se encuentra en la localidad de Oaxaca, donde se encuentra el sitio boscoso que se quiere proteger.

La comisión ha realizado un estudio de la zona boscosa y ha identificado los problemas que se presentan en la zona.

¿Qué se puede hacer para proteger la zona boscosa?

La comisión ha propuesto algunas medidas para proteger la zona boscosa, como:

- Crear un área protegida
- Implementar programas de educación ambiental
- Contratar personal capacitado para monitorear la zona boscosa

¿Cómo puedo participar en la recuperación de la zona boscosa?

Existen varias maneras de participar en la recuperación de la zona boscosa, como:

- Donar dinero a la comisión
- Ayudar a la comisión con su tarea diaria
- Proporcionar información sobre la zona boscosa

Adquisiciones/Precios de Venta de Manzanas de habitación y de los terrenos de habitación Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sureste Fronterizo, 311 Main Street, Bridge City, TX 77611.

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Adquisiciones/Precios de Venta de Manzanas de habitación y de los terrenos de habitación Comisión de Planificación Regional del Sureste Fronterizo, 311 Main Street, Bridge City, TX 77611.
ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTIES OF Jefferson, Orange, Hardin

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared

Caleb Avila, who being by me duly sworn, deposes

and says that (s)he is the owner

of the El Perico Spanish Newspaper; that said newspaper or publication is

generally circulated in Jefferson, Orange, and Hardin Counties, Texas;

that the enclosed notice was published in said newspaper or publication on the following date(s):

July 8, 2018

(newspaper or publication representative's signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 8 day of July, 2018, to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

(Seal)

Manuel Rodriguez
Print or Type Name of Notary Public

4-17-2022
My Commission Expires
SOLICITUD PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS

Subsidios en bloque para el desarrollo comunitario del huracán Harvey Fondos suplementarios para la recuperación de desastres relacionado con Fondos de Adquisiciones/Adquisiciones y Fondos de Infraestructura

Se da aviso de que la Comisión de Planificación Regional del Suroeste de Texas (SETRPC) está solicitando información sobre el método de distribución por $ 156,700,835 en Fondos Complementarios de Recuperación de Desastres de Subsidios en Bloque de Desarrollo Comunitario relacionado con Adquisiciones/Adquisiciones e Fondos de Infraestructura. Se aceptarán comentarios escritos y orales.

Publicación del Borrador del Método de Distribución - Viernes, 6 de julio de 2018 a las 5:00 p.m. en el sitio web SETRPC www.setrpc.org y un Borrador del Método de Distribución está disponible en copia impresa en lasOfficinas SETRPC ubicadas en 2210 Eastex Fwy, Beaumont, TX 77703.

Los comentarios por escrito sobre el Método de distribución deben recibirse por correo postal, fax o correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. Viernes, 20 de julio de 2018 a: Sharrin Burke, Comisión de Planificación Regional del Suroeste de Texas, 2210 Eastex Fwy, Beaumont, TX 77703; fax - (409) 347-0136; correo electrónico – burke@setrpc.org

Audencia Pública del Condado de Orange - martes, 17 de julio de 2018 a las 6:00 p.m. en el Auditorio de la Biblioteca Pública de Orange, 226 North 5th Street, Orange, TX. El propósito será obtener comentarios sobre el Borrador del M étodo de Distribución.

Audencia Pública del Condado de Hardin - jueves, 19 de julio de 2018 a las 6:00 p.m. en el Lambert Performing Arts Center ubicado en 189 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX. El propósito será obtener comentarios sobre el Borrador del Método de Distribución.

Adopción/Delegación del método de distribución propuesto - Miércoles, 15 de agosto de 2018 a las 12:00 p.m. en la Comisión de Planificación Regional del Suroeste de Texas - 2210 Eastex Fwy, Beaumont, TX 77703. El objetivo será hacer los miembros con derecho a voto designados del Comité Ejecutivo de SETRPC adopten o deriven el Método de Distribución Propuesto.

El SETRPC proporcionará adecuaciones razonables para las personas que asistan a las funciones de SETRPC. Las solicitudes de personas que necesitan adaptaciones especiales deben ser recibidas por el personal de SETRPC 48 horas antes de la función. Las audiencias públicas se realizarán en inglés y las solicitudes de intérpretes de idiomas u otras necesidades especiales de comunicación se deben realizar al menos 48 horas antes de la función. Por favor llame al 409-899-8444, ext. 6396 para asistencia o para obtener información sobre esta publicación.

Sí. Hay esperanza.
Public Comments
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SETRPC) 
METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION FOR 2017 HURRICANE HARVEY CDBG-
DISASTER RECOVERY ALLOCATION ATTACHMENTS 

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/RESPONSES
1. Received from: Brenda Lewis – 5/23/18
Comment Received: I pray that everyone that needs repairs in Port Arthur area can receive the help that they need. Some people can not drive to Beaumont to share their concerns of being left out. Some people do not own computers, or know how to email on their cell phones, please do not count Port Arthur area out and yes this includes, Port Acres, El Vista, Palomar, Westside, East side and other areas that was devastated by Hurricane Harvey. Please help us all.

SETRPC Response: In compliance with HUD’s and GLO’s standards, the SETRPC held three public hearings regarding the Method of Distribution. The Councils of Governments Method of Distribution Guidelines published by the GLO mandated the COGs conduct a “Public Planning Meeting” public hearing and a second public hearing after the draft MOD was posted. In addition to the required hearings, the SETRPC held a third public hearing to include each county in the citizen participation process. Additionally, the SETRPC published a Solicitation Notice in three languages available in the regional newspapers, on the SETRPC website, to over 600 email addresses to community interest groups, local officials, local faith-based organizations, fair housing advocacy groups, media outlets, civil rights groups etc, which contained informed of the public hearing schedule and the ways to submit hand-written, mailed, emailed, in-person and/or electronic questions and/or comments on the draft MOD. The SETRPC exceeded the standard because it intended to reach citizens in all three counties and gather input from any citizens wishing to participate by various ways of submission of comments and/or questions.

2. Received from: Greg Richard – 5/24/18
Comment Received: I currently have 2 rental properties that have been off line since the Aug 29th flood in Port Arthur. Those properties were bringing in a significant income per month prior to the flood. Because these properties are rentals, I received no financial help from FEMA and the SBA refused to grant me a loan to get the properties back online. I am very irritated that my properties were flooded from water drained into our neighborhoods from Canals A, B and C maintained by Drainage District 7. There is a serious housing shortage in Port Arthur, is there any grants available to get my properties back on line as soon as possible?

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. The Texas General Land Office (GLO) will be the entity running the housing portion of the Harvey funding designated for Southeast Texas. At this time, the SETRPC does not have specific information about the program and the options that will be offered. More information about these programs should be available on the GLO’s website (www.glo.texas.gov) and the SETRPC website (www.setrpc.org) when more information is available.

3. Received from: D. Areendale – 5/24/18
Comment Received: I am a property owner in Bridge City that flooded during Harvey. The property has flooded repeatedly over the past decade and is extremely likely to flood again. I am very interested in the possibility of Bridge City’s Harvey Buyout program.

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record. At your request, the SETRPC has placed you on an email list for notifications of any upcoming information regarding this program.
4. Received from: natedogg8170@aol.com – 5/24/18
Comment Received: I recently saw where there was going to be funds, or grants made available to flood victims of Harvey, me and my family lost everything in this flood, however with FEMA helping we were able to at least get flooring and walls done and painted – now needing furniture and clothing. Will these grants funds be available to everyone who was affected, and if so, how do we get on a list, if any? My whole neighborhood was flooded.
SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to the needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. The funding related to this Method of Distribution is for public infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions of property. Through these two programs, funding is not available for social service related items such as furniture and clothing. 2-1-1 is the local information and referral network that may be able to place citizens in contact with organizations providing the types of services described.

5. Received from: Lauren Rahe – 5/24/18
Comment Received: (Email from local social service organization) Included information regarding the social service’s recovery efforts and outreach and asked to be a part of the Harvey interested parties’ email list for ongoing program information

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record. At your request, the SETRPC has placed you on an email list for notifications of any upcoming information regarding this program.

6. Received from: Lelo Washington – 5/24/18
Comment Received: I am speaking for Vista Village in Port Arthur, TX. Our community was the hardest hit in Port Arthur, TX. I want ALL of my community to receive a large amount in voucher monies – hardly anyone had flood insurance because we were never told we had to have for many years. I want to be a part of cash distribution (4 – above feet of water) We need vouchers, appliances, food, clothing and whatever else we can receive for this community!

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area and specifically the Vista Village Community, related to Hurricane Harvey. The funding related to this Method of Distribution is for public infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions of property. Through these two programs, funding is not available for social service related items such as vouchers, cash, clothing, appliances, etc. 2-1-1 is the local information and referral network that may be able to place citizens in contact with organizations providing the types of services described.

7. Received from: gazer@mail.com – 7/9/18
Comment Received: For consideration on buyouts –
   a. Select all homes that have been flooded a given number of times (at least 2 or 3 or whatever is agreed upon) and compile list Remove all homes that are above a selected elevation. 9ft?
   b. Agree on maximum payout for homes. If one 2 million dollar home is selected that will take a chunk away from other homes.
   c. Agree on how many homes that fit previous criteria are to be bought out.
   d. Put total number of submitted homes from bullet two in a lottery like drawing
   e. Draw the number of homes left from bullet two from lottery device.
Using a random lottery will remove all "favoritism" complaints based on status, race, political affiliation etc. Anything else will most likely be considered biased.
SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey, these suggestions will be included in the formal comment record. As mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction will be contracting directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. Further, “[E]ach subrecipient [jurisdictions] will develop guidelines in accordance with CDBG-DR requirements and regulations to set maximum assistance amounts, target area locations, Disaster Risk Reduction Area, and additional eligibility requirements.”

8. Received from: John Patronella – 7/27/18
Comment Received: My family has 2 homes on the city of orange, that have been flooded 3 times since 2008 (Ike, Sabine River flood, and Harvey). Harvey actually twice, 4” from Harvey which drained off and then 15” when all the water up north drained to the south. We had water in our homes for 10 days, before we could get back to clean them out. We live in the cove, port of orange in our backyard, house elevation 5.5 feet. I would be very interested in information about buyouts, or any other assistance that may be available to us.

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record. As mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction will be contracting directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. Further, “[E]ach subrecipient [jurisdictions] will develop guidelines in accordance with CDBG-DR requirements and regulations to set maximum assistance amounts, target area locations, Disaster Risk Reduction Area, and additional eligibility requirements.” As such, more detailed information about the program’s implementation in your community will be available directly from the City of Orange as it is created.

9. Received from: Donald Olever – 7/10/18
Comment Received: Thank you for the email solicitation notice, I’m interested in the single family homeowners assistance program.

SETRPC Response: Thank you for your comments, your input is appreciated. This Method of Distribution only distributes funds for the Infrastructure Program and the Buyouts/Acquisitions Program. The Texas General Land Office will be creating and managing all homeowner assistance programs related to Hurricane Harvey and will release more information once it is available.

10. Received from: Pamela Williams – 7/16/18
Comment Received: (Email 7/16/18) At your earliest convenience, please advise the status of the Method of Distribution.

SETRPC Response: (Emailed Response) A copy of the SETRPC’s Draft Method of Distribution is available on the SETRPC’s website located at www.setrpc.org for review. It will be submitted to the Texas General Land Office once it is approved at the local level.

11. Received from: Pamela Williams – 5/30/18
Comment Received: I suggest the funds be distributed based on the number of houses designated by FEMA to be in FLOOD HAZARD/FLOOD ZONE areas, in percentage portion among the three counties.
SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They will be considered and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

12. Received from: Amelia Adams – 7/11/18
Comment Received: Where does the data for "impacted" population come from?

SETRPC Response: The “impact” of the storm was determined by the development of a regional representation of water heights using inundation maps created by FEMA after Harvey, USGS/NOAA data and local jurisdictional reports to gather data points of water inundation in the region. Local jurisdictional reports include data points of water heights from volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys conducted by the counties. Using these data points of water depths in connection with the FEMA inundation map and USGS/NOAA data, we used GIS mapping and 2016 Census Numbers to find the populations in those inundated areas which gave us the total “affected” population. We then divided the “affected” population of a jurisdiction by the total population of the jurisdiction from the 2016 census to get the percent of the jurisdiction “impacted.” We used that percentage as the “impacted” population which is our “Storm Impact Distribution Factor.”

13. Received from: Amelia Adams – 7/11/18
Comment Received: Where does the data for "total population" come from?

SETRPC Response: The total populations of each jurisdiction were taken from the 2016 United States Census.

14. Received from Mike Kunst – 7/18/18
Comment Received: (Email) I would like a copy of the data sources used to determine the level of impact for all the entities.

SETRPC Response: (Followed up with an email with attachments of data sources)

15. Received from John Beard, Jr. – 7/18/18
Comment Received: I would like to express my concern, and displeasure regarding the lack of a public meeting for Jefferson County regarding the SETRPC MOD for Harvey. It has been expressed to me that the rationale for this decision was that the meeting at Lamar University in April, was said meeting. The RPC set the comment period and hosted Lamar event in April for the sole purpose of allowing public input into the distribution process. Those in attendance were told that there would be a comment period and similar event once the MOD was completed. Since said meeting was, to receive comments as to “how” the funds for the region were to be distributed, a “post MOD release” meeting could not occur prior to the creation or release of the MOD. Regrettably, the lack of a post-MOD comment period meeting, in one of the most impacted coastal counties in Texas, defies reason and is an affront to residents who were affected.

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. In compliance with HUD’s and GLO’s standards, the SETRPC held three public hearings regarding the Method of Distribution. The Councils of Governments Method of Distribution Guidelines published by the GLO mandated the COGs conduct a “Public Planning Meeting” public hearing and a second public hearing after the draft MOD was posted. In addition to the required hearings, the SETRPC held a third public hearing to include each county in the citizen participation process. Additionally, the SETRPC published a Solicitation Notice in three languages available in the regional newspapers, on the SETRPC website, to over 600 email addresses to community interest
groups, local officials, local faith-based organizations, fair housing advocacy groups, media outlets, civil rights groups etc, which contained informed of the public hearing schedule and the ways to submit handwritten, mailed, emailed, in-person and/or electronic questions and/or comments on the draft MOD. The SETRPC exceeded the standard because it intended to reach citizens in all three counties and gather input from any citizens wishing to participate by various ways of submission of comments and/or questions.

16. Received from Melinda Smith – 7/16/18
Comment Received: Many of the communities are getting different pots of money confused, so we are trying to put together a reference guide of sorts to help them keep it all straight. This will be extremely helpful.

SETRPC Response: Thank you for putting together a guide to try and help the communities you serve keep things as straight as possible. The SETRPC received comments and questions regarding the different funding, especially confusion between FEMA and CDBG buy-out programs. Your comments will be considered and entered as part of the official record.

17. Received from Mike Kunst – 7/19/18
Comment Received: (Email) I have a concern about the local data provided by the Orange County Appraisal District (OCAD). The first attachment is a screenshot of OCAD’s website’s homepage. It states OCAD will continue to consider adjustments for property damage caused by Harvey until July 16, 2018. This was just this past Monday, one day before the public hearing in Orange County. When was the data for Orange County collected from OCAD? I spoke with many residents who did not report their damage to OCAD for a variety of reasons; I did not report my damage until May. Also, you have stated the data cannot be self-reported. The data collected by OCAD is self-reported by the property owners to OCAD. The second attachment is the letter mailed by OCAD to property owners requesting the property owners self-report Harvey damage. I have a concern that all the entities did not have the same data sources to determine the numbers.

SETRPC Response: Thank you for your comments. The data was collected at the beginning of the draft MOD process when the SETRPC began putting the MOD together. The draft MOD is a method that we are putting forward for community comment and input. If the City has an alternative method to propose, this is your opportunity to do so.

18. Received from Ida Samuels – 7/19/18
Comment Received: It has been reported that approximately 80% of the homes in Port Arthur were damaged by Hurricane / Tropical Storm Harvey. The city has not fully recovered from storms in previous years such as Hurricane Ike and Hurricane Rita. I think a portion of these funds should be used for the following:

a. Buyout properties in low lying neighborhoods and provide assistance to build up these lots; and, if interested, give the homeowners the opportunity to buy them back.

b. Invest a portion in a detailed study to identify the redrawing of the 100 year flood plain in the greater Port Arthur/Nederland/Port Neches / and Port Acres.

c. Tear down all vacant homes that have been unoccupied for more than 10 years and /or notify owners of estate properties to determine the current or future occupancy status for possible tear downs.

d. Hire a competent City Manager for the City of Port Arthur

e. Invest in a recruitment drive for experienced public works employees around the country

f. Invest in a detail study for Jefferson County Drainage District #7 to investigate it's possible culpability in the flooding problem that occurred during Hurricane Harvey
g. Use some of the funds for a comprehensive street repair program for the East of Houston Avenue portion of Port Arthur, TX. Every neighborhood street with at least 4 homes that are occupied by the homestead residents should be included.

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey – they will be part of the official record. As mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction will be contracting directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. Further, “[E]ach subrecipient [jurisdictions] will develop guidelines in accordance with CDBG-DR requirements and regulations to set maximum assistance amounts, target area locations, Disaster Risk Reduction Area, and additional eligibility requirements.”

19. Comment Received: What was the basis for the determination that 78% of the population of Beaumont was impacted by Harvey?

SETRPC Response: The “impact” of the storm was determined by the development of a regional representation of water heights using inundation maps created by FEMA after Harvey, USGS/NOAA data and local jurisdictional reports to gather data points of water inundation in the region. Local jurisdictional reports include data points of water heights from volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys conducted by the counties. Using these data points of water depths in connection with the FEMA inundation map and USGS/NOAA data, we used GIS mapping and 2016 Census Numbers to find the populations in those inundated areas which gave us the total “affected” population. We then divided the “affected” population of a jurisdiction by the total population of the jurisdiction from the 2016 census to get the percent of the jurisdiction “impacted.” We used that percentage as the “impacted” population which is our “Storm Impact Distribution Factor.”

20. Received by: Rev. Thomas E. Phelan – 7/20/18
Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18
Received from Oveal Walker – 7/20/18
Comment Received: Proposed seems to be a “share the wealth plan” where every town, no matter how small or how many households were impacted, receives at least $1 Million and the cities and areas with the greatest number of impacted residents receive at most $4.2 Million of the $51 Million. Three small cities receive over $40,000 per impacted person and five cities or unincorporated areas receive less than $200 per impacted person. How does this outcome make sense? Why is there a $1 Million minimum grant? Are there households in all recipient communities which qualify and want a buyout?

SETRPC Response: As stated in the Action Plan, the Local MOD Requirements for the Buyout and Acquisition Program will “IV. Implement a minimum of $1,000,000 in CDBG-DR funds to any local entity receiving funding through the MOD.” The GLO mandated the $1,000,000 floor on the Buyout and Acquisition Program, the SETRPC only reinforced that guideline. As stated in the MOD Allocation Spreadsheets, there are only two jurisdictions in our region that have opted out of receiving funds for the Buyout and Acquisition program. Further, as also mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction will contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of its buyout/acquisition program. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be set forth in total. Eligibility and guidelines for this program have not been established in total at this time and will likely be different based on each jurisdiction’s available funding and needs.
21. Received by: Rev. Thomas E. Phelan – 7/20/18  
    Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18  
    Received by: Oveal Walker – 7/20/18  
Who will administer the buyouts and establish the maximum buyout support? SETRPC or cities?  
Will this fall to the agencies that are doing intake, or this the fall to the LTR committees?

SETRPC Response: The SETRPC’s involvement in these two programs and this Method of Distribution was solely to develop a method of distribution to the region’s twenty-four eligible jurisdictions. The SETRPC is not managing or determining eligibility for either program. As mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction (city or unincorporated county area) will contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of its buyout/acquisition program. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be set forth in total. The GLO will be tasked with determining the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low-and moderate-income families. As stated in the Action Plan, and the SETRPC MOD, “at least 70 percent of all program funds will benefit low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons.” All entities will be required to follow established rules and regulations related to the funding received. All projects will undergo an AFFH review by the GLO prior to approval. AFFH application reviews will include assessments of a proposed project’s (1) area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination.

22. Received by: Rev. Thomas E. Phelan – 7/20/18  
    Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18  
    Received by: Oveal Walker – 7/20/18  
Comment Received: Will this plan result in a significant disparity between what cities/areas offer in buyout support?

SETRPC Response: As mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction (city or unincorporated county area) will contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of its buyout/acquisition program. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be set forth in total. The GLO will be tasked with determining the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low-and moderate-income families.

23. Received by: Rev. Thomas E. Phelan – 7/20/18  
    Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18  
    Received by: Oveal Walker – 7/20/18  
Comment Received: The method for coming up with these results is obscure and not explained.

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comment related to the MOD. The SETRPC is taking careful consideration of the comments regarding the lack of detail in the draft MOD and intend to expand the verbiage to reflect the process to the better understanding of the citizens.

The “impact” of the storm was determined by the development of a regional representation of water heights using inundation maps created by FEMA after Harvey, USGS/NOAA data and local jurisdictional reports to gather data points of water inundation in the region. Local jurisdictional reports include data points of water heights from volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys conducted by the counties. Using these data points of water depths in connection with the FEMA inundation map and USGS/NOAA data, we used GIS
mapping and 2016 Census Numbers to find the populations in those inundated areas which gave us the total “affected” population. We then divided the “affected” population of a jurisdiction by the total population of the jurisdiction from the 2016 census to get the percent of the jurisdiction “impacted.” We used that percentage as the “impacted” population which is our “Storm Impact Distribution Factor.”

24. Received by: Rev. Thomas E. Phelan – 7/20/18  
Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18  
Received by: Oveal Walker – 7/20/18  
Comment Received: Most FEMA and flood data is collected by household. Why is SETRPC using individuals?

SETRPC Response: The SETRPC sought out many different forms of data from many different sources. The FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) data that was made available at the time of our planning was completely unreliable for our region. The SETRPC sought out numerous ways to implement IA data, but never received reliable numbers. For example, the data sets supplied to the SETRPC were not filtered to the city level, thereby making it impossible to make allocations at the city level; the data sets, when broken down by city, were found to have not been inputted into the smaller, incorporated cities, but included in larger cities which they are not a part of; IA data included more than household claims, which left duplications of claims in households that were not able to be separated, etc. Further, the NFIP/FEMA source mentioned pertaining to concentrations of repetitive loss was not considered in the development of the MOD due to there being only ninety-eight entries for our region and no way to break them down to the jurisdictional boundary (zip codes cross jurisdictional boundaries). The SETRPC sought out many different forms of data from many different sources and due to the timing restrictions on developing the MOD, the SETRPC was encouraged to use the data available for our region at that time. It is the intent of the SETRPC that for infrastructure aid and buyouts/acquisitions, the MOD focus on each community as a whole, as opposed to focusing on individuals in terms of population. These two programs, infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions are not part of the individual housing programs to come later, which will be another allocation to provide aid to individual and multi-family housing needs. The SETRPC will not be creating or managing these programs and does not have the authority to define eligibility or guidelines for same.

25. Received by: Rev. Thomas E. Phelan – 7/20/18  
Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18  
Received by: Oveal Walker – 7/20/18  
Comment Received: What makes an individual “impacted” for purposes of this plan? When is he/she not “impacted”?

SETRPC Response: The SETRPC’s reasoning for determining impacted individuals was to find the population concentrations that were inundated with rising water and distribute funding to aid that area’s infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs to repair and enhance local infrastructure and improve mitigation efforts and to remove homes and citizens from harm’s way, thereby preventing repetitive loss. It is the intent of the SETRPC that for infrastructure aid and buyouts/acquisitions, the MOD focus on each community as a whole, as opposed to focusing on individuals in terms of population. These two programs, infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions are not part of the individual housing programs to come later, which will be another allocation to provide aid to individual and multi-family housing needs. The SETRPC will not be creating or managing these programs and does not have the authority to define eligibility or guidelines for same.
26. Received by: Rev. Thomas E. Phelan – 7/20/18
   Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18
   Received by: Oveal Walker – 7/20/18
Comment Received: Will SETRPC allow a city to use their buyout funds for infrastructure if too few households want or qualify for a buyout? Would SETRPC transfer unused buyout funds from a city where they are not being used to a city where more qualifying households want a buyout?

SETRPC Response: The SETRPC’s HUD-mandated involvement in these two programs and this Method of Distribution was solely to develop a method of distribution to the region’s twenty-four eligible jurisdictions. The SETRPC is not managing or determining eligibility for either program. It will be within the discretion of the GLO how to reallocate funding. As stated in the MOD, the SETRPC proposes (subject to GLO approval), that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.” This reallocation proposal seeks to ensure a jurisdiction’s unused funds be re-distributed into the region with priority to LMI populations, thereby further funding and prioritizing LMI projects and LMI unmet needs.

27. Received from John Beard, Jr. – 7/20/18
Comment Received: This MOD lacks specificity and detail as to how it will address distribution, unmet need in repetitive flood prone areas; it fails to show the methodology and data used to derive at the distribution, or how families with “unmet needs” will be targeted to impact the most needy and affected.

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comment related to the MOD. The SETRPC is taking careful consideration of the comments regarding the lack of detail in the draft MOD and intend to expand the verbiage to reflect the process to the better understanding of the citizens.

28. Received from John Beard, Jr. – 7/20/18
Comment Received: How does the SETRPC plan to aid the LMI people in repetitive loss areas?

SETRPC Response: The GLO will be managing and determining eligibility for these programs directly with the subrecipients (the jurisdictions) to further ensure that the required 70% LMI allocation in the MOD was adhered to. The Action Plan states: “The GLO will seek to ensure that infrastructure activities will avoid disproportionate impact on vulnerable communities and will create, to the extent practicable, opportunities to address economic inequities facing local communities. All projects will undergo an AFFH review by the GLO prior to approval. AFFH application reviews will include assessments of a proposed project’s (1) area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination. Jurisdictions will be responsible for expending 70% of their funding toward LMI projects and according to the Action Plan “applications should show that projects are likely to lessen area racial, ethnic, and low-income concentrations, and/or promote affordable housing in low-poverty, nonminority areas in response to natural hazard-related impacts. As stated in the MOD, the SETRPC proposes (subject to GLO approval), that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects
meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.” This reallocation proposal seeks to ensure a jurisdiction’s unused funds be re-distributed into the region with priority to LMI populations, thereby further funding and prioritizing LMI projects and LMI unmet needs.

29. Received from John Beard, Jr. – 7/20/18
Comment Received: The MOD refers to “affected populations” but does not define who they are based on the HUD/FEMA criteria, nor use or present figures illustrating what percent of the affected are LMI. The MOD also fails to represent those families below the $8,000 threshold, leaving significant numbers of people with needs being “unmet”. What is the justification for offering low LMI, lesser impacted areas, more money per capita than cities with greater substantial damage?

SETRPC Response: The SETRPC’s reasoning for determining impacted individuals was to find the population concentrations that were inundated with rising water and distribute funding to aid that area’s infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs to repair and enhance local infrastructure and improve mitigation efforts and to remove homes and citizens from harm’s way, thereby preventing repetitive loss. It is the intent of the SETRPC that for infrastructure aid and buyouts/acquisitions, the MOD focus on each community as a whole, as opposed to focusing on individuals in terms of population. These two programs, infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions are not part of the individual housing programs to come later, which will be another allocation to provide aid to individual and multi-family housing needs. The SETRPC will not be creating or managing these programs and does not have the authority to define eligibility or guidelines for same.

30. Received from John Beard, Jr. – 7/20/18
Comment Received: The MOD fails to show how various ethnic groups in the region’s cities will receive assistance, or how much per capita, based on race, unmet needs, and LMI.

SETRPC Response: These two programs, Infrastructure and Buyouts/Acquisitions are not part of the individual housing programs to come later, which will be another allocation to provide aid to individual and multi-family housing needs. According to the Action Plan, the only eligible entities to receive funding through these programs are “units of local government and entities with the power of eminent domain authority.”

a. In carrying out these two programs, each jurisdiction will be contracting directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility and priority of projects based on each jurisdiction’s unmet needs. To ensure the understanding of the LMI requirement by each jurisdiction, the SETRPC has demonstrated in Attachment 3 of the MOD “SETRPC – SUMMARY” the exact amount (70% of their funding) required by each jurisdiction to spend on LMI projects. The GLO will be managing and determining eligibility for these programs directly with the subrecipients (the jurisdictions) to further ensure that the required 70% LMI allocation in the MOD was adhered to.

b. The MOD reinforces this plan and the important role of each jurisdiction in the statement “Unmet housing needs of those located in these [HUD-identified most impacted and distressed areas and/or other impacted areas] areas will be addressed and resolved through various eligible activities that will be planned and carried out by individual communities.” By the Action Plan, “the GLO will encourage subrecipients to consider the costs and benefits of the project when selecting CDBG-DR eligible projects. Additionally, according to the Action Plan, all programs will undergo Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) review by the GLO before approval. Such review will include assessments of (1) a proposed project’s area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and
needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination."

c. The SETRPC considered unmet needs as part of its storm impact factor. Under “Resiliency Solutions and Mitigation Needs” in the Action Plan it states, “In assessing unmet needs, it is important to consider the additional costs of safeguarding housing and community infrastructure investments from future disasters.” Storm impact, or the percent of a jurisdiction’s population which was inundated by water according to the inundation maps, provides representation of how a jurisdiction’s infrastructure and housing were affected by showing where the rising floodwaters were, and are likely to be in future flooding; taking into consideration patterns such as repetitive loss. According to the Action Plan, the needs assessment done by GLO included details for housing, infrastructure and economic revitalization. It was the SETRPC’s intention to demonstrate the fact that the higher percentage of a jurisdiction that was impacted, the more difficult it would be for that jurisdiction to recover.

31. Received from John Beard, Jr. – 7/20/18
Comment Received: What is the plan for fund distribution of any unused funds?

SETRPC Response: The SETRPC’s involvement in these two programs and this Method of Distribution was solely to develop a method of distribution to the region’s twenty-four eligible jurisdictions. It will be within the discretion of the GLO to determine how it will reallocate funding. As stated in the MOD, the SETRPC proposes (subject to GLO approval), that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.” This reallocation proposal seeks to ensure a jurisdiction’s unused funds be re-distributed into the region with priority to LMI populations, thereby further funding and prioritizing LMI projects and LMI unmet needs.

32. Received from John Beard, Jr. – 7/20/18
Comment Received: I believe the current MOD for SETX needs to be more definitive, with a clearly outlined methodology and data used; with clearly defined terms, geographical area and their qualified LMI target populations; and verifiable calculations to substantiate the allocations, distribution process with assurances to verify target areas and groups are equitably and fairly aided in recovery.

SETRPC Response: Thank you very much for your comment related to the MOD. The SETRPC is taking careful consideration of the comments regarding the lack of detail in the draft MOD and intend to expand the verbiage to reflect the process to the better understanding of the citizens.

33. Received from Oveal Walker – 7/20/18
Comment Received: Why does SETRPC establish $1 Million as the minimum grant? The SETRPC model allocates $3.5 Million to three small cities with a total of 72 “impacted” individuals while it makes an allocation of $3.8 Million to Beaumont with a total 92,226 “impacted” individuals? How does this outcome make sense?

SETRPC Response: As stated in the Action Plan, the Local MOD Requirements for the Buyout and Acquisition Program will “IV. Implement a minimum of $1,000,000 in CDBG-DR funds to any local entity receiving funding through the MOD.” The GLO mandated the $1,000,000 floor on the Buyout and Acquisition Program, the SETRPC only reinforced that guideline. The SETRPC’s reasoning for determining impacted individuals was to find the population concentrations that were inundated with
rising water and distribute funding to aid that area’s infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs to repair and enhance local infrastructure and improve mitigation efforts and to remove homes and citizens from harm’s way, thereby preventing repetitive loss. It is the intent of the SETRPC that for infrastructure aid and buyouts/acquisitions, the MOD focus on each community as a whole, as opposed to focusing on individuals in terms of population. These two programs, infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions are not part of the individual housing programs to come later, which will be another allocation to provide aid to individual and multi-family housing needs.

34. Received from Oveal Walker – 7/20/18
Received from Joe Higgs – 7/20/18
Comment Received: Why is SETRPC making an $8 Million “special allocation... to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received 100% damage” when the total “impacted” population of those communities is 2,718. By contrast, Beaumont, Port Arthur and Orange have a total allocation of $11.2 Million but an “impacted” population of 153,995. Similarly, unincorporated areas of Jefferson, Hardin and Orange Counties receive a total allocation of $10.2 Million but have a total impacted population of 70,646. How do these outcomes make sense?

SETRPC Response: The decision to allocate a special set-aside for these four small communities was based upon the nature of the damage sustained by these four communities (100%) and the fact that recovery from that level of devastation would be extremely difficult given the overwhelming impact to their tax base and lack of their ability to generate resources to respond. These small communities are receiving 2.55% each of the total allocation to all jurisdictions in our region. The percentage allocation for these four cities is less than 2% of the infrastructure allocation.

35. Received from Oveal Walker – 7/20/18
Comment Received: Are there enough households in small recipient communities which qualify and want a buyout to use at least $1 Million in buyout funds?

SETRPC Response: Each of the four cities which received $2,000,000 allocation ($1,000,000 floor set by GLO) had a 100% storm impact factor, meaning rising flood waters covered their entire jurisdiction, impacting 100% of their population. As mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction will contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of its buyout/acquisition program. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be set forth in total. Eligibility and guidelines for this program have not been established in this time frame and will likely be different based on each jurisdiction’s available funding and needs. The SETRPC’s involvement in these two programs and this Method of Distribution was solely to develop a method of distribution to the region’s twenty-four eligible jurisdictions. It will be within the discretion of the GLO to determine how it will reallocate funding. As stated in the MOD, it is the intent of the SETRPC that if a jurisdiction cannot spend its allocation that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.” This reallocation proposal seeks to ensure a jurisdiction’s unused funds be re-distributed into the region with priority to LMI populations, thereby further funding and prioritizing LMI projects and LMI unmet needs.

36. Received from Oveal Walker – 7/20/18
Comment Received: The method for coming up with these results is obscure and not explained. SETRPC method relies heavily on the number of “impacted” individuals in each city rather than number of impacted households even though buyouts will be done by households, not individuals.
SETRPC presents a table of “factors” and does not adequately explain to the public how these multiple “factors” operate to fairly determine the amount each city/area will receive. SETRPC also does not indicate how it uses data from FEMA, NOAA, USGS or other “objective and verifiable” sources to identify the location of the most flood prone houses in the region and within each city/area. Instead, it relies on the proportion of “impacted” individuals in each city/area to drive the distribution. This reduces the range of grants so that every city gets at least $1 Million but no city gets more than $4.2 Million.

**SETRPC Response:** Thank you very much for your comment related to the MOD. The SETRPC is taking careful consideration of the comments regarding the lack of detail in the draft MOD and intend to expand the verbiage to reflect the process to the better understanding of the citizens.

a. The “impact” of the storm was determined by the development of a regional representation of water heights using inundation maps created by FEMA after Harvey, USGS/NOAA data and local jurisdictional reports to gather data points of water inundation in the region. Local jurisdictional reports include data points of water heights from volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys conducted by the counties. Using these data points of water depths in connection with the FEMA inundation map and USGS/NOAA data, we used GIS mapping and 2016 Census Numbers to find the populations in those inundated areas which gave us the total “affected” population. We then divided the “affected” population of a jurisdiction by the total population of the jurisdiction from the 2016 census to get the percent of the jurisdiction “impacted.” We used that percentage as the “impacted” population which is our “Storm Impact Distribution Factor.”

b. As stated in the Action Plan, the Local MOD Requirements for the Buyout and Acquisition Program will “IV. Implement a minimum of $1,000,000 in CDBG-DR funds to any local entity receiving funding through the MOD.” The GLO mandated the $1,000,000 floor on the Buyout and Acquisition Program, the SETRPC only reinforced that guideline.

c. The total amount of Local Buyout and Acquisition Program dollars allocated to the South East Texas region (Hardin, Jefferson and Orange counties) is $51,687,614. This amount was determined at the state level by the Texas General Land Office (GLO). As stated above, the GLO mandated a $1,000,000 floor to each eligible entity receiving funding through the MOD. Twenty-two of the region’s twenty-four jurisdictions opted to receive funding for the Buyout and Acquisition Program. When $22,000,000 is subtracted from $51,687,614, only $29,687,614 is left to be allocated to twenty-two jurisdictions.

d. As stated in the MOD, it is the intent of the SETRPC that if a jurisdiction cannot spend its allocation that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations.

37. Received from Oveal Walker – 7/20/18
Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18
Comment Received: Has SETRPC identified areas where properties need to be bought out in order to “prevent repetitive loss and extreme risk to human health and safety”? There is “objective and verifiable” data like the Community Rating System (CRS) from the National Flood Insurance Program which could help target the use of very limited buyout funds to those areas of greatest need. (ex: Harris County has identified zones where homes are eligible for buyouts and an estimated number of homes they can buyout).
SETRPC Response: The SETRPC’s involvement in these two programs and this Method of Distribution was solely to develop a method of distribution to the region’s twenty-four eligible jurisdictions. The SETRPC is not managing or determining eligibility for either program. As mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction (city or unincorporated county area) will contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of its buyout/acquisition program. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be set forth in total.

The NFIP/FEMA source pertaining to concentrations of repetitive loss was not considered in the development of the MOD due to there being only ninety-eight entries for our region and no way to break them down to the jurisdictional boundary (zip codes cross jurisdictional boundaries). These numbers showed (and if used as a factor) that a smaller city encompassing the 77713 zip code had the same number of entries as a larger city encompassing the 77642 zip code, which would cause a smaller city to receive an equal amount of money under a formula due to their weighted factor being the same.

38. Received from Joe Higgs – 7/20/18
Comment Received: Can SETRPC commit that all of these funds will be used for buyouts in the region? Will SETRPC commit that non-qualifying communities will not be allowed to convert these funds to some other use?

SETRPC Response: The SETRPC’s HUD-mandated involvement in these two programs and this Method of Distribution was solely to develop a method of distribution to the region’s twenty-four eligible jurisdictions. Further, as mandated in the Action Plan, each jurisdiction will contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of its buyout/acquisition program. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be set forth in total. Eligibility and guidelines for this program have not been established in total at this time and will likely be different based on each jurisdiction’s available funding and needs. The GLO will be managing compliance and oversight of funding and projects for both programs.

It will be within the discretion of the GLO to determine how it will reallocate funding. As stated in the MOD, the SETRPC proposes (subject to GLO approval), that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.” This reallocation proposal seeks to ensure a jurisdiction’s unused funds be re-distributed into the region with priority to LMI populations, thereby further funding and prioritizing LMI projects and LMI unmet needs.

39. Received from Oveal Walker – 7/20/18
Comment Received: Lack of clearly explained methodology and a public hearing in Jefferson County. The public input process is clearly inadequate in a number of ways.

SETRPC Response: In compliance with HUD’s and GLO’s standards, the SETRPC held three public hearings regarding the Method of Distribution. The Councils of Governments Method of Distribution Guidelines published by the GLO mandated the COGs conduct a “Public Planning Meeting” public hearing and a second public hearing after the draft MOD was posted. In addition to the required hearings, the SETRPC held a third public hearing to include each county in the citizen participation process.
Additionally, the SETRPC published a Solicitation Notice in three languages available in the regional newspapers, on the SETRPC website, to over 600 email addresses to community interest groups, local officials, local faith-based organizations, fair housing advocacy groups, media outlets, civil rights groups etc, which contained informed of the public hearing schedule and the ways to submit hand-written, mailed, emailed, in-person and/or electronic questions and/or comments on the draft MOD. The SETRPC exceeded the standard because it intended to reach citizens in all three counties and gather input from any citizens wishing to participate by various ways of submission of comments and/or questions.

According to the Official Minutes included on page ____ of this MOD, in both the second and third public hearing the formula, data collection process and methodology behind the MOD was explained in detail; and further, the question and answer process at the end of each hearing allowed for further explanation if needed. Questions asked during the public comment period with adequate time to respond were answered to the best of the SETRPC’s ability to clarify the process prior to the ending of the comment period.

40. Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18

Comment Received: Why does SETRPC not provide an explanation of the “factors” it uses so that an interested party can understand how the total proposed amounts were generated. How do you expect the public to understand your process for allocations if you do not explain it in a reasonable manner so that an informed public can follow the logic of how you generate these important allocations?

SETRPC Response: The SETRPC is taking careful consideration of the comments regarding the lack of detail in the draft MOD and intend to expand the verbiage to reflect the process to the better understanding of the citizens.

e. The SETRPC conducted two public hearings following the posting of the draft MOD and encouraged questions and/or comments following the public hearings, by telephone, mail, email, and in-person as additionally stated in the Solicitation and all three public hearings.

f. According to the Official Minutes included on page ____ of this MOD, in both the second and third public hearing the formula, data collection process and methodology behind the MOD was explained in detail; and further, the question and answer process at the end of each hearing allowed for further explanation if needed. Questions asked during the public comment period with adequate time to respond were answered to the best of the SETRPC’s ability to clarify the process prior to the ending of the comment period.

41. Received by: Joe Higgs – 7/20/18

Comment Received: How can SETRPC state that it “conducted three (3) Public Hearings to gather input and public comment regarding the Method of Distribution (MOD)” when the first of those cited meetings was on May 24, 2018 and the MOD was not made public until July 6, 2018? Why is there no public hearing in Jefferson County until the day when the MOD is scheduled to be voted on by the SETRPC Board? Will the public have an opportunity to comment on this proposed MOD on August 15, prior to the vote of the SETRPC Board?

SETRPC Response: In compliance with HUD’s and GLO’s standards, the SETRPC held three public hearings regarding the Method of Distribution. The Councils of Governments Method of Distribution Guidelines published by the GLO mandated the COGs conduct a “Public Planning Meeting” public hearing and a second public hearing after the draft MOD was posted. In addition to the required hearings, the SETRPC held a third public hearing to include each county in the citizen participation process. The
SETRPC exceeded the standard because it intended to reach citizens in all three counties and gather input from any citizens wishing to participate by various ways of submission of comments and/or questions.

g. Questions asked and comments submitted during the public comment period with adequate time to respond were answered to the best of the SETRPC’s ability to clarify the process prior to the ending of the comment period. As stated in the Solicitation and at each public hearing “[W]ritten comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, 2018.”

h. Due to the timeline enforced by the GLO to submit the MOD and the requirement that each submitted comment shall be responded to in the final MOD, the SETRPC will not have an additional comment period prior to the August 15 meeting.

***FOLLOWING: Due to their size, please see additional written comments with attachments from Mike Kunst of Vidor, Texas Appleseed, Texas Housers, and the City of Port Arthur together with corresponding written responses from the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission.
Mike,

Thank you for your comments related to the SETRPC’s Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution (MOD). Your input is appreciated and will be addressed and included as part of the MOD formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Mike Kunst <mkunst@cityofvidor.com>
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 4:06 PM
To: Harvey Comments <harveycomments@setrpc.org>
Cc: Shaun Davis <sdavis@setrpc.org>; Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: City of Vidor Comments regarding MOD

Please find attached the City of Vidor’s comments regarding the Method of Distribution along with a variety of other information regarding the storm and storm damage. The attached information is just some of the information available.

Also, here is a link to some drone footage: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B2yaWTKrbiwNWljBvRJhgTEtXNVk from Harvey.

Mike Kunst
City Manager
City of Vidor
1395 N. Main St.
Vidor, Texas 77662
409-769-5473 ext. 140
www.cityofvidor.com
July 20, 2018

Shanna Burke
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77703

Shanna,

We are sending the following comments in response to your solicitation for public comment on the Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds related to infrastructure and buy-outs/acquisitions.

As noted in our previous comments to you, Vidor was one of the hardest hit areas in all of Texas with the flooding of Harvey. See the attached chart that shows that Vidor is number six (#6) in the state in total applications for Federal assistance filed and number two (#2) in the State in applications for housing assistance. This is evidence from a third-party that would represent good, empirical data on which to base a method of distribution (MOD.)

We submit that the method the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) used for determining the damage in the City of Vidor is flawed. The SETRPC used data supplied by the Orange County Appraisal District (OCAD) which they gathered from property owners reporting their own damage to OCAD. Scott Overton, OCAD's Chief Appraiser, reports they mailed 4,756 letters to property owners in the City of Vidor soliciting information on storm-related property damage. Of those, only 735 were returned for a return rate of fifteen and half percent (15.5%). This mirrors the overall response rate for Orange County. OCAD mailed 39,637 letters but only received 5,914 back for a return rate of fifteen percent (15%) Why the return rate was so low is not confirmed, but many people did not receive the letters due to being displaced due to the storm; they did not respond out of a fear of their taxes increasing as a result of the repairs to their homes; or they were simply overwhelmed after the storm. Relying so heavily on the OCAD data is flawed due to the low response rate, and the data was self-reported by the property owners. The primary data source for OCAD are the self-reports of the property owners.

We asked what the definition of impacted was and were told that you did not even have to be flooded to be impacted. We submit that, by that definition, Vidor was 100% impacted. We had two electrical substations go underwater as well as our sewer plant. It was a considerable amount of time before these were back online to provide power and adequate sewer. All of our residents were impacted by these outages, impairing their ability to stay in the City and to begin to rebuild their homes.

We also asked what data sources SETRPC used for all entities. You said you spoke with various agencies and had a hard time finding numbers. You mentioned SETRPC spoke with drainage districts, county
judges, volunteer fire departments, etc. However, SETRPC did not speak to the Orange County Drainage District nor Orange County Emergency Service District #1. When asked at the Orange County public hearing which Orange County Judge, Brent Carlton or Dean Crooks, participated in the development of the MOD, you replied neither that it was actually Commissioner John Gothia. We were not given what sources were used for other entities besides ourselves. A solid methodology means that the same standard is applied for all entities. We do not believe this to be the case, and no one with the City of Vidor was asked for any data regarding the population impacted by the storm. Additionally, the map you used to show water over a half foot (.5 feet) in Vidor is inaccurate. We have utilized pictures as reference points and mapped out the water using LIDAR to show a quite different picture. We have attached the pictures and the map, along with other pictures of significant flooding in the City. One can easily view pictures and videos on the Internet of the flooding in Vidor as it was hailed by the National media as one of the hardest-hit areas. We have a list of numerous residences and businesses that were flooded that your map shows as being in the white area of the map receiving less than .5 feet of water. Again, many of these properties had several feet of water in them. This is by no means a complete list but a representative sample of properties we know flooded because they are our personal properties or are properties for which we had to assist in debris pickup. There are many, many more impacted properties but we would need more time to be able to analyze other data to present them at this time.

We have requested from the Orange County Office of Emergency Management a list of the homes in Vidor where debris was picked up and have not yet received it. We anticipate that this will be a much higher figure and a better representation of the actual damage received. Again, this would be an acceptable methodology as it is not dependent upon self-reported data, but actual, verifiable data that was monitored by a third-party.

The same methodology was used for determining both the allocation for housing and the allocation for infrastructure. Clearly these are two vastly different programs. It makes sense to base the housing allocation on population numbers, but infrastructure is damaged by the volume of water flowing on the streets and through the culverts and over the bridges. Vidor received vast amounts of water from the Neches River waterways to our north. This resulted in a great deal of damage to our infrastructure as water flowed from north to south through our city. We submit that some other methodology needs to be used for the monies to be distributed for the infrastructure program.

We do appreciate the efforts you have made to determine a method of distribution and know that it has not been an easy task. We simply ask that you consider all factors and realize that your method of distribution, at least for the City of Vidor, is not a sound methodology. It yields a result far below our actual number of impacted citizens. We have not been given much time to come up with an alternate plan as we were not told what methodology SETRPC used until this past week. All of this should have been explained in the MOD so that we did not have to request a lot of information to understand how SETRPC determined the impacted population.

We want to be able to better protect the citizens of Vidor and to help as much as we can in the recovery process of our citizens and need your help in doing this. We ask that you reevaluate your method of distribution in light of the evidence presented.

Sincerely,

Robert Viator, Jr.
Mayor
### Top 20 Zip Codes by Total Applications for Individual Assistance

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<th>City</th>
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### Top 20 Zip Codes by Total Homeowner Applications for Housing Assistance

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### Top 20 Zip Codes by Total Renter Applications for Housing Assistance

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580 WILSON
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410 TALLPINES
635 S. MAIN STREET
1455 KENWOOD
2855 EVANGELINE
1550 BIG BEND
530 HALLIE
405 W. TRAM
420 JACKSON
345 TACOMA
815 CHEROKEE
1425 FIRST
4325 OAK
1330 THIRD
142 STEVENSON
43 HERITAGE
1420 FIRST
575 SIMMONS
275 E. BOLIVAR
3040 WARD
250 E. BOLIVAR
2810 EVANGELINE DRIVE
1230 PINE
1155 ARCHIE
1140 PINE
1855 E. RAILROAD
3295 E. RAILROAD
90 WOODLAWN
330 SLAIGLE
880 LAMAR
664 W. TRAM
69 HERITAGE
355 REGAL
4030 HWY 12
2855 EVANGELINE
395 REYNOLDS
840 TRALEE
925 LAMAR
505 W. TRAM
120 WASHINGTON
1530 BIG BEND
1590 REBECCA PLACE
675 BRISTER
380 PINEWOOD
1430 WINDWOOD
1310 THIRD STREET
320 E. COURTLAND
3330 E. COURTLAND
1335 CONCORD #14
1335 CONCORD #7
1335 CONCORD #16
1335 CONCORD #11
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1195 ORANGE
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515 E. RAILROAD
305 REYNOLDS
370 GARLAND
345 LEXINGTON
550 LEXINGTON
1090 N. MAIN
1080 N. MAIN
220 WOODLAWN
2400 HWY 12
1145 HWY 12
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1150 HWY 12
2500 HWY 12
2772 HWY 12
2375 HWY 12
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3404 HWY 12
2405 HWY 12
399 BUTLER
1510 TERRY
410 CHEERSOR
1509 TERRY
395 REYNOLDS
345 MOORE
270 W. TRAM
90 SPRINGDALE
425 JEANETTE
2505 EVANGELINE
405 W. TRAM
435 JEANETTE
December 4, 2017

Dear Property Owner:

As you are well aware, many properties located within Orange County were damaged by Hurricane Harvey earlier this year. State law requires the appraisal district to appraise each property based on its value as of January 1 of each year. The appraisal district is aware that many properties are not and will not be repaired by January 1 of this coming year. Due to the inability of our appraisers to inspect and observe interior status of all the damaged properties in the county, we are asking for your assistance in determining any remaining damage to your property.

We have included a questionnaire with this letter asking for information pertaining to any damage your property incurred during this disaster and what damage is remaining. Any evidence such as dated photos, insurance or contractor estimates, FEMA estimates, etc. will be considered when preparing your appraisal for the 2018 tax year. Please be aware that fences and downed trees will not be considered as those items are not included in your appraisal.

The appraisal district will accept the information on-line, by mail, or in person. The on-line filing system can be accessed on our website at www.orangecad.net or our Facebook page (Orange County Appraisal District). The district will not be able to take the information over the telephone.

Please remember that by law, the appraisal district is unable to consider any damages other than those remaining after January 1. With that said, the district does plan to review all evidence presented and make adjustments for any remaining damage. These adjustments will be reflected on the “Notice of Appraised Value” that will be mailed to you by April, 2018. The district will be unable to calculate your adjusted value before the notices are mailed.

Sincerely,

Michael Cedars
Chief Appraiser
Hurricane Harvey Damage Questionnaire

This form is designed to help you give your input as to any unrepaired damage to your home or business. Per Texas Property Tax Law, only damage remaining after January 1, 2018 may be considered.

Date: December 4, 2017
Account Number: 008094-003660
Name: CITY OF VIDOR
Property Address: BOLIVAR VIDOR TX

Depth of water at the time of the flood: ________________ Feet

Briefly describe the damage remaining to the building as of January 1, 2018.
Damage Description: __________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Estimated cost to repair: $__________
Type of documents used to estimate cost: _______________________________________

Please attach any evidence that supports your damage estimates such as dated photos, insurance estimates or contractor bids. Do not provide original documents as all documents will be retained by our office.

I hereby certify that the information I have submitted is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and ability.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________
Daytime Phone: _________________________ Cell: __________________________
You can now file your STATE FORMS ONLINE
Click on the Online Forms icon at the very top of this website to get started.

***ONLY A COUPLE WEEKS LEFT FOR STORM ADJUSTMENTS***

If your property sustained damage from Hurricane Harvey and it was not repaired as of January 1, 2018, you still have time to talk to an appraiser about those damages. Although the deadline to protest has past, we are still making adjustments for storm damages. The deadline to make these adjustments is July 16, 2018 at 5 p.m. If you fall into this category please contact our office at (409) 745-4777.

We hope that you find the information on these pages useful and informative. Our office develops and records for twenty-two taxing entities located in Orange County. Within
July 20, 2018

Shanna Burke
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77703

Re: American Red Cross Data for the City of Vidor

Shanna,

Late this afternoon we received the following data from the American Red Cross in regards the damage caused by Harvey:

City of Vidor homeowners:
Sustained damage but not classified as major/destroyed  4,122
Major/destroyed  1,493

City of Vidor rental:
Sustained damage but not classified as major/destroyed  558
Major/destroyed  205

TOTAL  6,378

We ask that you include this data provided by the American Red Cross when determining your Method of Distribution.

Sincerely,

Robert Viator, Jr.
Mayor
Shanna Burke

From: Harvey Comments  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 4:42 PM  
To: 'Mike Kunst'  
Subject: RE: Additional Comments to SETRPC re MOD 7.20.18.pdf

Mike,

Thank you for the additional information, it will be included with the previous information you submitted.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke  
SETRPC

From: Mike Kunst <mkunst@cityofvidor.com>  
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 4:54 PM  
To: Harvey Comments <harveycomments@setrpc.org>  
Cc: Shaun Davis <sdavis@setrpc.org>; Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>  
Subject: FW: Additional Comments to SETRPC re MOD 7.20.18.pdf

I am resending the entire email with all the attachments plus this additional attachment. This attachment has data from the American Red Cross.

Mike Kunst  
City Manager  
City of Vidor  
1395 N. Main St.  
Vidor, Texas 77662  
409-769-5473 ext. 140  
www.cityofvidor.com
July 20, 2018

Shanna Burke
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77703

Re: American Red Cross Data for the City of Vidor

Shanna,

Late this afternoon we received the following data from the American Red Cross in regards the damage caused by Harvey:

City of Vidor homeowners:
Sustained damage but not classified as major/destroyed 4,122
Major/destroyed 1,493

City of Vidor rental:
Sustained damage but not classified as major/destroyed 558
Major/destroyed 205

TOTAL 6,378

We ask that you include this data provided by the American Red Cross when determining your Method of Distribution.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Robert Viator, Jr.
Mayor
Subject: Comments concerning the Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Fund

Dear Ms. Burke,

Thank you for taking into account our input on the needs of the community with regards to disaster recovery.

We, as a community organization, have spoken to many residents in a variety of positions and have found the following most pressing needs:

1. People in severely low-lying areas want and need buy-outs.

For some residents it has become unfeasible to remain in the area they have resided for years due to the flooding, cost of repairs and flood insurance. These residents want and need buy-outs.

2. Assistance or support with repairs and (now mandatory) lifting of homes.

Many residents in low lying areas are now required to lift or elevate their homes in order to even be granted a permit for the repairs that would make their home habitable again. These residents were given funds from FEMA for the repairs necessary, however, in most cases, that DOES NOT cover the elevation of the structure. This elevation has now become a prerequisite to even start the repair process. In order for these residents to get back in their homes, they need assistance with both lifting and repairs to their homes.
3. Assistance for renters to get back on their feet.

A large number of renters has not only been displaced for repairs to their rented homes, but they have also lost everything they owned. These residents need assistance with repurchasing some basics such as clothing, furniture, cookware etc.

Your expedient assistance in this most urgent matter would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any further questions or would like more feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me

Sincerely,

Hilton Kelley
Executive Director and Founder
Community In-Power and Development Association Inc.

P: (409) 498-1088 | E: Hilton.Kelley@cidainc.org
City of Port Arthur Public Hearing Comments

The City of Port Arthur offers the following comments to the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) regarding the Method of Distribution (MOD) for Disaster Assistance and Recovery Funding.

In developing the Method of Distribution for the region and for each jurisdiction impacted within the region, we would ask that the SETRPC adhere to the guidelines and requirements enacted for Hurricane Harvey Disaster Assistance and Recovery by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); that is, “to address long term recovery and restoration of infrastructure, housing and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas.”

Port Arthur was certainly impacted and distressed from this event. While Judge Branick has stated that based upon the numbers, Jefferson County is the 2nd most impacted county, we would offer that Port Arthur is the 1st most impacted jurisdiction in Jefferson County. With over $76 million in real property loss; 7,113 households damaged - of which 5,240 had no flood insurance; coupled with median household income at 58% of the state average and unemployment well above the national average, the damage and the unmet need is here in Port Arthur.

Let me assure you that the City is prepared to implement a long term recovery program immediately upon receiving funding. The City of Port Arthur has developed an initial assessment of needs and projects requiring CDBG Disaster Recovery funding. The assessments were based on HUD/FEMA assessments and local assessments conducted by City of Port Arthur and Port Arthur Economic Development Corporation. This recovery plan includes buyouts, property acquisition and the related relocations and replacement housing assistance. We have identified infrastructure projects to support these housing goals including drainage, roadways and water utilities. We are also actively pursuing major drainage mitigation projects. These activities are planned and underway. The CDBG - DR funding is critical to seeing these plans to fruition and bringing Port Arthur back – stronger and more resilient to meet the future.

The City of Port Arthur will oppose any plan and MOD that does not reflect the GLO established goals and that would erode the City’s fair share of the distribution of these funds that are critical to our long term recovery. We wish to thank our partners at the
SETRPC, Drainage District 7 and Jefferson County. We appreciate the work that you do to serve the Citizens of Port Arthur and we look forward to maximizing these funds for the benefits of these same citizens.

The City requests that all comments become a part of the permanent public record and be presented to the Texas General Land Office and U.S. Department of HUD in conjunction with SETRPC Plan submitted to GLO.

Thank you
August 10, 2018

Madison Sloan  
Texas Appleseed  
1609 Shoal Creek Blvd, Ste 201  
Austin, Texas 78701

Re: Texas Appleseed Comments on SETRPC’s Hurricane Harvey Round 1 MOD

Ms. Sloan,

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission appreciates your organization’s comments, questions and research. We at the Planning Commission have taken careful consideration of same and plan to enhance the MOD with its input. Please note that your letter has been introduced into the public comment section of the SETRPC’s Method of Distribution (“MOD”) with this corresponding response. The SETRPC took its delegation to develop the MOD within the guidelines set forth by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Texas General Land Office (GLO) very seriously and intended to make the best method of distribution that it could with the available data and input from our Harvey Committee, three public hearings, public officials, the telephone conference with Texas Appleseed, Texas Housers, and Lone Star Legal Aid and numerous other sources. The following responses are indicative of our role in the two programs funded with this round of money: the Local Buyout/Acquisition Program and the Infrastructure Program.

The SETRPC would like to express its intent of creating a fair Method of Distribution for our region for the Buyout/Acquisition and Infrastructure Programs. Our intent was to harness the community aspect of these programs with the remaining funds after the distribution was lessened by the GLO-mandated floor, as opposed to the individual housing mindset which will be used in the near future with individual and multi-family housing programs. Our experience with testing numerous factors and formulas, and the responsibility of providing and using one formula for all twenty-four jurisdictions yielded anomaly jurisdictions which would receive funding that was incongruent with their direct need. In this case, the smaller communities (one with the highest percentage of LMI in the region, four with the highest damage percentage) skewed the formula we proposed to use. Ultimately, the GLO will determine the reallocation of funding, however, considering the smaller, or low LMI jurisdictions may not be able to expend their funding due to the 70% LMI requirement, it is the intent of the SETRPC (as stated in our MOD) that wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impacts on low to moderate income (LMI) populations.

President – Chris Kirkendall, Hardin County  
1st VP – John Gothia, Orange County  
2nd VP – Rebecca Ford, Bevil Oaks  
3rd VP – Mary Adams, Kountze  
Treasurer – Kirk Roccaforte, Bridge City  
Secretary – Michael Sinegal, Jefferson County

Executive Director - Shaun P. Davis  
2210 Eastex Freeway Beaumont, Texas 77703-4929  
(409) 899-8444 l (409) 347-0138 fax  
setrpc@setrpc.org l http://www.setrpc.org
As mandated in the Action Plan, the SETRPC’s sole role in these two programs is to “develop a local method of distribution to allocate these funds to the local units of government.” After the MOD is complete, each jurisdiction will then contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of both programs. The GLO will work with each jurisdiction to promote sound short- and long-term recovery plans to aid in recovery of damaged communities. Further, the GLO will be managing and determining eligibility of these programs to ensure that the required 70% LMI allocation in the MOD was adhered to.

Following are the outlined responses to Texas Appleseed’s comments in its July 20, 2018 letter:

A. The SETRPC is appreciative of comments and suggestions regarding the lack of detailed description of the methodology used to allocate funds to the region. The SETRPC has taken same into consideration and plans to enhance that methodology and process in the MOD Distribution Factors section.

a. Storm Impact is a term the SETRPC used to depict where the rising water from the storm impacted the jurisdictions. Repair, restoration and mitigation of future damage of infrastructure and removal of homes and citizens from harm’s way through buyouts and acquisitions is likely most necessary where the storm most greatly impacted an area with floodwaters. The “impact” of the storm was determined by the development of a regional representation of water heights using a FEMA flood inundation map created after Harvey, USGS/NOAA data and local jurisdictional reports to gather data points of water inundation in the region. Local jurisdictional reports were given as data points comprised of coordinates or addresses and corresponding water heights from volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys conducted by the counties.

b. Using these data points (coordinates) and corresponding water depths in connection with the FEMA inundation map and USGS/NOAA data, the geographic information system (GIS) used 2016 US Census data to determine the populations in those inundated areas which gave the total “affected” population. The SETRPC then divided the “affected” population of a jurisdiction by the total population of the jurisdiction from 2016 census data to get the percent of the jurisdiction “impacted.”

c. The SETRPC then used that percentage as the “impacted” population which is the “Storm Impact Distribution Factor.”

d. The SETRPC’s reasoning for determining impacted individuals was to find the population concentrations that were inundated with rising water and distribute funding to aid that area’s infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs to repair and enhance local infrastructure and improve mitigation efforts and to remove homes and citizens from harm’s way, thereby preventing repetitive loss.

e. The SETRPC considered unmet needs as part of its storm impact factor. Under “Resiliency Solutions and Mitigation Needs” in the Action Plan, it states, “In assessing unmet needs, it is important to consider the additional costs of safeguarding housing and community infrastructure investments from future disasters.” Storm impact, or the percent of a jurisdiction’s population which was inundated by water according to the inundation maps, provides representation of how a jurisdiction’s infrastructure and housing were affected by showing where the rising floodwaters were, and are likely to
be in future flooding; taking into consideration patterns such as repetitive loss. According to the Action Plan, the needs assessment done by GLO included details for housing, infrastructure and economic revitalization. It was the SETRPC’s intention to demonstrate the fact that the higher percentage of a jurisdiction that was impacted, the more difficult it would be for that jurisdiction to recover.

B. Jurisdictions will be contracting directly with the GLO to manage and determine eligibility of both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program and submitting projects for infrastructure funding in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be finalized. The Action Plan states “The GLO’s recovery projects will be developed in a manner that considers an integrated approach to address long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure, housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas.” Further, “the GLO will continue to work with state and local jurisdictions to provide guidance on promoting sound short- and long-term recovery plans in the affected areas by coordinating available resources to help in the restoration and recovery of damaged communities.” The SETRPC shares the same intent as the GLO in that the programs will be undertaken in compliance with the GLO’s and HUD’s guidelines. The MOD reinforces this intent and the important role of the jurisdiction in the statement “Unmet housing needs of those located in these [HUD-identified most impacted and distressed areas and/or other impacted areas] areas will be addressed and resolved through various eligible activities that will be planned and carried out by individual communities.” By the Action Plan, “the GLO will encourage subrecipients to consider the costs and benefits of the project when selecting CDBG-DR eligible projects. Each infrastructure activity must demonstrate how it will contribute to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing” and “In carrying out acquisition activities, subrecipient must ensure they are in compliance with their long-term redevelopment plans.” Further, according to the Action Plan, “all programs will undergo Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) review by the GLO before approval. Such review will include assessments of (1) a proposed project’s area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination.”

C. As stated in B. above, each jurisdiction will be contracting directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. To ensure the understanding of the LMI requirement by each jurisdiction, the SETRPC has demonstrated in Attachment 3 of the MOD “SETRPC – SUMMARY” the exact amount (70% of their funding) required by each jurisdiction to spend on LMI projects.

a. The GLO will be managing and determining eligibility for these programs directly with the subrecipients (the jurisdictions) to further ensure that the required 70% LMI allocation in the MOD was adhered to. The Action Plan states: “The GLO will seek to ensure that infrastructure activities will avoid disproportionate impact on vulnerable communities and will create, to the extent practicable, opportunities to address economic inequities facing local communities. All projects will undergo an AFFH review by the GLO prior to approval. AFFH application reviews will include assessments of a proposed project’s (1) area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and
health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination.”

b. As stated in the MOD, the SETRPC proposes (subject to GLO approval) that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.” This reallocation proposal seeks to ensure a jurisdiction’s unused funds be re-distributed into the region with priority to LMI populations, thereby further funding and prioritizing LMI projects and LMI unmet needs.

c. As stated above, the GLO will ultimately manage eligibility and funding directly with the subrecipient jurisdictions. The GLO will be tasked with determining the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low-and moderate-income families. As stated in the Action Plan, and the SETRPC MOD, “at least 70 percent of all program funds will benefit low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons.” Each jurisdiction will be required to follow established rules and regulations related to the funding received.

d. It is the intent of the SETRPC that for infrastructure aid and buyouts/acquisitions, the MOD focus on each community as a whole, as opposed to focusing on individuals in terms of population. These two programs, infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions, are not part of the individual housing programs to come later, which will be another allocation to provide aid to individual and multi-family housing needs. The SETRPC will not be creating or managing these programs and does not have the authority to define eligibility or guidelines for same.

D. The SETRPC states in the MOD that all subrecipients, namely the jurisdictions, will certify that they will affirmatively further fair housing (“AFFH”) in their grant agreements, and will receive GLO training and technical assistance in meeting their AFFH obligations. The subrecipients will be contracting directly with the GLO to manage and determine eligibility of projects in both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. As stated in the Action Plan, the GLO will be tasked with determining compliance with AFFH through its review. “All proposed projects will undergo Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) review by the GLO before approval. Such review will include assessments of (1) a proposed project’s area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination. Applications should show that projects are likely to lessen area racial, ethnic, and low-income concentrations, and/or promote affordable housing in low-poverty, nonminority areas in response to natural hazard-related impacts.”

a. The SETRPC’s objectives are the same as those contained in the Action Plan, “the GLO and subrecipients administering programs related to direct housing assistance are committed to affirmatively furthering fair housing through established affirmative marketing policies…The goal is to ensure that outreach and communication efforts reach eligible homeowners from all racial, ethnic, national origin, religious, familial status, the disabled “special needs”, and gender groups.” Further the Action Plan states that “all proposed developments will undergo Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) review by the GLO before approval. Such review will include assessments of
(1) a proposed project’s area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination.” Jurisdictions will be responsible for expending 70% of their funding toward LMI projects and according to the Action Plan “applications should show that projects are likely to lessen area racial, ethnic, and low-income concentrations, and/or promote affordable housing in low-poverty, nonminority areas in response to natural hazard-related impacts.

E. Each subrecipient, namely the jurisdictions, will be contracting directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program and submitting projects for infrastructure funding in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be finalized. The Action Plan states that “The GLO’s recovery projects will be developed in a manner that considers an integrated approach to address long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure, housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas.” Further, “the GLO will continue to work with state and local jurisdictions to provide guidance on promoting sound short- and long-term recovery plans in the affected areas by coordinating available resources to help in the restoration and recovery of damaged communities.” The SETRPC has the same desire as the GLO in that it wishes the programs to be undertaken in compliance with the GLO’s and HUD’s guidelines. The MOD reinforces this intent and the important role of each jurisdiction in the statement “Unmet housing needs of those located in these [HUD-identified most impacted and distressed areas and/or other impacted areas] areas will be addressed and resolved through various eligible activities that will be planned and carried out by individual communities.” By the Action Plan, “the GLO will encourage subrecipients to consider the costs and benefits of the project when selecting CDBG-DR eligible projects. Each infrastructure activity must demonstrate how it will contribute to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing” and “in carrying out acquisition activities, subrecipients must ensure they are in compliance with their long-term redevelopment plans.”

a. (1.) The Action Plan clearly states “The Local Buyout and Acquisition Program will remove homes from harm’s way. Due to the nature of this activity, this program will be administered by subrecipients (local units of government and entities with the power of eminent domain authority).” Further, “each subrecipient will develop guidelines in accordance with CDBG-DR requirements and regulations to set maximum assistance amounts, target area locations, Disaster Risk Reduction Area, and additional eligibility requirements.”

i. The SETRPC sought many different forms of data from many different sources. The FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) data that was made available at the time of our planning was completely unreliable for our region. The SETRPC identified several ways to implement IA data, but never received reliable numbers. For example, the data sets supplied to the SETRPC were not filtered to the city level, thereby making it impossible to make allocations at the city level; the data sets, when broken down by city, were found to have not been inputted into the smaller, incorporated cities, but included in larger cities which they are not a part of; IA data included more than household claims, which left duplications of claims in households that were not able to be separated, etc.
Further, the NFIP/FEMA source mentioned pertaining to concentrations of repetitive loss was not considered in the development of the MOD due to there being only ninety-eight entries for our region and no way to break them down to the jurisdictional boundary (zip codes cross jurisdictional boundaries). Again, these numbers would have shown, if used as a factor, that a smaller city encompassing the 77713 zip code had the same number of entries as a larger city encompassing the 77642 zip code, which would cause a smaller city to receive an equal amount of money under a formula due to the weighted factors being the same.

ii. As stated in the Action Plan, the Local MOD Requirements for the Buyout and Acquisition Program will “Implement a minimum of $1,000,000 in CDBG-DR funds to any local entity receiving funding through the MOD.” The GLO mandated the $1,000,000 floor on the Buyout and Acquisition Program. The SETRPC only reinforced that guideline.

iii. Each jurisdiction will contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of its buyout/acquisition program. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, which have yet to be finalized. The GLO will be tasked with determining the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low-and moderate-income families. As stated in the Action Plan, and the SETRPC MOD, “at least 70 percent of all program funds will benefit low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons.” All entities will be required to follow established rules and regulations related to the funding received.

iv. All projects will undergo an AFFH review by the GLO prior to approval. AFFH application reviews will include assessments of a proposed project’s (1) area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination. As stated in the MOD, the SETRPC proposes (subject to GLO approval), that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.” This reallocation proposal seeks to ensure a jurisdiction’s unused funds be re-distributed into the region with priority to LMI populations, thereby further funding and prioritizing LMI projects and LMI unmet needs.

F. (II.) As stated above, each jurisdiction will be contracting directly with the GLO to manage and determine eligibility of its infrastructure program. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with submitting projects for infrastructure funding in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, including locating concentration areas of repetitive loss properties, collecting data and determining the cause of ongoing flood problems. The GLO will be tasked with determining the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low-and moderate-income families. As stated in the Action Plan, and the SETRPC MOD, “at least 70 percent of all program funds will benefit low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons.” By the Action Plan, “the GLO will
encourage subrecipients to consider the costs and benefits of the project when selecting CDBG-DR eligible projects. Each infrastructure activity must demonstrate how it will contribute to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing” and “In carrying out acquisition activities, subrecipient must ensure they are in compliance with their long-term redevelopment plans.” Further, according to the Action Plan, all programs will undergo Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) review by the GLO before approval. Such review will include assessments of (1) a proposed project’s area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination.”

The SETRPC was not able to develop a MOD using an application-based distribution process due to the diminished capacity in which the SETRPC is involved in these programs. At the time of the development of the MOD and currently, the GLO has not made available to the SETRPC finalized guidelines by which these two programs will run. The SETRPC will not be managing projects, creating guidelines or determining eligibility for the Buyouts/Acquisitions or Infrastructure Programs, and as such, could not base a distribution process on applications.

In closing, we encourage Texas Appleseed to take in to consideration the guidelines set by HUD and the GLO that the SETRPC is required to adhere to, and the capacity in which we are participating in this Method of Distribution. We would like to convey our gratitude for Texas Appleseed’s care and concern for our region. We are appreciative of the hard work that it does and the opportunities it provides our citizens. Thank you for your questions, comments and suggestions – they have been considered and will be included in our final Method of Distribution sent to the Texas General Land Office.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Shaun P. Davis
Executive Director
Dear Shaun and Shanna,

I'm attaching a copy of our comments on the MOD (which have been submitted through the public notice email address.) We had some serious concerns about the methodology, which I'm happy to discuss if you'd like to.

As you know, I respect the work you and the staff of SETRPC have done on disaster recovery very much, and have appreciated our ability to work collaboratively on potential issues. We offer our comments in that spirit.

Thank you,
Maddie

--

M. Madison Sloan  
Director, Disaster Recovery and Fair Housing Project  
Texas Appleseed  
1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., Ste. 201  
Austin, Texas 78701  
(512) 473-2800 ext. 108  
msloan@texasappleseed.net  
www.texasappleseed.org
July 20, 2018

Shaun Davis, Executive Director
Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77703
Email: harveycomments@setrpc.org

Re: Texas Appleseed Comments on SETRPC’s Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Method of Distribution

Dear Mr. Davis:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SETRPC’s MOD. Texas Appleseed has reviewed the MOD, covering $156,700,835 in Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for local buyout and acquisition programs and infrastructure programs, allocated by the State of Texas in its Action Plan. We have serious concerns about SETRPC’s MOD, in particular, about the formula used to suballocate CDBG-DR funds and resulting distribution of funds.

A. SETRPC’s MOD does not comply with the State Action Plan, GLO’s MOD Guidelines, or the Federal Register Notice because its allocation methodology is not adequately described and that methodology does not include required distribution factors.

The State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey – Round 1 (Action Plan) states that “for both housing and infrastructure, the MOD establishes a balance between the total unmet need, the ability to recovery, and the relative population of the impacted areas ... each of these variables plays a factor in the recovery process and is reflected in the distribution models.” (Action Plan at 73)
reflects HUD’s Federal Register Notice allocating these CDBG-DR funds’ mandate requiring “each grantee to primarily consider and address its **unmet housing recovery needs**.” (83 F.R. 5884 (February 9, 2018)) (emphasis added) Similarly, the GLO’s Hurricane Harvey - Round 1 Council of Governments Method of Distribution Guidelines (MOD Guidelines) require local MODs to “[e]stablish objective criteria for the allocation of funds to eligible entities or activities (**distribution based on, but not limited to, unmet need**).” (MOD Guidelines at 7 and 8) (emphasis added)

SETRPC’s MOD does not consider unmet need at all. The MOD does not comply with the Federal Register Notice, the State’s Action Plan, or GLO’s MOD Guidelines and must be returned to SETRPC to rectify these issues.

The MOD does not contain “a detailed description of the methodology used to allocate and prioritize funds within [the] region” as required by the MOD Guidelines. SETRPC bases its suballocation of funds solely on a distribution factor it calls “storm impact.” This factor is undefined. While there are data sources listed, it is not explained how these sources are used to arrive at any particular breakdown of “impact” by local jurisdiction. The MOD does not contain “a detailed description of the methodology used to allocate and prioritize funds within [the] region” as required by the MOD Guidelines.

Justifying the choice to use only this one factor by indicating that “all areas of the Southeast Texas region received the same type of damage (rising water)” is also completely insufficient. The source of damage may be relevant to the type of infrastructure and housing programs provided, particularly to targeting buyout and acquisition programs, but it cannot justify a particular distribution of funds.

Texas Housers obtained additional information on how the COG defines “storm impact” from by directly contacting SETRPC. While this information was not included in the published MOD, rendering the MOD incomplete and insufficient, the COG informed Texas Housers that:

*The “impact” of the storm was determined by the development of a regional representation of water heights using inundation maps created by FEMA after Harvey, USGS/NOAA data and local jurisdictional reports to gather data points of water inundation in the region. Local jurisdictional reports include data points of water heights from volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys conducted by the counties.*
Using these data points of water depths in connection with the FEMA inundation map and USGS/NOAA data, we used GIS to find out the populations in those inundated areas which gave us the total “affected” population. We then divided the “affected” population of a jurisdiction by the total population of the jurisdiction from the 2016 census to get the percent of the jurisdiction “impacted.” We used that percentage as the “impacted” population which is our “Storm Impact Distribution Factor.”

This information confirms that SETRPC has allocated funds based solely on level of inundation and total population in the inundated area without considering unmet need, ability to recover, or the relative population of the impacted area. This distribution is blatantly inequitable and inconsistent with damage data. Port Arthur will receive only about twice as much funding as cities with less than 1% of its population. Beaumont will receive less than twice the funding of cities that are 0.5% of its size.

SETRPC’s MOD is highly reminiscent of The Texas Department of Rural Affairs’ (TDRA, formerly ORCA) discredited “weather model” for Hurricane’s Ike and Dolly which considered solely weather data and high water maps without taking into account actual damage, population numbers in affected areas, housing density, types of economic activity, or community demographics. Like the “weather model” SETRPC’s “storm impact” based distribution tracks where the weather was most intense, not where damage occurred or where there are CDBG-eligible unmet disaster recovery needs. The use of the “weather model” was the partial basis for a fair housing complaint by Texas Appleseed and Texas Housers against the State of Texas in 2009, which resulted in disapproval of the Ike/Dolly Round 2 Action Plan, the redistribution of CDBG-DR funds, and a Conciliation Agreement.

SETRPC failed to include the detailed description of methodology that is the primary requirement of a MOD, and it is clear from even the inadequate description of its methodology that the COG has not based its distribution of CDBG-DR funds on the distribution factors required by the MOD Guidelines, the State Action Plan, and HUD’s Federal Register Notice.

B. **SETRPC’s MOD does not provide an explanation of how unmet housing needs will be addressed or how economic revitalization or infrastructure activities will contribute to long-term recovery and restoration of housing in the most impacted and distressed areas.**

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1 July 16, 2018 email from Collin B. Sheldon, SETRPC to Amelia Adams, Texas Housers.
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The MOD Guidelines require the COG’s Method of Distribution Summary Form to include “an explanation of how unmet housing needs will be addressed or how economic revitalization or infrastructure activities will contribute to long-term recovery and restoration of housing in the most impacted and distressed areas.” (MOD Guidelines at 13) SETRPC’s MOD does not include this explanation. A statement that “buyout/acquisition and infrastructure activities are critical to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing within Southeast Texas” and vague assertions that unmet needs will be addressed by these activities do not constitute an explanation.

Further, for the reasons set out above and elsewhere in these comments, the MOD does not consider unmet needs in the suballocation of CDBG-DR funds.

C. **SETRPC’s MOD does not include a plan to meet the 70 percent low- and moderate-income benefit requirement.**

The MOD does not include the required plan to meet the 70 percent low- and moderate-income requirement. (GLO Guidelines at 7 and 9.) It simply restates that the Action Plan requires that at least 70 percent of all program funds must benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons. Restating a requirement is in no way a plan, and the MOD must be revised to meet this requirement.

Further, the use of the “storm impact” factor alone makes it extremely unlikely that SETRPC will meet the 70 percent LMI requirement because it does not take into account unmet need or ability to recover. While communities at all income levels were affected by Hurricane Harvey, and any community that has been damaged by the storm and needs help to recover should receive funding, the use of CDBG funding, with its LMI benefit requirement, for disaster recovery, as well as the Federal Register Notice and State Action Plan, acknowledge that some families and communities are more vulnerable and will need more help to recover, in particular, LMI communities and households.² While our organizations remain critical of the

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² Using FEMA Verified Loss (FVL) of real property (owners) to determine unmet need at the State level found that 54% of affected homeowners had no unmet needs on the basis that their FVL was below the thresholds set for the FEMA damage categories. However, when this is broken down by income level, 69 percent of extremely low-income (ELI) owners were found to have no unmet needs. Conversely, only 41 percent of non-LMI owners were found to have no unmet needs. The conclusion, based on FEMA data, that families making less than 30% of Area Median Income (AMI), which, for example, is $12,060 in the Beaumont-Port Arthur MSA, have been better able to recover than families making more than double that amount is simply not credible. The inaccuracy of this calculation is
HUD methodology used by the State to distribute funds because it substantially undercounts the needs of LMI families and communities, that methodology is based on unmet need and specifically takes into account LMI households and the Social Vulnerability Index in an attempt to ensure that the Texans who are most vulnerable and need the most help with recovery will get assistance. A higher income community may have been inundated to the same level as a lower income community, but if higher income families have been able to benefit from insurance, FEMA, SBA loans, and other resources, they will not have the same amount of unmet need as families that did not have access to those resources. The goal of the MOD is not to distribute funding equally; it is to distribute it equitably to ensure long-term recovery and resilience.

For example, Port Arthur was devastated by Hurricane Harvey. According to SETRPC’s unincited data, almost 50,000 out of its total population of roughly 55,000 (90%) were “impacted” by the storm. Under SETRPC’s “storm impact” methodology, the amount of buyout funding SETRPC has allocated to Port Arthur comes out to $85 for each impacted person. In Beaumont, the figure is only $41. Also underfunded are the unincorporated counties of Orange, Hardin, and Jefferson, all of which would receive less than $200 per impacted person. However, the smaller communities of Bevil Oaks, Pine Forest, Rose City, and Rose Hill Acres, who have been given allocations of $2 million each, are receiving up to $4,494 per person.

borne out by a study conducted by the Episcopal Health Foundation and the Kaiser Family Foundation three months after Hurricane Harvey. The study found that lower-income families and Black and Latinx Texans were less likely to have homeowners’, renters’, or flood insurance, and nearly half had lost job-related income since the storm. “These income disruptions affected a greater share of Hispanic (65%) and Black (46%) residents compared to White residents (31%).” Lower- and even middle-income families are less likely to have the savings and access to credit that let them access safe housing (including more immediate repairs) and are more likely to be forced to relocate far from jobs and schools, to live in overcrowded housing or double up with family or friends, remain in unsafe housing, or become homeless.

2015 Pew Charitable Trust study found that less than half (45%) of American households have even one month’s income in savings in case of an emergency. Lower income households are in an even more precarious situation, with only two weeks of savings. Those at the bottom of the income scale could only survive 9 days on their liquid assets. The study also indicates that even middle-income households could only scrape together about four months of income; it has been nearly 10 months since Hurricane Harvey. There are also racial and ethnic disparities in the availability of liquid savings. In addition, median white wealth is twelve times median black wealth, a disparity that can be traced to the history of segregation and discrimination in the United States, from government redlining to current lending discrimination. This is not to say that poverty and lack of wealth are not issues that affect Americans of all races, particularly in rural areas.
Median household income in Port Arthur is $32,003 (with a per capita income of $18,519) and a poverty rate of 29.3% while Bevil Oaks has a median household income of $76,574 and a poverty rate of 2.72%.

There are even larger disparities between cities like Port Arthur and Beaumont and other small cities that have been slated for allocations over $1 million. For example, Taylor Landing is a city of about 237 people with a median income of $45,390 and with 22 people (9%) impacted. In Taylor Landing, the average household size is 2.5, so that means about 8.8 homes were impacted. With an allocation of $1,333,160, that would be $151,495.45 per home ($60,598 per impacted person). In Port Arthur, the figure is $71 per home.

While we understand CDBG-DR funds will not simply be divided between impacted persons and will be targeted through specific programs, the MOD does not include any justification for this distribution. Again, the methodology produces a distribution that is inequitable on its face. Port Arthur ends up with only about twice as much funding as cities with less than 1% of its population. Beaumont ends up getting less than twice the funding of cities that are 0.5% of its size.

The entire community of Taylor Landing may in fact need to be bought out and relocated because of repetitive flooding and future flood risk, but the methodology does not incorporate this information, it is simply a per capita distribution based on flood height. And, as we have laid out above, no consideration is given to unmet need or ability to recover.

In order to be eligible for CDBG-DR funds, the State has certified that “the action plan has been developed so as to give the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low- and moderate-income families”. SETRPC’s MOD places this certification at risk.

D. ***SETRPC cannot certify that it is affirmatively furthering fair housing nor that “the grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 200d), the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619), and implementing regulations” as required by the Federal Register Notice, the State Action Plan, and the GLO MOD Guidelines.***

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3 [https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/portarthurcitytexas/PST045217](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/portarthurcitytexas/PST045217) and [https://datausa.io/profile/geo/bevil-oaks-tx/](https://datausa.io/profile/geo/bevil-oaks-tx/)
SETRPC’s use of the “storm impact” methodology is even more troubling when looking at the figures for buyout funding per “impacted” person alongside the racial breakdown of each city. The cities in the SETRPC region with the three highest percent Black non-Hispanic populations (Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Orange) are also the three cities with the lowest per capita funding for buyouts. The result is that Port Arthur (a city that is 38.2% Black, 31.8% Hispanic or Latino, and 22% non-Hispanic White) will receive only about twice as much funding as cities with less than 1% of its population. Beaumont (which is 34% non-Hispanic White, 48% Black, and 14.4% Hispanic or Latino) will receive less than twice the funding of cities that are 0.5% of its size. Taylor Landing is 87.3% non-Hispanic White, Bevil Oaks is 81.8% non-Hispanic White, Pine Forest is 90.4% non-Hispanic White, Rose City is 88.4% non-Hispanic White, and Rose Hill Acres is 91.4% non-Hispanic White.

Port Arthur, Beaumont and Orange also have the highest number of damaged owner-occupied homes in the region according to FEMA data (which we note undercounts damage to LMI households). This MOD would result in a funding allocation that would disproportionately fund recovery for overwhelmingly White communities while underfunding more diverse and majority-minority cities where the majority of damaged homes are located.

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5 The City of Orange is 30.8% Black, 7.0% Hispanic or Latino, and 56.6% non-Hispanic White. All data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

6 https://datausa.io/
The methodology deliberately excludes unmet need, ability to recover, and relative population and does not include any review of demographics, socioeconomic characteristics, or other factors material to an AFFH determination or a determination that the allocation methodology does not have a disparate impact based on race, color, and national origin.

Low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately affected by and have a harder time recovering from a disaster because of both geographic and social vulnerability forced on them by segregation, discrimination, and often the cumulative effects of previous disasters, on wealth and access to opportunity. Failure to consider these issues is a failure to comply with the obligation to affirmatively further fair housing.

E. **The MOD does not provide an explanation of how it fosters long-term community recovery and used a distribution methodology**
that will render buyout and infrastructure programs ineffective and fail to mitigate future disaster risk.

The failure to use planning documents, including hazard mitigation plans, to establish funding priorities is disturbing and likely to result in ineffective and incomplete disaster recovery without consideration of mitigating future disasters. SETRPC’s allocation methodology exacerbates this problem, by making adequate funding for effective programs unavailable and misallocating funding.

I. Buyout and Acquisition Programs:

Allocating funding for a buyout program based solely on “storm impact” fails to take into account not only unmet need, but whether areas allocated funding are prone to and have a history of repeated flooding, the level of risk to the residents or neighborhoods, and whether there are other options for hazard mitigation. Buyouts are not a panacea for all Hurricane Harvey damage, but should be used only when they are the best or only option.

SETRPC and its local jurisdictions must make use of data available through the National Flood Insurance Program about concentrations of repetitive loss properties in order to effectively suballocate this funding. The Community Rating System (CRS) offers jurisdictions advice on locating concentration areas of repetitive loss properties, collecting remote data on these properties and determining the cause of the ongoing flooding problems there. This type of investigation will be essential in locating areas that are suited to buyouts, as opposed to individual homes that were damaged and should be rebuild with mitigation in mind or areas where poor infrastructure is to blame.

Allocating small amounts of funding to a large number of jurisdictions is also ineffective and not conducive to long-term recovery and planning or mitigating future disaster damage. Buying out a few homes in scattered areas will result in “checkerboard” neighborhoods (lack of concentration of buyouts in affected areas) that leaves remaining residents vulnerable to future disasters (and unable to access other disaster recovery resources); strain resources and city services because of the continued need to serve areas that have been partially bought out; and recreate current patterns of vulnerability and flood hazard. One million dollars is not enough to fund a significant buyout program that does not exacerbate these problems. Buyout funding needs to be concentrated in areas that have repetitive flood losses that can only be addressed through an organized acquisition program that offers households sufficient money to move to an equivalent home in a safer area.
Program guidelines for this buyout program must be developed in a transparent process with a meaningful citizen participation process. Relocating, away from an existing community or a home that has been in a family for generations, can be difficult and even traumatic. Without planning and community buy-in, a voluntary individual buyout program can result in a patchwork of empty and occupied homes, creating a blighted neighborhood. One of the critical issues in ensuring a successful buyout program is equity and ensuring that program rules and processes do not have a disparate impact on particular groups of homeowners.

Local buyout and acquisition programs must also prioritize LMI households in floodways and floodplains, who have the least resources with which to relocate on their own, leaving them a choice between housing instability and potential homelessness, or continuing to live in homes that may be structurally compromised or present health risks because of mold. It is particularly critical for LMI families that this buyout program includes not only acquisition and demolition, but relocation payments and other assistance and incentives as well. As the Federal Register Notice states, “a buyout program that merely pays homeowners to leave their existing homes does not result in a low- and moderate-income household occupying a residential structure and, thus, cannot meet the requirements of the LMH national objective.” (83 FR 5863) Local buyout programs should include plans to build housing in safer areas.

LMI households must be provided with enough funds that the choice to move is a realistic one; that they can actually move to a safer area. The worst-case scenario is that families who accept a buyout are unable to find housing in safer areas and are forced to move back into their original or less safe neighborhoods.

The decision of whether to use pre- or post-storm home value is also an important one. In particular, using the pre-storm value of a home to determine disaster recovery program benefit limits often has a discriminatory impact on the basis of race or ethnicity as well. Following Hurricane Katrina, the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA), the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (GNOFAC), and African-American homeowners sued the State of Louisiana and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) alleging racial discrimination in the State’s CDBG-DR funded Road Home Program, which provided grants to homeowners to repair or rebuild their homes. The original grant formula was based on the pre-storm value of a home, which resulted in African-American homeowners receiving less repair money than White homeowners, because their homes were located in neighborhoods with lower home values based on market
discrimination and the legacy of segregation. Many African-American families were left unable to complete repairs or return home or living in uninhabitable houses. As Louisiana Congressman Cedric Richmond said when the case was settled in 2011,

everyone knew that the Road Home formula for calculating grant awards was deeply flawed and punished folks in neighborhoods where home values were lower. . . After all, if two families are both rebuilding a three bedroom home then their construction costs will be the same—regardless of the neighborhood. In that case, each family deserves the same assistance from their government. Unfortunately, the flawed formula was effectively discriminatory, locking many families out of equitable assistance.

Program guidelines must ensure that buyout and acquisition programs are consistent regardless of whether the cost is funded by FEMA or CDBG-DR. CDBG-DR funding could be used to provide additional funds for LMI families in FEMA programs that would not provide them with enough funding to move, for example. SETRPC should be particularly careful that it is not using a program that provides lesser benefits to serve communities and homeowners of color. Local program guidelines must be identical; no family should have unequal access to disaster recovery simply because of where they live. We recommend that SETRPC, in collaboration with local communities and residents, develop one buyout program with one set of guidelines that is then administered by either the COG or local jurisdictions.

II. Local Infrastructure Program:

Resilience is the ability to withstand and recover from disasters quickly, in a way that mitigates future damage and vulnerability, and in a way that goes beyond physical infrastructure. Again, low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately affected by and have a harder time recovering from a disaster because of both geographic and social vulnerability forced on them by segregation, discrimination, and often the cumulative effects of previous disasters, on wealth and access to opportunity. Historical disinvestment, exclusionary zoning, and other forms of intentional discrimination have pushed communities of color into geographically vulnerable areas, deprived them of adequate infrastructure, and left them out of disaster recovery in the past. For its Natural Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) HUD defined a resilient community as one which “is able to resist and rapidly recover from disasters or other shocks with minimal outside assistance,” and that plan and implement disaster recovery that mitigates future threats “while also improving quality of life for existing residents and making
communities more resilient to economic stresses or other shocks. Improving the quality of life for existing residents and making them more resilient to other shocks, including economic stress that can push middle and working class families into poverty following a disaster, is at the core of our concern for equity in disaster recovery.

Infrastructure programs must prioritize the needs of LMI households and communities, in particular, communities with substandard infrastructure as a result of discrimination and disinvestment. A key issue for many of these communities is environmental justice, as they were impacted not only by flooding but also by hazards related to chemicals, oils, sewage, waste or air pollution during the event. Neighborhoods that were doubly impacted by floodwaters polluted with chemicals, oils, waste, or sewage should be prioritized for mitigation as well.

Also key to economic recovery and future resilience is ensuring that the jobs generated by recovery projects and programs are filled by local workers and those who lost jobs because of Harvey to create real jobs and job training for community residents, and create additional opportunities for community businesses. An economic development program that provides loans to small business will not be successful unless that business has access to a workforce. Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u; 24 C.F.R 135) requires recipients of certain HUD financial assistance, including CDBG-DR, provide job training, employment, and contracting opportunities for low or very low income residents in connections with projects or activities in their neighborhoods to the greatest extent possible. Historically, Section 3 has not been vigorously enforced, and jurisdictions have completely failed to comply with its provisions. We urge BVCOG to fully implement and enforce Section 3, including monitoring (including of whether contractors are genuinely Section 3 eligible), helping to set up a training and jobs pipeline, measuring success in terms of the number of hours worked by Section-3 eligible workers, clearly defining the geographic area from which residents should get preference as locally as possible, and imposing monetary penalties on contractors who do not meet their Section 3 goals. In addition to Section 3, jurisdictions routinely impose requirements like local hiring and job production in exchange for government financial assistance or other benefits and we encourage SETRPC to do so. Other options for increasing the number of jobs going to affected individuals and communities are ensuring that contractor qualifications include a commitment to local hiring and best value bidding processes that give more points to bidders who can comply with job quality and targeted hiring standards. CDBG-DR presents an opportunity to leverage housing and infrastructure funds into economic development funds as well.
Our largest concern, however, is the allocation of funding based on the “storm impact” methodology. The distribution of funding without taking unmet need and long-term recovery and resilience into account is likely to result in individual jurisdictions receiving funding inadequate for many major disaster recovery infrastructure projects, which means that jurisdictions will be funding whatever fits under the funding cap instead of the actual most urgent needs. Simply dividing the infrastructure funding equally between localities diverts funds away from the areas with the most damage and the most critical infrastructure needs. This method of distribution also fails to take into account historical disinvestment in communities of color that left them with inadequate infrastructure pre-storm; simply dividing the funds equally between geographies does nothing to affirmatively further fair housing.

SETPRC should strongly consider an application based distribution process that selects projects based on the most urgent needs and as part of a long-term disaster recovery and mitigation plan. While we understand that this may feel unequal to individual jurisdictions, it would be the most effective use of disaster recovery funding.

We appreciate SETRPC’s work on the MOD and disaster recovery, and your consideration of these comments. Please let us know if we can provide further information or be helpful in any way.

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512-473-2800 ext. 108
August 10, 2018

Ms. Amelia Adams  
Mr. Clinton McNair  
Texas Housers

Re: Texas Housers’ Comments on SETRPC’s Hurricane Harvey Round 1 MOD

Ms. Adams and Mr. McNair,

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission appreciates Texas Housers comments, questions and research. We at the Planning Commission have taken careful consideration of same and plan to enhance the MOD with its input. Please note that your letter has been introduced into the public comment section of the SETRPC’s Method of Distribution (“MOD”) with this corresponding response. The SETRPC took its delegation to develop the MOD within the guidelines set forth by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Texas General Land Office (GLO) very seriously and intended to make the best method of distribution that it could with the available data and input from our Harvey Committee, three public hearings, public officials, the telephone conference with Texas Appleseed, Texas Housers, and Lone Star Legal Aid and numerous other sources. The following responses are indicative of our role in the two programs funded with this round of money: the Local Buyout/Acquisition Program and the Infrastructure Program.

The SETRPC would like to express its intent of creating a fair Method of Distribution for our region for the Buyout/Acquisition and Infrastructure Programs. Our intent was to harness the community aspect of these programs with the remaining funds after the distribution was lessened by the GLO-mandated floor, as opposed to the individual housing mindset which will be used in the near future with individual and multifamily housing programs. Our experience with testing numerous factors and formulas, and the responsibility of providing and using one formula for all twenty-four jurisdictions yielded anomaly jurisdictions which would receive funding that was incongruent with their direct need. In this case, the smaller communities (one with the highest percentage of LMI in the region, four with the highest damage percentage) skewed the formula we proposed to use. Ultimately, the GLO will determine the reallocation of funding, however, considering the smaller, or low LMI jurisdictions may not be able to expend their funding due to the 70% LMI requirement, it is the intent of the SETRPC (as stated in our MOD) that wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impacts on low to moderate income (LMI) populations.

As mandated in the Action Plan, the SETRPC’s sole role in these two programs is to “develop a local method of distribution to allocate these funds to the local units of government.” After the MOD is complete, each jurisdiction will then contract directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine

President – Chris Kirkendall, Hardin County | 1st VP – John Gothia, Orange County | 2nd VP – Rebecca Ford, Bevil Oaks | 3rd VP – Mary Adams, Kountze | Treasurer – Kirk Roccaforte, Bridge City | Secretary – Michael Sinegal, Jefferson County
eligibility of both programs. The GLO will work with each jurisdiction to promote sound short-and long-term recovery plans to aid in recovery of damaged communities. Further, the GLO will be managing and determining eligibility of these programs to ensure that the required 70% LMI allocation in the MOD was adhered to.

Following are the outlined responses to Texas Housers’ comments in its July 20, 2018 letter:

1. As the Action Plan states, “HUD requirements for this CDBG-DR allocation specify that the GLO must expend a minimum of 70 percent to benefit LMI populations.” The SETRPC exceeded guidelines on the formula worksheet in the MOD to ensure that jurisdictions are aware of the exact amount of money they will need to spend towards LMI projects, of which eligibility will be determined by the GLO. In the MOD, the Allocation Worksheet states the amounts that each jurisdiction will be required to spend on LMI projects to be in compliance with HUD’s 70% benefit requirement.
   a. Each jurisdiction will be contracting directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. To ensure the understanding of the LMI requirement by each jurisdiction, the SETRPC has demonstrated in the MOD “SETRPC – SUMMARY” the exact amount (70% of their funding) required by each jurisdiction to spend on LMI projects. The GLO will be managing and determining eligibility for these programs directly with the subrecipients (the jurisdictions) to further ensure that the required 70% LMI allocation in the MOD is adhered to. The GLO will also be tasked with determining the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low- and moderate-income families. The Action Plan states: “The GLO will seek to ensure that infrastructure activities will avoid disproportionate impact on vulnerable communities and will create, to the extent practicable, opportunities to address economic inequities facing local communities. All projects will undergo an AFFH review by the GLO prior to approval. AFFH application reviews will include assessments of a proposed project’s (1) area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination.”
   b. The SETRPC is not privy to the guidelines that will be established by the GLO regarding the buyout/acquisition program and how it deems the projects to be prioritized.
   c. As stated in the MOD, the SETRPC proposes (subject to GLO approval), that “wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.” This reallocation proposal seeks to ensure a jurisdiction’s unused funds be re-distributed into the region with priority to LMI populations, thereby further funding and prioritizing LMI projects and LMI unmet needs.
   d. As stated above, the SETRPC’s sole role in these two programs is to “develop a local method of distribution to allocate these funds to the local units of government.” After the MOD is complete, each jurisdiction will then contract directly with the GLO to create, manage, monitor and determine eligibility of both programs. The GLO will work with each jurisdiction to promote sound short-and long-term recovery plans to aid in recovery of damaged communities.

2. The SETRPC is appreciative of comments and suggestions regarding the lack of detailed description of the methodology used to allocate funds to the region. The SETRPC has taken same
into consideration and plans to enhance that methodology and process in the MOD Distribution Factors section.

a. Storm Impact is a term the SETRPC used to depict where the rising water from the storm impacted the jurisdictions. Repair, restoration and mitigation of future damage of infrastructure and removal of homes and citizens from harm’s way through buyouts and acquisitions is likely most necessary where the storm most greatly impacted an area with floodwaters. The “impact” of the storm was determined by the development of a regional representation of water heights using a FEMA flood inundation map created after Harvey, USGS/NOAA data and local jurisdictional reports to gather data points of water inundation in the region. Local jurisdictional reports were given as data points comprised of coordinates or addresses and corresponding water heights from volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys conducted by the counties.

b. Using these data points (coordinates) and corresponding water depths in connection with the FEMA inundation map and USGS/NOAA data, the geographic information system (GIS) used 2016 US Census data to find out the populations in those inundated areas which gave the total “affected” population. The SETRPC then divided the “affected” population of a jurisdiction by the total population of the jurisdiction from 2016 census data to get the percent of the jurisdiction “impacted.”

c. The SETRPC then used that percentage as the “impacted” population which is the “Storm Impact Distribution Factor.”

d. The SETRPC’s reasoning for determining impacted individuals was to find the population concentrations that were inundated with rising water and distribute funding to aid that area’s infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs to repair and enhance local infrastructure and improve mitigation efforts and to remove homes and citizens from harm’s way, thereby preventing repetitive loss.

e. As stated in the Action Plan, the Local MOD Requirements for the Buyout and Acquisition Program will “Implement a minimum of $1,000,000 in CDBG-DR funds to any local entity receiving funding through the MOD.” The GLO created the $1,000,000 floor on the Buyout and Acquisition Program. When subtracting the $22 million for the entities receiving funding through the MOD and using the damage numbers assessed, the four, small, vulnerable communities that were 100% affected and received 100% damage to their community were skewing the formula to receive a large portion of the funding. Because of this, the SETRPC believed those four, small, vulnerable communities should receive a special allocation of $1 million, in addition to the $1 million minimum (set by GLO) to aid in recovery of the totality of damage to 100% of their affected infrastructure and to aid in resiliency as they incurred total devastation of their tax base.

f. The decision to allocate a special set-aside for these 4 small communities was based upon the nature of the damage sustained by these 4 communities (100%) and the fact that recovery from that level of devastation would be extremely difficult given the overwhelming impact to their tax base and lack of their ability to generate resources to respond. These small communities are receiving 2.55% each of the total allocation to all jurisdictions in our region. The percentage allocation for these four cities is less than 2% of the infrastructure allocation.

g. It is the intent of the SETRPC that for infrastructure aid and buyouts/acquisitions, the MOD focus on each community as a whole, as opposed to focusing on individuals in terms of population. These two programs, infrastructure and buyouts/acquisitions are not part of the
individual housing programs to come later, which will be another allocation to provide aid to individual and multi-family housing needs.

3. The SETRPC’s objectives are the same as those contained in the Action Plan, “the GLO and subrecipients administering programs related to direct housing assistance are committed to affirmatively furthering fair housing through established affirmative marketing policies... The goal is to ensure that outreach and communication efforts reach eligible homeowners from all racial, ethnic, national origin, religious, familial status, the disabled “special needs”, and gender groups.” Further the Action Plan states “all proposed developments will undergo Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) review by the GLO before approval. Such review will include assessments of (1) a proposed project’s area demography, (2) socioeconomic characteristics, (3) housing configuration and needs, (4) educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, (5) environmental hazards or concerns, and (6) all other factors material to the AFFH determination.” Jurisdictions will be responsible for expending 70% of their funding toward LMI projects, and according to the Action Plan “applications should show that projects are likely to lessen area racial, ethnic, and low-income concentrations, and/or promote affordable housing in low-poverty, nonminority areas in response to natural hazard-related impacts. The SETRPC proposes a “Reallocation of Unused Funds” plan to reinforce its goals of ensuring outreach and efforts to reach LMI populations by stating “subject to GLO approval, wherever possible, the SETRPC proposes any CDBG-DR funds that are not expended by a jurisdiction be reallocated within the county of origin with emphasis on projects with the greatest impact on low to moderate income (LMI) populations. If no eligible LMI projects exist in the county of origin, projects meeting the LMI criteria throughout the region should be considered.

a. The SETRPC vehemently disagrees with the notion that its methodology is biased towards “black non-Hispanic populations” or that its methodology blatantly disregards the needs of “non-white households”. The process and formula, as explained above, does not use or create any bias, as its purpose is to determine the storm’s rising floodwaters devastation to infrastructure and for the purpose of buyouts/acquisitions in furtherance of the GLO’s mandated $1,000,000 floor to each participating jurisdiction.

i. HUD and the GLO have mandated at least 70 percent of all program funds will benefit low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons; and the GLO will be determining eligibility and monitoring same.

ii. “Massive amounts of damage” have occurred across our region and affected nearly all our citizens. The SETRPC intends for these program funds to aid in the restoration of infrastructure of the smaller cities who were 100% covered with rising flood waters, affecting 100% of their infrastructure and community, and the larger cities who received major damage to their infrastructure and community as well. As stated above, one of the smaller cities who received a special allocation has the highest percentage of LMI population in the region.

4. As stated above, each jurisdiction will be contracting directly with the GLO to create, manage and determine eligibility of both the infrastructure and buyout/acquisition programs. Each jurisdiction will be tasked with developing its own buyout/acquisition program and submitting projects for infrastructure funding in compliance with the GLO’s guidelines, including locating concentrations areas of repetitive loss properties, collecting data and determining the cause of ongoing flood problems.

a. The SETRPC sought many different forms of data from many different sources. The FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) data that was made available at the time of our planning was completely unreliable for our region. The SETRPC identified several ways to implement IA
data, but never received reliable numbers. For example, the data sets supplied to the SETRPC were not filtered to the city level, thereby making it impossible to make allocations at the city level; the data sets, when broken down by city, were found to have not been inputted into the smaller, incorporated cities, but included in larger cities which they are not a part of; IA data included more than household claims, which left duplications of claims in households that were not able to be separated, etc. Further, the NFIP/FEMA source mentioned pertaining to concentrations of repetitive loss was not considered in the development of the MOD due to there being only ninety-eight entries for our region and no way to break them down to the jurisdictional boundary (zip codes cross jurisdictional boundaries). Again, these numbers would have shown, if used as a factor, that a smaller city encompassing the 77713 zip code had the same number of entries as a larger city encompassing the 77642 zip code, which would cause a smaller city to receive an equal amount of money under a formula due to their weighted factor being the same.

b. With the regional funding for the buyout/acquisition program totaling $51,687,614, once the $22 million was subtracted for the $1 million floor to each entity in our region who desired to participate in the program, the SETRPC was left with $29,687,614 to distribute amongst the 22 entities. As stated above, the SETRPC sought to distribute the funding based on the area or percentage of a jurisdiction that was inundated with water, thereby causing damage to infrastructure and households.

In closing, we encourage Texas Housers to take in to consideration the guidelines set by HUD and the GLO that the SETRPC is required to adhere to, and the capacity in which we are participating in this Method of Distribution. We would like to convey our gratitude for Texas Housers’ care and concern for our region. Thank you for your questions, comments and suggestions – they have been considered and will be included in our final Method of Distribution sent to the Texas General Land Office.

Sincerely,

Shawn P. Davis
Executive Director
See attached comments.

Thank you,

Amelia

--
Amelia Clare Adams
Community Planner
Fair Housing and Disaster Recovery Analyst
Texas Housers
510.418.7480
July 20, 2018

Shaun Davis, Executive Director
Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77703
Email: harveycomments@setrpc.org

Re: Comments on SETRPC’s Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Method of Distribution

Dear Mr. Davis:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SETRPC’s MOD. Texas Housers has reviewed the MOD for Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds allocated by the State of Texas in its Action Plan for local buyout and acquisition programs and infrastructure programs. We have serious concerns about this document, which are detailed in the following points:

1) **The 70% LMI benefit requirement cannot be an afterthought.** This MOD does not address how the COG will ensure that the 70% LMI benefit requirement, an important component of the CDBG-DR program, will be met. In order to ensure that we provide assistance to those with fewer resources to recover on their own, this MOD should provide clear guidelines that ensure these households will receive an opportunity to access the funding before it is opened up to others. There are many LMI households in the SETRPC region who were impacted by the storm, and there is no excuse for them to be overlooked.

   That said, there also needs to be an adequate redistribution plan for areas that aren’t able to use their funds toward that LMI benefit. Instead of these funds going first to non-LMI households, they should be reallocated in a way that ensures all LMI households have a chance at the funding, even if they are located outside the original allocation jurisdiction. For example, if there aren’t enough LMI households in Rose City, there are almost definitely more that need help in another SETRPC city. There should be a reallocation system in place to move these funds to another area in order to meet the 70% LMI requirement.
The GLO's methodology has undervalued heavily impacted cities with large LMI populations, especially Port Arthur (which is home to the most undervalued zip codes for both owners and renters). Texas Housers has expressed concern to the GLO regarding the limitations of HUD unmet need calculations, which capture more households with higher incomes and fewer with modest resources (See Appendix A for an explanation of how this was determined). While this is not the fault of SETRPC, the COG's methodology risks reinforcing this problem by not putting in place clear procedures for allocating funding to families with low income. The COG must be responsible for laying out a plan to make sure these households are assisted in the long-term recovery.

2) SETRPC's allocation methodology is not adequately explained or justified in the plan.

First of all, it is unclear from the MOD what is meant by “Storm Impact”, an extremely vague term. While there are sources listed, it is not explained how these sources are used to arrive at any particular breakdown of “impact” by local jurisdiction. While Texas Housers was able to obtain some information from the COG about how this was determined, the MOD makes no attempt to clarify this. If the public is expected to comment on the plan, the COG must make an effort to be transparent about how it arrived at its figures. Also, justifying the choice to use only this one factor (“impact”) by indicating that “all areas of the Southeast Texas region received the same type of damage (rising water)” is completely insufficient.

From emails with the COG, Texas Housers learned that “impact” is determined by inundation of communities, which is a rational factor in determining where funding should be directed. However, in order to intelligently fund a buyout or infrastructure program, it would be important to know the level of inundation these communities experienced and whether this has been a repeated phenomenon. (See Comment #4)

Also, using impacted individuals is not as effective as impacted households in determining what kind of need exists. Damage, as well as aid, directly impacts the household, not the individual, which is why it is difficult to understand why SETRPC decided to use population as the measure of impact.

Crucially, the decision to give automatic grant amounts to four “small, vulnerable communities” who received “100% damage” is especially perplexing. Any community that has been damaged by the storm and needs help to recover should receive funding, including those with small
populations and few housing units. However, these large allocations to Bevil Oaks, Pine Forest, Rose City and Rose Hill Acres are unjustified when the funding per capita is compared to some of the hardest-hit areas of the region.

Port Arthur (a city of about 55,500) was hit badly by Harvey. According to SETRPC’s data, almost 50,000 people were “impacted” by the storm there. Based on this methodology, the amount of buyout funding SETRPC has allocated to Port Arthur comes out to $85 for each impacted person. In Beaumont, the figure is only $41. Other areas that end up underfunded are the unincorporated counties of Orange, Hardin and Jefferson, all of which would receive less than $200 per impacted person. Meanwhile, the four communities with the automatic allocation of $2m receive up to $4,494 per person.

Even more egregious are the differences between cities like Port Arthur and Beaumont and other small cities that have been slated for allocations over $1m. In these cases, the amount of money per impacted person. For example, Taylor Landing is a city of about 237 people, with 22 people impacted. In Taylor Landing, the average household size is 2.5, so that means about 8.8 homes were impacted. With an allocation of $1,333,160, that would be $151,495.45 per home ($60,598 per impacted person). In Port Arthur, the figure is $71 per home.

3) The methodology used results in racially inequitable divisions of funds that will result in a clear violation of fair housing principles.

When one looks at the figures for buyout funding per “impacted” person alongside the racial breakdown of each city, the fair housing implications of these decisions become clear. The cities in the SETRPC region with the three highest percent black non-hispanic populations (Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Orange) are also the three cities with the lowest per capita funding for buyouts. The result is that Port Arthur (a city that is only 22% white) ends up with only about twice as much funding as cities with less than 1% of its population. Beaumont (which is 34% white and 48% black) ends up getting less than twice the funding of cities that are 0.5% of its size.

To make this even more clearly problematic, Port Arthur, Beaumont and Orange also have the highest number of damaged owner-occupied homes in the region according to FEMA data. This plan would result in racially inequitable funding allocation that would privilege recovery for smaller, whiter cities over those where massive amounts of damage has occurred. We believe this allocation for the use of federal funds should be radically revised, as it blatantly disregards the needs of non-white households through its biased methodology.
4) More research and planning is needed to impactfully and equitably designate buyout funding.

When designing a buyout program, we should not be basing it simply on storm “impact”, which has no definite meaning. Instead, we should consider a measure of which areas have households that have, until now, been unable to recover. We want to consider homes that are located in areas that are prone to repeated flooding, pose a danger to the residents or neighborhood, and do not have other options for hazard mitigation. Buyouts are not a panacea for all “impacted” areas but rather should be used only when they are the best or only option.

Instead of only relying on data that doesn’t point to these areas, SETRPC and its local jurisdictions must make use of data available through the National
Flood Insurance Program about concentrations of repetitive loss properties in order to intelligently allocate this funding. The Community Rating System (CRS) offers jurisdictions advice on locating concentration areas of repetitive loss properties, collecting remote data on these properties and determining the cause of the ongoing flooding problems there. This type of investigation will be essential in locating areas that are suited to buyouts, as opposed to individual homes that were damaged and should be rebuild with mitigation in mind or areas where poor infrastructure is to blame.

Finally, small amounts of funding are not sufficient to engage in a well-planned buyout program that doesn’t result in “checker-boarding” of neighborhoods (lack of concentration of buyouts in affected areas) or strain on resources and city services (due to the continued need to serve areas that have been partially bought out). One million dollars, which is the cutoff for any jurisdiction to receive its own buyout funding (before it is rolled up to the next highest jurisdiction) is not enough to fund a significant buyout program that doesn’t exacerbate these problems. Buyout funding needs to be concentrated in areas that have repetitive flood losses that can only be addressed through an organized acquisition program that offers households sufficient money to move to an equivalent home in a safer area.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments and the ongoing work that must be done to ensure a just recovery. Please let us know if we can provide further information or be helpful in any way.

Sincerely,

Amelia Adams
Community Planner and Analyst for Disaster Recovery and Fair Housing
Texas Housers
amelia@texashousing.org

Clinton McNair
Community Navigator
Texas Housers
clinton@texashousing.org
How Texas is Underestimating Unmet Need for Low-Income Families

Assessing "Unmet Need"

FEMA collects information on the disaster's impact on PROPERTY, not PEOPLE. Lower-income households have fewer financial resources to recover, but households with higher incomes generally have more property to lose.

When a disaster hits, homes may be impacted similarly, but when FEMA verifies their property loss (FVL), lower-income households have significantly lower average loss.

This already results in unequal distribution of assistance, but the problems are compounded in the long-term recovery phase. This is because the Texas General Land Office (GLO) is using this FEMA data to determine the unmet housing need in affected areas. This assessment determines where long-term recovery funding will go.

The GLO uses an arbitrary threshold of $8,000 of FVL for owners and $2,000 for renters when calculating the unmet need amount per household. This assumes that any loss under that amount can be taken care of without additional funds and is not considered "unmet need".

As a result, the property loss of many low-income households is not included in the unmet need calculation. This means the GLO does not consider this loss when allocating funding to different areas of the state. Areas with more low-income residents will see less funding than is really needed for their recovery.
How we can do BETTER!

How we define and count "Unmet Need" matters for disaster recovery. If we systematically fail to count low-income* households, we will systematically fail to fund them in the long-term recovery phase. Crucially, these households are much less likely to have the funds to recover on their own. Below is a comparison of the GLO's methodology and Texas Housers' proposed methodology.

GLO Methodology: A Standardized Threshold

A standardized threshold that doesn't take into account household income excludes most low-income households from the unmet need calculation. As a result...

69% of ELI owners are excluded from the count (compared to only 41% of non-LMI owners)

Proposed Methodology: An Income-Adjusted Threshold

For each income level, the $8000 threshold for owners is reduced proportionately to the average FVL for each income group. For example, the average FVL for ELI owners is 48% lower than the average for Non-LMI households. Therefore, the $8000 threshold is lowered 48%, as illustrated in the chart below.

An income-adjusted threshold allows the assessment to capture damage to low-income households! As a result...

an additional 49% would be budgeted for ELI owners under this methodology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Category</th>
<th>Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Low Income (ELI)</td>
<td>0–30% AMI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low Income (VLI)</td>
<td>30–50% AMI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Income (LI)</td>
<td>50–80% AMI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Lower Median Income (Non-LMI)</td>
<td>80%+ AMI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Texas’ Most Undercounted Zipcodes

The stakes are high when assessing the unmet housing need of disaster survivors. In some areas of Texas, especially those that are home to many low-income families, being undercounted could mean being passed over for the funds necessary to bring people back to safe, affordable and comfortable homes. Below are the most severely undercounted zip codes in the state of Texas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Additional Unmet Need*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>77642</td>
<td>Port Arthur</td>
<td>$12,958,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>77026</td>
<td>Houston - Kashmere Gardens, Fifth Ward</td>
<td>$9,381,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>77060</td>
<td>Houston - Greater Greenspoint</td>
<td>$8,286,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>77078</td>
<td>East Houston, East Little York, uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$6,212,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>77539</td>
<td>Texas City, Dickinson, League City</td>
<td>$6,161,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>77640</td>
<td>Port Arthur</td>
<td>$5,868,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>77044</td>
<td>Lake Houston and unincorporated Harris County</td>
<td>$5,830,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>77382</td>
<td>Rockport, Fulton, uninc. Aransas County</td>
<td>$5,665,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>77013</td>
<td>Houston - Northshore, El Dorado/Oates Prairie</td>
<td>$5,313,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>77028</td>
<td>Houston - Trinity, Kashmere Gardens, Settegast, East Houston</td>
<td>$5,129,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>77089</td>
<td>Houston - Southbelt/Ellington and uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$5,008,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>77034</td>
<td>Houston - South Belt/Ellington, Edgebrook, Clear Lake</td>
<td>$5,002,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>77084</td>
<td>Houston - Addicks Park Ten, uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$4,792,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>77096</td>
<td>Houston - Meyerland, Willow Meadows, Westbury, Brays Oaks</td>
<td>$4,162,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>77016</td>
<td>Houston - East Little York/Homestead, Trinity/Houston Gardens</td>
<td>$4,052,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>77336</td>
<td>Aransas Pass, Ingleside, uninc. Aransas and San Patricio County</td>
<td>$3,862,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>77015</td>
<td>Houston - Northshore, Galena Park, uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$3,548,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>77630</td>
<td>Orange, West Orange, Pinehurst, uninc. Orange County (south)</td>
<td>$3,455,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>77090</td>
<td>Houston - Greater Greenspoint, uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$3,410,527</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>77075</td>
<td>Houston - Greater Hobby, South Belt/Ellington</td>
<td>$3,392,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$111,520,079</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Most Underfunded Renters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Additional Unmet Need*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>77642</td>
<td>Port Arthur</td>
<td>$28,281,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>77044</td>
<td>Lake Houston and unincorporated Harris County</td>
<td>$27,154,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>77539</td>
<td>Texas City, Dickinson, League City</td>
<td>$21,640,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>77037</td>
<td>Houston - Greenspoint</td>
<td>$21,325,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>77662</td>
<td>Vidor, Pine Forest, Rose City, uninc. Jefferson County</td>
<td>$21,181,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>77640</td>
<td>Port Arthur</td>
<td>$20,920,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>77028</td>
<td>Houston - East Houston, Trinity/Houston Gardens, Settegast, Kashmere Gardens</td>
<td>$20,424,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>77089</td>
<td>Houston - Southbelt/Ellington and uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$18,824,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>77034</td>
<td>Houston - South Belt/Ellington, Edgebrook, Clear Lake</td>
<td>$16,518,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>77039</td>
<td>Houston - Greater Greenspoint</td>
<td>$15,487,093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>78382</td>
<td>Rockport, Fulton, uninc. Aransas County</td>
<td>$15,163,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>77630</td>
<td>Orange, West Orange, Pinehurst, uninc. Orange County (south)</td>
<td>$14,570,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>77632</td>
<td>Orange, uninc. Orange County (north)</td>
<td>$14,549,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>77078</td>
<td>East Houston, East Little York, uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$14,162,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>77511</td>
<td>Alvin, Hillcrest, League City, uninc. Brazoria and Galveston Counties</td>
<td>$14,047,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>77093</td>
<td>Houston - Eastex-Jensen Area, uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$12,065,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>77587</td>
<td>South Houston (city)</td>
<td>$11,807,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>77535</td>
<td>Dayton, Dayton Lakes, Kenefick, Liberty, Mont Belvieu, Old River-Winfree, uninc. Liberty County</td>
<td>$10,838,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>77075</td>
<td>Houston - Greater Hobby, South Belt/Ellington</td>
<td>$10,484,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>77084</td>
<td>Houston - Addicks Park Ten, uninc. Harris County</td>
<td>$10,408,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$339,049,752</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This is based not just on added LMI households, but also on already included households moving to a higher damage category.*
Derrick F Freeman  
Mayor  
City of Port Arthur  
444 4th Street  
Port Arthur, Texas 77640

Dear Mayor Freeman:

Thank you for your letter regarding Hurricane Harvey Round I CDBG-DR Method of Distribution (MOD). The Executive Committee meeting of the SETRPC that you refer to in your letter was an opportunity for all communities in the region to discuss the region’s approach to the development of the MOD. A discussion took place at the meeting regarding possible methods that could be employed to assess the storms impact for use in developing a formula for the MOD. With the Executive Committee’s blessing we (staff) set out to develop a way forward.

SETRPC is very aware of the comments the City of Port Arthur made at our Public Hearing in May. As with all comments received throughout this process, we took the City’s comments to heart and appreciate the perspective brought to the hearing. Please be assured that with or without the City’s “insistence” we will follow all applicable guidelines in the development of the MOD as we have done consistently for over a decade of developing MODs and program guidelines for disaster recovery.

I take the strongest exception to your assertion in your letter that SETRPC is proposing a MOD that contradicts GLO and HUD’s regional approach to this process. We are experienced enough at SETRPC to know that we must follow program guidelines in spirit and letter. We also know that this is a plan that must be voted on by our member jurisdictions. So, active member participation and input is vital to the process.

As I have done on many occasions, I encourage you, Mayor, to be an active voting member of the Executive Committee and attend these critical meetings. While your staff’s attendance is always welcome, there is no substitute for having your voice heard by the other jurisdictions and for building the regional relationships that are so important during these challenging times.

The Harvey Advisory Committee recently reviewed the draft MOD. We anticipate the release of the MOD this Friday, July 6th. You will be receiving a copy via email or you can access on our website. We look forward to hearing your perspective regarding the MOD at the upcoming public hearings or in written comment.

Sincerely,

Shawn P. Davis

Cc: Chris Kirkendall, President SETRPC, Michael Shane Sinegal, Secretary SETRPC  
Pete Phillips, Sr. Deputy Director GLO

President - Chris Kirkendall, Hardin County | 1st VP – John Gothia, Orange County | 2nd VP - Rebecca Ford, Bevil Oaks  
3rd VP – Mary Adams, Kountze | Treasurer – Kirk Roccaforte, Bridge City | Secretary – Michael Sinegal, Jefferson County  
Executive Director - Shawn P. Davis  
2210 Eastex Freeway Beaumont, Texas 77703-4929  
(409) 899-8444 | (409) 347-0138 Fax  
setrpc@setrpc.org | http://www.setrpc.org
June 25, 2018

Shaun P. Davis  
Executive Director  
Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission  
2210 Eastex Freeway  
Beaumont, TX 77703  

**Re: Hurricane Harvey Round I CDBG-R Method of Distribution (MOD)**

Dear Mr. Davis,

On Wednesday, June 20, 2018, representatives from the City of Port Arthur attended the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) Executive Committee Meeting in Beaumont, TX, wherein you presented committee members with an update on Hurricane Harvey Round I Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") Recovery ("CDBG-R") Funding.

The agenda provided at the meeting (See Attachment A), highlighted SETRPC's intention to develop and deliver a Method of Distribution (MOD) for the Round I CDBG-R funding for buy-out/acquisition and infrastructure projects.

We wish to go on record and call attention to, the comments provided to SETRPC at their May 24, 2018, public hearing regarding this matter (See Attachment B). The comments provided articulated very clearly, what the City of Port Arthur was asking, and now insisting, that the distribution method guidelines and requirements be adhered to as enacted for Hurricane Harvey Disaster Assistance and Recovery by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The method of distribution that SETRPC is now proposing contradicts GLO’s and HUD’s regional approach and denies severely impacted communities, such as Port Arthur, their appropriate share of resources consistent with the federal and state guidance for MOD. As a result, it makes it more difficult for communities, such as ours to address long-term recovery and restoration for infrastructure, housing, and economic revitalization efforts.

Sincerely,

Derrick F. Freeman  
Mayor  
City of Port Arthur, Texas

Michael Shane Sinegal  
Jefferson County Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Jefferson County

Cc: George P. Bush, Commissioner  
Pete Phillips, Sr. Deputy Director of Community Development & Revitalization
ATTACHMENT “A”
AGENDA
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 20, 2018, 12:00 PM
MAYOR HOMER E. NAGEL ROOM

1. **INVOCATION**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **APPROVAL OF MAY 16, 2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**
   Action Item (Mailed in Packets)

4. **APPROVAL OF APRIL 2018 TREASURER’S REPORT**
   Action Item (Mailed in Packets)

5. **ADMINISTRATION**
   - Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2017
     (Draft Copy to be Posted to SETRPC Website on Monday, June 18th)
     Action Item

6. **DISASTER RECOVERY DIVISION**
   - Update on Disaster Recovery
     Information Item

7. **FUTURE CALENDAR**
   Information Item

8. **ADMINISTRATION**
   - Acceptance of SETRPC 1st Vice-President’s Resignation, and Nomination and Approval of New SETRPC 1st Vice-President
     Action Item
   - Oath of Office Administered to 1st Vice-President
     Information Item

9. **OTHER, OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
June 20, 2018

TO: SETRPC Executive Committee Members

FROM: Shanna Burke, Disaster Recovery Division Director

SUBJECT: Disaster Recovery Update – Information Item

Short Term Recovery Update (FEMA Project)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permanent Solution Achieved, Unit Removed</th>
<th>Hardin (County)</th>
<th>Jefferson (County)</th>
<th>Orange (County)</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit on Site, Monthly Recertification In Progress</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>1274</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pending Verification of Unit Placement (includes commercial properties)</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>41</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Withdrawn or Ineligible

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hardin (County)</th>
<th>Jefferson (County)</th>
<th>Orange (County)</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attached you will find an email from Christa Lopez at the Texas General Land Office (GLO) related to the process for the sale and extension of MHU’s. Due to needs in the area, GLO will be working with local communities, individuals and FEMA to review and potentially grant requests for the sale of units or the extending of time for individuals in units.

Long Term Recovery Update (CDBG Project)

Disaster Recovery Division (DRD) Staff continue to work on developing a Method of Distribution (MOD) for Harvey Buy-Out/Acquisition and Infrastructure funds.

GOAL: Identify the impact of damage for all areas and determine numbers of population affected.

Step One - determine water levels for all incorporated cities and unincorporated areas of each county in the Southeast Texas region. Three levels will be determined: Level 1 - .5 - 1.5 feet / Level 2 - 1.6 - 3 feet / Level 3 - 3 feet +.
From: Christa Lopez <Christa.Lopez@GLO.TEXAS.GOV>
Date: June 5, 2018 at 7:47:07 AM CDT
To: Greg Fountain <gfountain@co.jefferson.tx.us>, Jeff Branick <Jbranick@co.jefferson.tx.us>, Joel Ardon <Jardon@co.orangita.us>, "Dean Crooks" <dcrooks@co.orange.tx.us>, "Lt. Aaron Tupper" <Aaron.Tupper@co.hardin.tx.us>, 'Wayne McDaniel' <Wayne.McDaniel@co.hardin.tx.us>
Cc: Jerritt Gideon <jerritt.gideon@GLO.TEXAS.GOV>, Ryan Moeller <Ryan.Moeller@co.texas.gov>, Vada Dillawn <Vada.Dillawn@GLO.gtas.gov>, Shaun Davis <sdavis@setrcc.org>, Pete Phillips <Pete.Phillips@GLO.TEXAS.GOV>, Heather Lagrone <Heather.Lagrace@GLO.TEXAS.GOV>, Jet Hays <Jet.Hays@GLO.TEXAS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Letters about MHUs

Thank you all for the meeting yesterday and the great dialogue. I sincerely hope we can make changes for the better for future disasters based on the work we do today and through Hurricane Harvey Recovery efforts.

Attached and below is the process for the sales and extension of MHUs. I heard clearly that based on need an individual review and extension would be granted for those households that demonstrated a need in Jefferson, Hardin and Orange. I will wait to hear back from you and the cities within your jurisdictions regarding allowing for the sales of MHUs in your jurisdictions.

As it works, I have been soliciting initial feedback and discussion from each of the 31 Direct Housing Mission counties.
Step 1 - the state asks the local jurisdiction to discuss
Step 2 - the local jurisdiction responds (each jurisdiction varies, some take it to the Commissioners Court, some is based on the judge’s decision, some is a joint decision between judge and EMC and some also loop in the Floodplain Manager).
Step 3 – the state then evaluates the needs based on the data from the recertification process
Step 4 – the state makes a recommendation to the Governor
Step 5 – the Governor forwards the request to FEMA
Step 6 – FEMA evaluates the request and renders a decision
   (there are many smaller steps and factors in between but this is the overall timeline)

Some information to consider is that in order to be able to sell a unit to a household it has to be allowed within that jurisdiction, the household has to show FEMA that they have used their IA funds appropriately, and the household has to adhere to any local permitting and rules.

See pages 66 and 81-86 in the IHPUG (Sept 2016) for reference along with the supplemental documentation attached. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/14835677086123-1201b6e9f9b99a3897c38a070f9dd6308971/FEMAinH_PUG_CoverEdit_December2016.pdf

Finally, you will see samples from DR-4266-TX MHU program, when an extension was requested.

Best,
Christa
ATTACHMENT “B”
AGENDA
PUBLIC HEARING - HURRICANE HARVEY ROUND 1
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING
(BUY-OUTS/ACQUISITION AND INFRASTRUCTURE)
Lamar University – Galloway Business Building – Landes Auditorium
Thursday, May 24, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.

• Welcome

• Discussion of Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Community Development Block Grant Funding
  • Types of Funding Available
  • Amount of Funding Available
  • Eligible Activities
  • Ineligible Activities

• Discussion of South East Texas Regional Planning Commission’s Method of Distribution

• Open Public Comment Period (Public Comment limited to 3 minutes per person)
  (Those not wishing to publicly comment may submit written comments by hand-delivery, mail, fax or email by 12:00 p.m., Thursday, May 31, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, SETRPC, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – sburke@setrpc.org)

• Closing Remarks
HURRICANE HARVEY – ROUND 1
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING INFORMATION
(BUY-OUTS/ACQUISITION AND INFRASTRUCTURE)

Local Buyout and Acquisition Program
The local buyout and acquisition program will remove homes from harm’s way.

Funding Availability
Total Funding $51,687,614
LMI Amount (70% of Total) $36,181,330

Method of Distribution Requirements
A minimum of $1,000,000 will be allocated to each local entity receiving funding through the MOD.

Eligible Entities
Units of local government and entities with the power of eminent domain authority.

Eligible Activities
- Buyouts;
- Acquisition;
- Relocation Assistance with buyout or acquisition activities;
- Down-payment Assistance with buyout or acquisition activities;
- Demolition only;
- Activities designed to relocate families outside of floodplains;
- Public service within the 15 percent cap (e.g., housing counseling, legal counseling, job training, mental health and general health services);
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) cost share.

Ineligible Activities
Incentive payments to households that move to disaster-impacted floodplains.

Local Infrastructure Program
The Local Infrastructure Program will provide disaster relief, long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure for local communities impacted by Hurricane Harvey. Each infrastructure activity must demonstrate how it will contribute to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing.

Funding Availability
Total Funding $105,013,221
LMI Amount (70% of Total) $ 73,509,255

Method of Distribution Requirements
A minimum of $100,000 will be allocated to each local entity receiving funding through the MOD.
Eligible Entities
Unites of local government (cities and counties).

Eligible Activities
All activities allowed under CDBG-DR, including but not limited to:
- Flood control and drainage repair and improvements, including the construction or rehabilitation of storm water management systems;
- Restoration of infrastructure (such as water and sewer facilities, streets, provision of generators, removal of debris, bridges, etc.);
- Demolition, rehabilitation of publicly or privately-owned commercial or industrial building and code enforcement;
- Economic development (such as microenterprise and small business assistance, commercial rehabilitation and special economic development activities, including; prioritizing assistance to businesses that meet the definition of a small business);
- Public service (such as job training and employment services, healthcare, child care and crime prevention within the 15 percent cap.)

Ineligible Activities
- CDBG-DR funds may not be used to enlarge a dam or levee beyond the original footprint of the structure that existed prior to the disaster event. CDBG-DR funds for levees and dams are required to:
  - Register and maintain entries regarding such structures with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Levee Database or National Inventory of Dams;
  - Ensure that the structure is admitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers PL84-99 Rehabilitation Program (Rehabilitation Assistance for Non-Federal Flood Control Projects);
  - Ensure the structure is accredited under the FEMA Nation Flood Insurance Program;
  - Maintain file documentation demonstrating a risk assessment prior to funding the flood control structure and documentation that the investment includes risk reduction measures.
- Funds may not be used to assist a privately-owned utility for any purpose.
- Buildings and facilities used for the general conduct of government (e.g., city halls, courthouses and emergency operation centers).
- No disaster recovery assistance will be considered with respect to any part of a disaster loss that is reimbursable by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), insurance or another source due in part to the restrictions against duplication of benefits outlined in the Action Plan. An activity underway prior to the Presidential Disaster Declaration will not qualify unless the disaster directly impacted said project.
- By law, (codified in the HCD Act as a note to 105(a)), the amount of CDBG-DR funds that may be contributed to a USACE project is $250,000 or less.
City of Port Arthur Public Hearing Comments

The City of Port Arthur offers the following comments to the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) regarding the Method of Distribution (MOD) for Disaster Assistance and Recovery Funding.

In developing the Method of Distribution for the region and for each jurisdiction impacted within the region, we would ask that the SETRPC adhere to the guidelines and requirements enacted for Hurricane Harvey Disaster Assistance and Recovery by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); that is, “to address long term recovery and restoration of infrastructure, housing and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas.”

Port Arthur was certainly impacted and distressed from this event. While Judge Branick has stated that based upon the numbers, Jefferson County is the 2nd most impacted county, we would offer that Port Arthur is the 1st most impacted jurisdiction in the County. With over $76 million in real property loss; 7,113 households damaged of which 5,240 had no flood insurance; coupled with median household income at 58% of the state average and unemployment well above the national average, the damage and the unmet need is here in Port Arthur.

Let me assure you that the City is prepared to implement a long term recovery program immediately upon receiving funding. The City of Port Arthur has developed an initial assessment of needs and projects requiring Disaster Assistance and Recovery funding. The assessments were based on HUD/FEMA assessments and Local Assessments conducted by City of Port Arthur and PAEDC. This recovery plan includes buyouts, acquisitions and related relocations and housing assistance. We have identified infrastructure projects to support these housing goals including drainage, roadways and water utilities. We are also actively pursuing major drainage mitigation projects. These activities are planned and underway. This funding is critical to seeing the plans to fruition and bringing Port Arthur back – stronger and more resilient to meet the future.

The City of Port Arthur will oppose any plan and MOD that does not reflect the GLO established goals and erode the City’s fair share of the distribution of these funds that are critical to our long term recovery. We wish to thank our partners at the SETRPC, Drainage District 7 and Jefferson County. We appreciate the work that you do to serve
the Citizens of Port Arthur and we look forward to maximizing these funds for the benefits of these same citizens.

The City requests that all comments become a part of the permanent public record and be presented to the Texas General Land Office and U.S. Department of HUD in conjunction with SETRPC Plan submitted to GLO.

Thank you
SUBMITTED WRITTEN QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/RESPONSES
Shanna Burke

From: Shanna Burke
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 9:28 AM
To: 'LADY LIL KOUNTRY'
Subject: RE: Hurricane Harvey Recovery Funds Disputation

Ms. Lewis,

Thank you very much for your comments related to the SETRPC’s Hurricane Harvey Round 1 Method of Distribution. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: LADY LIL KOUNTRY [mailto:brendalewis56.bl@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 8:46 PM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Hurricane Harvey Recovery Funds Disputation

I pray that everyone who needs repairs in the Port Arthur area can receive the help that they need. Some people can not drive to Beaumont to share their concerns of being left out. Some people do not own computers, or know how to email on their cell phones, please do not count Port Arthur area out and yes this includes, Port Acres, El Vista, Palomar, Westside, East side and other areas that was devastated by Hurricane Harvey. Please help us all.

Thank you, Brenda Lewis
409-540-7001
Damage Address: 1004 Sabine Ave
Port Arthur 77642.
Shanna Burke

From: Shanna Burke
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 9:33 AM
To: 'Gk Richard'
Subject: RE: Flooding in Port Arthur

Mr. Richard,

Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

To answer your specific question, the Texas General Land Office (GLO) will be the entity running the housing portion of the Harvey funding designated for Southeast Texas. At this time, I do not have specific information about the program and the options to be offered. I would advise you to regularly check the GLO’s website (www.glo.texas.gov) and the SETRPC’s website (www.setrpc.org) for any forthcoming information.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Gk Richard [mailto:gkrich007@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 7:40 AM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Flooding in Port Arthur

Shanna,

I currently have 2 rental properties that have been off line since the Aug 29th flood in Port Arthur. The properties are 509 H.O. Mills & 519 H.O. Mills Blvd. Those properties were bringing in an income of $18000.00 per month prior to the flood. Because these properties are rentals, I received no financial help from FEMA and the SBA refused to grant me a loan to get the properties back online. I am very irritated that my properties were flooded from water drained into our neighborhood from Canals A, B and C maintained by Drainage District 7 (see videos below). There is a serious housing shortage in Port Arthur, is there any grants available to get my properties back on line as soon as possible?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LDbSH3yqS8g&t=7s
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrZ5ZYdL7o

Thanks

Greg Richard
Mr. Arendale,

Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

At your request, you will also be placed on an email list for notifications about any upcoming information.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

Good Morning Mrs. Burke,

I am a property owner in Bridge City that flooded during Harvey. The property has flooded repeatedly over the past decade and is extremely likely to flood again. I am very interested in the possibility of Bridge City's Harvey Buyout program. Please keep my contact information as information regarding the buyout program comes available or forward this email/contact information to whoever will be handling the program for Bridge City. I appreciate your help.

Thank you,

Shelbs Investments, LLC
D. Arendale
(409) 718-8255
Shanna Burke

From: Shanna Burke
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 9:44 AM
To: 'natedogg8170'
Subject: RE: Grant funds

Mr. Nate,

Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

To address your specific questions, the funding that we will have available will be for public infrastructure projects, buy-out and acquisition of property and housing repair related needs. There will be no funding available for social service related items such as furniture and clothing. I would advise you to please call 2-1-1 (it is just like dialing 9-1-1 but dial 2-1-1 instead). This is a local information and referral network that may be able to lead you to organizations that may be providing they type of services that you need.

Thanks,
Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: natedogg8170 [mailto:natedogg8170@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 10:26 AM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Grant funds

I recently saw where there was going to be funds, or grants made available to flood victims of Harvey, me an my family lost everything in this flood, however with fema helping we were able to at least get flooring and walls done, an painted, now needing furniture an clothing. Will this grant, funds be available to everyone who was effected? An if so how do we get on a list if any? My home address is 8170 San Bruno Bmt Tx. That whole neighborhood was flooded.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Ms. Rahe,

Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

I will make sure our system is updated with your contact information so you will receive all correspondence and information we release going forward.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

Good Afternoon Shanna,

My name is Lauren Rahe and I am the Executive Director of Ubi Caritas Health Ministries. Clark Moore our retired Executive Director forwarded me an email yesterday that he received about the meeting tonight. I am going to try and make the meeting tonight but I have a speaking engagement that I previously committed to tonight not being aware of this meeting. Could you please make sure that our organization contact information is updated in your system.

Ubi Caritas was founded in 1998 as an Episcopal Outreach Ministry of the Diocese of Texas to focus on the health and social needs of an underserved area of south Beaumont Recently the Episcopal Health Foundation with the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation used our facility to interview and survey those impacted by Hurricane Harvey in the Golden Triangle area which Ubi Caritas serves. In the report presented from their research it was found that nearly half (46%) say they or someone else in their household lost job-related income as a result of the storm, such as getting fewer hours at work, losing a job entirely or losing income from a small business or unpaid missed days. One in five say they had a car or other vehicle that was damaged or destroyed. Four in 10, (43%) affected residents say they do not expect any of their financial losses to be covered by insurance or other assistance. In addition, the loss of financial means effects has led to serious hardships for many affected residents. For example, three in ten, (29%) of all affected residents report that they or a household member have fallen behind in their rent or mortgage payments since the storm. The percentages are largest among Hispanic (36%) and Black residents (31%) and those with self-reported incomes below the federal poverty level (40%), which are the target demographics Ubi Caritas serves.

Not only does the research show the financial impact of our patients but the affect it has had on their health. The storm and its aftermath also are taking a toll on people’s mental and physical health. Research done shows, 13 percent of residents say someone in their household has a new or worsening health condition due to the hurricane. Most
confronting these emerging health problems are struggling to afford and obtain care. Approximately six in 10 (59%) say they have skipped or postponed needed medical or dental care, cut back on prescriptions or had difficulty getting mental health care since the storm. In addition, 13 percent of residents overall, say their mental health has gotten worse as a result of Harvey and mental health needs appear most acute in the Golden Triangle area.

For 20 years Ubi Caritas has been one of the primary health providers for the indigent and underserved populations of south Beaumont and the Golden Triangle area. Generations of families consider Ubi Caritas their medical home. In 2013 Ubi Caritas partnered with an FQHC to expand the services available to patients. Recently the FQHC has decided to pull out of the south area of Beaumont and focus on the central and north area of Beaumont, Texas. This will leave approximately 2,000 patients, most of them elderly, that have limited transportation resources having to find a way to see a medical provider outside of the area they live in. Also, the area where our services are located provides services to rural areas and residents throughout all of Southeast Texas.

To combat this crisis for patients currently receiving services, and the additional patients due to Hurricane Harvey Ubi Caritas will solely be responsible for the restoration and continuity of care at this facility. Not only do we focus on the healthcare of our patients we use patient care coordinators to help provide social outreach for them. Since Harvey we have also helped our patients navigate recovery efforts including going through the FEMA process. Having a relationship with our patients and community they look to Ubi to help them recover and assist them in this process because they trust Ubi Caritas.

Please forgive me for the long email but I wanted to convey the community we serve needs in case I am unable to make it to the meeting tonight. I also want to make sure that my contact information is added to the email list for our organization.

Thank you for your time.

Kindly,

Lauren Rahe, CMPE

Executive Director

Ubi Caritas Health Ministries
4442 Highland Ave.
Beaumont, TX 77705

Phone (409) 832-1924 x101
Cell (409) 540-4539
Fax (409) 832-0275

Pursuant to § 181.101(b)(2) of the Texas Health and Safety Code, this information may contain protected health information and is neither public information nor subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code. Unauthorized use, disclosure, or distribution to anyone other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete
this e-mail and any attachments, notify the sender immediately, and contact the Ubi Caritas Health Ministries Administrator at (409)-832-1924.
Ms. Washington,

Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area and specifically the Vista Village Community, related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Lelo! [mailto:lelwas@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 4:13 PM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Vouchers for Vista Village Community !!

Dear Ms. Burke,

The following attachment is an explanation of how Vouchers, appliances, food, clothing and home repairs should be given to Vista Village Community. My community was the hardest hit in Port Arthur, Texas. Anyone from the Board who is making decisions, make come to my home and personally speak to me. This is NOT a suggestion, this should and I pray WILL happen.

Thanks again,

Lelo Washington
436 Drummond St.
Port Arthur, Texas 77640-2517
409-983-4618 home
409-332-2238 cell
*Note: I have a list for Vista Village Community when Voucher misc is passed out

TO: SETRPC

FROM: Lela V. Washington

Actor: Shanna Duke

PAGES: 

FAX: (404) 347-0138

EMAIL: lewa50@ao1.com

PHONE: (404) 844-8441

PHONE: (404) 332-2238

COMMENTS: I am speaking for Vista Village in Port Arthur, Tx. Our community was the hardest hit in Port Arthur, Tx. I want all of my community to receive a large amount in voucher money. Hardly anyone had flood insurance because we were never told it had to have for many years. I want to be a part of cash distribution (4 above tents be a part of cash distribution). We need vouchers, appliances, food, clothing, water, and whatever we can receive for this community.

Thank you,

Lela V. Washington

436 Drummond St.

Port Arthur, TX 77640-2517

Vista Village Community
*Note: I have a list for Vista Village Community when Voucher MSC is passed out.

---

**Fax**

**TO:** SETRPE
**FROM:** Leol V. Washington

**ATTN:** Shanna Duke

**FAX:** (409) 347-0138
**PHONE:** (409) 844-8441

**EMAIL:** lelwys@aol.com

**PAGES:**

**PHONE:** (409) 283-2418
**PHONE:** (409) 332-2233

**COMMENTS:** I am speaking for Vista Village in Port Arthur, TX. Our community was the hardest hit in Port Arthur, TX. I want all of my community to receive a large amount of vouchers money. Only anyone had flood insurance because we were never told to have flood insurance. I want to be a part of cash distribution (4 above feet be a part of cash distribution). We need vouchers, appliances, food, clothing, and whatever we can receive for this community.

Thank you,

Leol V. Washington
436 Drummond St.
Port Arthur, TX 77640-2517

VISTA VILLAGE - COMMUNITY
Thank you for your comments related to the SETRPC's Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution. Your input is appreciated and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Star Gazer <gazer@mail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2018 9:24 AM
To: Harvey Comments <harveycomments@setrpc.org>
Subject: DISTRIBUTION COMMENTS

For consideration on buyouts-

- Select all homes that have been flooded a given number of times (at least 2 or 3 or whatever is agreed upon) and compile list
- Remove all homes that are above a selected elevation. 9ft?
- Agree on maximum payout for homes. If one 2 million dollar home is selected that will take a chunk away from other homes.
- Agree on how many homes that fit previous criteria are to be bought out.
- Put total number of submitted homes from bullet two in a lottery like drawing
- Draw the number of homes left from bullet two from lottery device.

Using a random lottery will remove all "favoritism" complaints based on status, race, political affiliation etc.

Anything else will most likely be considered biased.
Mr. Patronella,

Thank you for your comments related to interest in buy-out funds. The SETRPC is responsible for determining the distribution of funds to local communities. More detailed information about a program within your community will be available directly from the City of Orange.

Your input is appreciated and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

-----Original Message-----
From: John <jjsjpp@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2018 7:09 PM
To: Harvey Comments <harveycomments@setrpc.org>
Subject: Harvey Buyouts

Hi,
I'm John Patronella
My family has 2 homes on the city of orange, that have been flooded 3 times since 2008 (Ike, Sabine River flood, and Harvey). Harvey actually twice, 4" from Harvey which drained off and then 15" when all the water up north drained to the south. We had water in our homes for 10 days, before we could get back to clean them out. We live in the cove, port of orange in our backyard, house elevation 5.5 feet. I would be very interested in information about buyouts, or any other assistance that may be available to us.
105 E. Kentucky
112 E. Florida
Orange, Texas 77630
Thank You,
John Patronella
Sent from my iPhone
Shanna Burke

From: Harvey Comments
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 4:02 PM
To: 'Donald Olever'
Subject: RE: SETRPC Hurricane Harvey Draft Method of Distribution and Public Hearing Notices

Mr. Olever,

Thank you for your comments, your input is appreciated. The Texas General Land Office will be directly running all homeowner assistance programs related to Hurricane Harvey and will release information once it is available. Your comment will be included as part of the formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Donald Olever <dolever7@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2018 5:48 PM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Re: SETRPC Hurricane Harvey Draft Method of Distribution and Public Hearing Notices

Dear Madame,

I truly appreciate this email keeping me informed of the recovery efforts after Harvey. But I'm more interested in the SINGLE FAMILY HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On Fri, Jul 6, 2018, 3:28 PM Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org> wrote:

SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds

Related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds

Notice is hereby given that the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for $156,700,835 in Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds related to Buyouts/Acquisition and Infrastructure Funds. Both written and oral comments will be accepted.

Posting of Draft Method of Distribution – Friday, July 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. at www.setrpc.org and in hard copy at the SETRPC's Offices.
A Draft Method of Distribution is posted on the SETRPC website and is available in hard copy at the SETRPC Offices located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

Written comments regarding the Method of Distribution must be received via mail, fax or email by 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 to: Shanna Burke, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703; fax – (409) 347-0138; email – harveycomments@setrpc.org.

Orange County Public Hearing – Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Orange Public Library Auditorium, 220 North 5th Street, Orange, TX.

The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Hardin County Public Hearing – Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lumberton Performing Arts Center located at 103 South LHS Drive, Lumberton, TX.

The purpose will be to obtain comment on the Draft Method of Distribution.

Adoption/Denial of Proposed Method of Distribution – Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. at the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas, 77703.

The purpose will be for designated voting members of the SETRPC Executive Committee to adopt or deny the Proposed Method of Distribution.

The SETRPC will provide for reasonable accommodation for persons attending SETRPC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by SETRPC staff 48-hours prior to the function. Public hearings will be conducted in English and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to a function. Please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6386 for assistance.

For information about this posting, please call 409-899-8444, ext. 6386.

NOTE: The PDF documents attached to this email contain the Solicitation for Public Comment Notice above as well as the Draft SETRPC Method of Distribution for Hurricane Harvey related to buyout/acquisition and infrastructure funding. It is requested that you please post these on your website and/or in public posting areas in your offices for public review. Both documents are also available on the SETRPC website – www.setrpc.org.
Ms. Williams,

A copy of the SETRPC’s Draft Method of Distribution is available on the SETRPC’s website located at www.setrpc.org for review. It will be submitted to the Texas General Land Office once it is approved at the local level.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Pamela Williams <pamagape10@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 3:33 PM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Re: Hurricane Harvey: METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION TO FUND BUYOUTS, ACQUISITIONS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Ms. Burke, at your earliest convenience, please advise the status of the above captioned. Thank you.

On Thu, May 31, 2018, 2:26 PM Pamela Williams <pamagape10@gmail.com> wrote:

Noted with thanks.

On Thu, May 31, 2018, 10:34 AM Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org> wrote:

Ms. William,

Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC
Ms. Burke, at your earliest convenience, please advise the status of the above captioned. Thank you.

On Thu, May 31, 2018, 2:26 PM Pamela Williams <pamagape10@gmail.com> wrote:
Noted with thanks.

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Ms. Williams,

Thank you very much for your comments related to needs in the Southeast Texas area related to Hurricane Harvey. They have been noted and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke

SETRPC

Ms. Burke, I suggest the funds be distributed based on the number of houses designated by FEMA to be in FLOOD HAZARD/ FLOOD ZONE areas, in percentage portion among the 3 counties. Thx.
Collin Sheldon

From: Amelia Adams <amelia@texashousing.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Harvey Comments
Cc: Shaun Davis; Shanna Burke
Subject: Re: Method of Distribution Questions

Thanks a lot for the explanation.

Using inundation data does make sense, but I'm curious what the cutoff is for being considered inundated.

Do you have a more specific methodology that I can look at? For example, I'm curious about the details oh how you combined these data sources, whether GLO provided them or if you had to contact those organizations yourself, and what geographic level you used for determining what percentage of the population were impacted. The MOD as provided publicly doesn't offer any explanation of the details.

Thank you!

Amelia

On Mon, Jul 16, 2018 at 3:52 PM, Harvey Comments <harveycomments@setrpc.org> wrote:

Ms. Adams,

Thank you for your inquiry. The “impact” of the storm was determined by the development of a regional representation of water heights using inundation maps created by FEMA after Harvey, USGS/NOAA data and local jurisdictional reports to gather data points of water inundation in the region. Local jurisdictional reports include data points of water heights from volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials and community surveys conducted by the counties.

Using these data points of water depths in connection with the FEMA inundation map and USGS/NOAA data, we used GIS to find out the populations in those inundated areas which gave us the total “affected” population. We then divided the “affected” population of a jurisdiction by the total population of the jurisdiction from the 2016 census to get the percent of the jurisdiction “impacted.”

We used that percentage as the “impacted” population which is our “Storm Impact Distribution Factor.”

To answer your questions: 1) the data comes from FEMA inundation maps, USGS data, NOAA data, and local jurisdictional reports such as volunteer fire departments, drainage districts, emergency management officials, and community surveys; and 2) the total populations of each jurisdiction were taken from the 2016 Census.

Thank you,
From: Amelia Adams [mailto:amelia@texashousing.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 4:59 PM
To: Glenda Lacy <glacy@setrpc.org>
Subject: Fwd: Method of Distribution Questions

I'm forwarding this to you, since it appears Shanna is out of the office this week.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Amelia Adams <amelia@texashousing.org>
Date: Wed, Jul 11, 2018 at 4:56 PM
Subject: Method of Distribution Questions
To: sburke@setrpc.org

Hi Ms. Burke,

I had two questions about the MOD for SETRPC. Based on the information provided, I can't find any indication of this:

1) Where does the data for "impacted" population come from?
2) Where does the data for "total population" come from?

Thank you!

Amelia

--

Amelia Clare Adams
Community Planner
Fair Housing and Disaster Recovery Analyst

Texas Housers
510.418.7480

--

Amelia Clare Adams
Community Planner
Fair Housing and Disaster Recovery Analyst

Texas Housers
510.418.7480
Shanna Burke

From: Shanna Burke
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 11:31 AM
To: 'Mike Kunst'; Shaun Davis
Subject: RE: Follow up

Mike,

Thank you for your email. We are getting the data you have requested together and will have it to you as soon as that is complete.

Thanks,

Shanna

Mike Kunst [mailto:mkunst@cityofvidor.com]
From: Mike Kunst [mailto:mkunst@cityofvidor.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 8:57 AM
To: Shaun Davis <sdavis@setrpc.org>; Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Follow up

Shaun & Shanna,

I’m following up on my request from last night:

I would like a copy of the data sources used to determine the level of impact for all the entities.

An electronic version will be suffice.

Mike Kunst
City Manager
City of Vidor
1395 N. Main St.
Vidor, Texas 77662
409-769-5473 ext. 140
www.cityofvidor.com
Mr. Beard,

Thank you for your comments below related to the Draft SETRPC Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution (MOD). Your comments will be reviewed, evaluated and included as part of the official record that will be submitted with the final completed MOD to GLO.

Please note that the comment period regarding the process and the MOD has been active since the May 24, 2018 meeting held at Lamar University and will remain open until 5:00 p.m. this Friday, July 20, 2018.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

---

From: John Beard [mailto:jbeardjr@icloud.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Cc: rburton@portarthurtx.gov; harvey.robinson@portarthurtx.gov; Harold Doucet <doucethrs@gt.rr.com>
raymond.scott@portarthurtx.gov; Clinton McNair <clinton@texashousing.org>
Subject: Public Comment event for JeffCo

Dear Ms. Burke,

I would like to express my concern, and displeasure regarding the lack of a public meeting for Jefferson County regarding the SETRPC MOD for Harvey.
It has been expressed to me that the rationale for this decision was that the meeting at Lamar University in April, was said meeting.

The RPC set the comment period and hosted Lamar event in April for the sole purpose of allowing public input into the distribution process. Those in attendance were told that there would be a comment period and similar event once the MOD was completed.

Since said meeting was, to receive comments as to “how” the funds for the region were to be distributed, a “post MOD release” meeting could not occur prior to the creation or release of the MOD.

Regrettably, the lack of a post-MOD comment period meeting, in one of the most impacted coastal counties in Texas, defies reason and is an affront to residents who were affected.

Sincerely,

John Beard, Jr.
Shanna Burke

From: John Beard <jbeardjr@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Shanna Burke
Cc: rburton@portarthurtx.gov; harvey.robinson@portarthurtx.gov; Harold Doucet;
raymond.scott@portarthurtx.gov; Clinton McNair
Subject: Public Comment event for JeffCo

Dear Ms. Burke,

I would like to express my concern, and displeasure regarding the lack of a public meeting for Jefferson County regarding the SETRPC MOD for Harvey.
It has been expressed to me that the rationale for this decision was that the meeting at Lamar University in April, was said meeting.

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Regrettably, the lack of a post-MOD comment period meeting, in one of the most impacted coastal counties in Texas, defies reason and is an affront to residents who were affected.

Sincerely,

John Beard, Jr.
Port Arthur Citizen
Chairman, PA-CAN
You’re welcome, Melinda. We heard as much last night with the confusion regarding the different pots, especially with the CDBG and FEMA buy-out programs. Thank you for putting together what you are to try and help the communities you serve keep things as straight as possible.

Last night went well, which we were pleased with. Now one more to go then we can get this thing put together and submitted.

Take care!

Thanks,

Shanna

Thank you so much, Shanna!

Many of the communities are getting different pots of money confused, so we are trying to put together a reference guide of sorts to help them keep it all straight. This will be extremely helpful.

Hope all went well at the public hearing last night.

See you soon, and thanks again!

MELINDA SMITH | VICE PRESIDENT, PROJECT MANAGER | TRAYLOR & ASSOCIATES, INC.
P.O. Box 7035, Tyler, Texas  75711 | melinda@grtraylor.com
TEL 903-939-7405 | FAX 903-581-4245 | CELL 903-431-0407

Always working for your community...ALWAYS
SERVING THE CITIES AND COUNTIES OF TEXAS SINCE 1974

ATTENTION: Please note that any correspondence, such as email or letters sent to the staff or officials of any Texas Local Government may become a public record available for public/media review. A “Reply to All” of this email by the staff and/or officials of a Texas Local Government could, in certain instances, violate the Texas Open Meetings Act. It is recommended that local government staff and officials receiving this message reply only to Sender. DISCLAIRER: The information in this message is confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended for use only by the individual or
Melinda,

Per your request below, attached are the spreadsheets related to the Draft Harvey MOD allocations.

Thanks,

Shanna

---

From: Melinda Smith [mailto:Melinda@grtraylor.com]
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 4:30 PM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Favor, please?

Shanna,

Is there any way that you could please send me the spreadsheets you guys distributed in the MOD in Excel format? We are putting together some information for our communities in the area and the PDF just isn’t legible by the time we import it into the documents.

It would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

MELINDA SMITH | VICE PRESIDENT, PROJECT MANAGER | TRAYLOR & ASSOCIATES, INC.
P.O. Box 7035, Tyler, Texas 75711 | melinda@grtraylor.com
TEL 903-939-7405 | FAX 903-581-4245 | CELL 903-431-0407

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Shanna Burke

From: Shaun Davis
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Mike Kunst; Shanna Burke
Subject: RE: Another question

Mike – the local data used for Orange County was provided by the Orange County Appraisal District. The local data was then layered with the other data sources (FEMA, USGS, etc.) to provide the most complete model possible. I hesitate to use the term “those directly affected”. It might be semantics but it’s important to clarify that the model was built to represent areas that were impacted by Harvey’s rising water to the best extent possible to identify the population within those areas.

Shaun P. Davis
Executive Director
SETRPC

From: Mike Kunst [mailto:mkunst@cityofvidor.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:11 AM
To: Shaun Davis <sdavis@setrpc.org>; Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Subject: Another question

Shaun,

Who did SETRPC (or whomever complied the data) speak with at the City of Vidor to try to get numbers of those directly affected by Harvey?

Mike Kunst
City Manager
City of Vidor
1395 N. Main St.
Vidor, Texas 77662
409-769-5473 ext. 140
www.cityofvidor.com
Collin Sheldon

From: Mike Kunst <mkunst@cityofvidor.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 3:34 PM
To: Shaun Davis; Shanna Burke
Subject: FW: Another question
Attachments: OCAD homepage.png; 20180719152336.pdf

Shawn,

I have a concern about the local data provided by the Orange County Appraisal District (OCAD). The first attachment is a screenshot of OCAD’s website’s homepage. It states OCAD will continue to consider adjustments for property damage caused by Harvey until July 16, 2018. This was just this past Monday, one day before the public hearing in Orange County. When was the data for Orange County collected from OCAD? I spoke with many residents who did not report their damage to OCAD for a variety of reasons; I did not report my damage until May.

Also, you have stated the data cannot be self-reported. The data collected by OCAD is self-reported by the property owners to OCAD. The second attachment is the letter mailed by OCAD to property owners requesting the property owners self-report Harvey damage.

I have a concern that all the entities did not have the same data sources to determine the numbers. It seems empirically unsound.

Thank you for your consideration of the City’s concerns.

Mike Kunst
City Manager
City of Vidor
1395 N. Main St.
Vidor, Texas 77662
409-769-5473 ext. 140
www.cityofvidor.com

From: Shaun Davis <sdavis@setrpc.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Mike Kunst <mkunst@cityofvidor.com>; Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
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Shaun P. Davis
Executive Director
SETRPC

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Subject: Another question

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Mike Kunst
City Manager
City of Vidor
1395 N. Main St.
Vidor, Texas 77662
409-769-5473 ext. 140
www.cityofvidor.com
You can now file your STATE FORMS ONLINE.
Click on the Online Forms icon at the very top of this website to get started.

***ONLY A COUPLE WEEKS LEFT FOR STORM ADJUSTMENTS***

If your property sustained damage from Hurricane Harvey and it was not repaired as of January 1, 2018, you still have time to talk to an appraiser about those damages. Although the deadline to protest has past, we are still making adjustments for storm damages. The deadline to make these adjustments is July 16, 2018 at 5 p.m. If you fall into this category please contact our office at (409) 745-4777.

We hope that you find the information on these pages useful and informative. Our office develops and maintains records for twenty-two taxing entities located in Orange County. Within
December 4, 2017

Dear Property Owner:

As you are well aware, many properties located within Orange County were damaged by Hurricane Harvey earlier this year. State law requires the appraisal district to appraise each property based on its value as of January 1 of each year. The appraisal district is aware that many properties are not and will not be repaired by January 1 of this coming year. Due to the inability of our appraisers to inspect and observe interior status of all the damaged properties in the county, we are asking for your assistance in determining any remaining damage to your property.

We have included a questionnaire with this letter asking for information pertaining to any damage your property incurred during this disaster and what damage is remaining. Any evidence such as dated photos, insurance or contractor estimates, FEMA estimates, etc. will be considered when preparing your appraisal for the 2018 tax year. Please be aware that fences and downed trees will not be considered as those items are not included in your appraisal.

The appraisal district will accept the information on-line, by mail, or in person. The on-line filing system can be accessed on our website at www.orangecad.net or our Facebook page (Orange County Appraisal District). The district will not be able to take the information over the telephone.

Please remember that by law, the appraisal district is unable to consider any damages other than those remaining after January 1. With that said, the district does plan to review all evidence presented and make adjustments for any remaining damage. These adjustments will be reflected on the “Notice of Appraised Value” that will be mailed to you by April, 2018. The district will be unable to calculate your adjusted value before the notices are mailed.

Sincerely,

Michael Cedars
Chief Appraiser
Hurricane Harvey Damage Questionnaire

This form is designed to help you give your input as to any unrepaired damage to your home or business. **Per Texas Property Tax Law, only damage remaining after January 1, 2018 may be considered.**

Date: December 4, 2017  
Account Number: 008094-003660  
Name: CITY OF VIDOR  
Property Address: BOLIVAR  
VIDOR TX

Depth of water at the time of the flood: ________________________ Feet

Briefly describe the damage remaining to the building as of **January 1, 2018**:

Damage Description: ______________________________________

__________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________

Estimated cost to repair: $________

Type of documents used to estimate cost: ____________________________________________

Please attach any evidence that supports your damage estimates such as dated photos, insurance estimates or contractor bids. Do not provide original documents as all documents will be retained by our office.

I hereby certify that the information I have submitted is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and ability.

Signature: ___________________________  Date: ___________________________

Daytime Phone: _______________________  Cell: _________________________
Mike thank you for your comments. The data was collected a few weeks ago when we began putting the MOD together. The MOD is a proposal. It is the method that we are putting forward for your comment and input. If the City has an alternative method to propose this is your opportunity to do so. If empirical data existed we would most certainly use it.

Shaun P. Davis
Executive Director

> On Jul 19, 2018, at 3:34 PM, Mike Kunst <mkunst@cityofvidor.com> wrote:
> >
> > Shawn,
> >
> > I have a concern about the local data provided by the Orange County Appraisal District (OCAD). The first attachment is a screenshot of OCAD’s website’s homepage. It states OCAD will continue to consider adjustments for property damage caused by Harvey until July 16, 2018. This was just this past Monday, one day before the public hearing in Orange County. When was the data for Orange County collected from OCAD? I spoke with many residents who did not report their damage to OCAD for a variety of reasons; I did not report my damage until May.
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> 
> 
> Mike Kunst
> City Manager
> City of Vidor
> 1395 N. Main St.
> Vidor, Texas 77662
> 409-769-5473 ext. 140
> www.cityofvidor.com<http://www.cityofvidor.com>
> 
> 
> 
> 
> 
> From: Shaun Davis <sdavis@setrpc.org<mailto:sdavis@setrpc.org>>
> Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:46 AM
> To: Mike Kunst <mkunst@cityofvidor.com>; Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
> Subject: RE: Another question
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> Shaun P. Davis
> Executive Director
> SETRPC
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> Mike Kunst
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> www.cityofvidor.com<http://www.cityofvidor.com>
>
> <OCAD homepage.png>
> <20180719152336.pdf>
Please find attached an additional letter including data from the American Red Cross.

Mike Kunst
City Manager
City of Vidor
1395 N. Main St.
Vidor, Texas 77662
409-769-5473 ext. 140
www.cityofvidor.com

Please find attached the City of Vidor’s comments regarding the Method of Distribution along with a variety of other information regarding the storm and storm damage. The attached information is just some of the information available.

Also, here is a link to some drone footage: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B2vaWTkrbLwNWI3vRljhqTETtXNVk from Harvey.

Mike Kunst
City Manager
City of Vidor
1395 N. Main St.
Vidor, Texas 77662
409-769-5473 ext. 140
www.cityofvidor.com
Ms. Samuels,

Thank you for your comments. Your input is appreciated and will be included as part of the formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Faye Samuels <fayes66@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 5:53 PM
To: Harvey Comments <harveycmmts@setrpc.org>
Subject: Solicitation for Public Comment Harvey Community Development Block Grant Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funds Related to Buyouts/Acquisitions and Infrastructure Funds

Hello Ms. Burke,

My name is Ida Faye Samuels and I reside at 1725 14th St. Port Arthur, TX 77640. My City Councilman is Harold Doucet. Please see below my comments and suggestions for the $156,700,835 Community Development Block Grant. It has been reported that approximately 80% of the homes in Port Arthur were damaged by Hurricane / Tropical Storm Harvey. The city has not fully recovered from storms in previous years such as Hurricane Ike and Hurricane Rita. I think a portion of these funds should be used for the following:

1. Buyout properties in low lying neighborhoods and provide assistance to build up these lots; and, if interested, give the homeowners the opportunity to buy them back.
2. Invest a portion in a detailed study to identify the redrawing of the 100 year flood plain in the greater Port Arthur/Nederland/Port Neches / and Port Acres.
3. Tear down all vacant homes that have been unoccupied for more than 10 years and /or notify owners of estate properties to determine the current or future occupancy status for possible tear downs.
4. Hire a competent City Manager for the City of Port Arthur
5. Invest in a recruitment drive for experienced public works employees around the country
6. Invest in a detail study for Jefferson County Drainage District #7 to investigate it's possible culpability in the flooding problem that occurred during Hurricane Harvey
7. Use some of the funds for a comprehensive street repair program for the East of Houston Avenue portion of Port Arthur, TX. Every neighborhood street with at least 4 homes that are occupied by the homestead residents should be included

Please note as my comments and suggestions as a concerned citizen. I can be reached for further comments at 832-606-8634.
Thank you!
Ida Faye Samuels

Ida Faye Samuels
Realtor, Texas Residential Leasing Specialist
iPro Real Estate
Mobile Notary / Signing Agent
Direct: 832-606-8634
Fax: 888-553-2460

Texas Real Estate Commission Information About Brokerage Services
Consumer Protection Notice

YOU CAN DEPEND ON ME TO MEET AND EXCEED YOUR EXPECTATIONS!!
Shanna Burke

From: Harvey Comments
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 4:25 PM
To: 'Father Tom Phelan'
Subject: RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS on proposed method of distribution of proposed use of Buyout funds for Hurricane Harvey

Father Phelan,

Thank you for your comments related to the SETRPC’s Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution (MOD). Your input is appreciated and will be addressed and included as part of the MOD formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Father Tom Phelan <froptomphelan@stjudebmt.org>
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 3:27 PM
To: Harvey Comments <harveycomments@setrpc.org>
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENTS on proposed method of distribution of proposed use of Buyout funds for Hurricane Harvey

Please see attached

Fr. Tom Phelan
St. Jude Church
Ms. Shana Burke  
SETRPC  
2210 Eastex Freeway  
Beaumont, Texas  77703

Dear Ms. Burke,

Please accept my public comments regarding the proposed method of distribution for $51 million in buyout funds which HUD allocated to Texas and which the General Land Office directed to this region.

SETRPC has proposed a "share the wealth plan" where every town, no matter how small or how many households were impacted, receives at least $1 Million and the cities and areas with the greatest number of impacted residents receive at most $4.2 Million of the $51 Million. Three small cities receive over $40,000 per impacted person and five cities or unincorporated areas receive less than $200 per impacted person. E.g:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Area</th>
<th># of “Impacted”</th>
<th>SETRPC Proposed</th>
<th>Grant Amount per “Impacted” individual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taylor Landing</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$1.333 Million</td>
<td>$60,598/person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nome</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>$1.138 Million</td>
<td>$49,490/person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>$1.081 Million</td>
<td>$40,070/person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson Co (not in city)</td>
<td>14,946</td>
<td>$2.685 Million</td>
<td>$180/person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardin Co (not in city)</td>
<td>21,838</td>
<td>$3.437 Million</td>
<td>$157/person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Co (not in city)</td>
<td>33,862</td>
<td>$4.104 Million</td>
<td>$121/person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Arthur</td>
<td>49,528</td>
<td>$4.207 Million</td>
<td>$85/person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaumont</td>
<td>92,296</td>
<td>$3.800 Million</td>
<td>$41/person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Question: How does this outcome make sense? Why is there a $1 Million minimum grant? Are there households in all recipient communities which qualify and want a buyout?

Questions: Who will administer the buyouts and establish the maximum buyout support? SETRPC or cities? Will this fall to the agencies that are doing intake, or this the fall to the LTR committees?

Question: Will this plan result in a significant disparity between what cities/areas offer in buyout support?
The method for coming up with these results is obscure and not explained

SETRPC method relies heavily on the number of “impacted” individuals in each city rather than number of impacted households even though buyouts will be done by households, not individuals. SETRPC presents a table of “factors” and does not adequately explain to the public how these multiple “factors” operate to fairly determine the amount each city/area will receive. SETRPC also does not indicate how it uses data from FEMA, NOAA, USGS or other “objective and verifiable” sources to identify the location of the most flood prone houses in the region and within each city/area. Instead, it relies on the proportion of “impacted” individuals in each city/area to drive the distribution. This reduces the range of grants so that every city gets at least $1 Million but no city gets more than $4.2 Million.

**Question:** Most FEMA and flood data is collected by household. Why is SETRPC using individuals?

**Question:** What makes an individual “impacted” for purposes of this plan? When is he/she not “impacted”?

70% of these federal funds must be used to assist low-to-moderate income communities or households. How will SETRPC assure that these requirements are met if a community is not over 51% low-to-moderate income or too few low-to-moderate income families want to take a buyout?

**Question:** Will SETRPC allow a city to use their buyout funds for infrastructure if too few households want or qualify for a buyout? Would SETRPC transfer unused buyout funds from a city where they are not being used to a city where more qualifying households want a buyout?

Thank you for all your wonderful work to ameliorate the conditions for the families suffering as a result of Hurricane Harvey.

Sincerely,

**Rev. Thomas E. Phelan**
St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church
6825 Gladys Ave.
Beaumont, Texas 77706
Mr. Kuykendall,

Thank you for your comments related to SETRPC's Method of Distribution (MOD). Your input is appreciated and will be addressed and included as part of the MOD formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

-----Original Message-----
From: Clay Kuykendall <mail@setrpc.org>
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 9:29 AM
To: SETRPC <setrpc@setrpc.org>
Subject: New Message From SETRPC - Get In Touch

We attended last night’s hearing. We have one question after looking over the document. What was the basis for the determination that 78% of the population in Beaumont was impacted by Harvey? Very few had water in their homes so it wasn’t based on flooding?
Thank you, Clay Kuykendall
Mr. Beard,

Thank you for your comments and suggestions related to SETRPC's Method of Distribution (MOD). Your input is appreciated and will be addressed and included as part of the MOD formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: John Beard <jbeardjr@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 4:37 PM
To: Shanna Burke <sburke@setrpc.org>
Cc: maryelen.williams@glo.texas.gov; Harold Doucet <doucethrs@gt.rr.com>; raymond.scott@portarthurtx.gov; harvey.robinson@portarthurtx.gov; Clinton McNair <clinton@texashousing.org>
Subject: Comments and suggestions to the SETRPC on Harvey MOD To the Executive...

Comments and suggestions to the SETRPC on Harvey MOD

To the Executive Director, Board of Directors and Staff

I respectfully submit these comments for consideration regarding the proposed MOD for the SETRPC.

This MOD lacks specificity and detail as to how it will address distribution, unmet need in repetitive flood prone areas; it fails to show the methodology and data used to derive at the distribution, or how families with "unmet needs" will be targeted to impact the most needy and affected.

How does the SETRPC plan to aid the LMI people in repetitive loss areas?

The MOD refers to "affected populations", but does not define who they are based on the HUD/FEMA criteria, nor use or present figures illustrating what percent of the affected are LMI.

The MOD also fails to represent those families below the $8,000 threshold, leaving significant numbers of people with needs being "unmet".

What is the justification for offering low LMI, lesser impacted areas, more money per capita than cities with greater substantial damage?

The MOD fails to show how various ethnic groups in the region's cities will receive assistance, or how much per capita, based on race, unmet needs, and LMI.

What is the plan for fund distribution of any unused funds?

In sum, I believe the current MOD for SETX needs to be more definitive, with a clearly outlined methodology and data used; with clearly defined terms, geographical area and their qualified LMI target populations; and verifiable calculations to substantiate the allocations, distribution process with assurances to verify target areas and groups are equitably and fairly aided in recovery.
Respectfully submitted,

John Beard, Jr.
Chairman, PA-CAN
Port Arthur, TX
409-626-1179
Reverend Walker,

Thank you for your comments related to SETRPC’s Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution (MOD). Your input is appreciated and will be addressed and included as part of the MOD formal comment record.

Thanks,

Shanna Burke
SETRPC

From: Oveal Walker <walkerov@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 4:49 PM
To: Harvey Comments <harveycomments@setrpc.org>
Subject: Harvey Comments

Reverend Oveal Walker, III
Reverend Oveal Walker, III
The Baptist Ministers’ Union of Beaumont and vicinity and the Ministers Brotherhood Alliance, two group of local African American pastors oppose the method of distribution of the Harvey relief funds until SETRPC can provide adequate answers to the questions listed below.

**Questions to SETRPC about their proposed funding for buyouts**

1) **The proposed allocations do not pass the common-sense test**

**Question:** Why does SETRPC establish $1 Million as the minimum grant? The SETRPC model allocates $3.5 Million to three small cities with a total of 72 “impacted” individuals while it makes an allocation of $3.8 Million to Beaumont with a total 92,226 “impacted” individuals? How does this outcome make sense?

**Question:** Why is SETRPC making an $8 Million “special allocation... to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received 100% damage” when the total “impacted” population of those communities is 2,718. By contrast, Beaumont, Port Arthur and Orange have a total allocation of $11.2 Million but an “impacted” population of 153,995. Similarly, unincorporated areas of Jefferson, Hardin and Orange Counties receive a total allocation of $10.2 Million but have a total impacted population of 70,646. How do these outcomes make sense?

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**Questions:** Who will administer the buyouts and establish the maximum buyout support for each household? SETRPC or cities? If SETRPC will establish the maximum, what is the proposed maximum amount of buyout support for each household in the region? If each city/area will establish the maximum, how will SETROC assure that there are not significant disparities between what cities/areas can offer in buyout support?

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4) Lack of clearly explained methodology and a public hearing in Jefferson County

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Spokesperson
Reverend Oveal Walker III - (409) 504-3468
Reverend Gary Cantue - (409) 895-0399
Reverend Randy Vaughn (409) 963-8218
Reverend Oveal Walker III
Pastor

2230 Pierce Street
Beaumont, TX 77703
Phone: 409-504-3468
Fax: 409-835-7171

Fax Form

To: Harvey Comments
FAX: (409) 3470138

From: Reverend Oveal Walker III

Date Sent: July 20, 2018
Time: 4:55 p.m.
Number of pages including cover page: 2

Message:
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SETRPC

---

From: Joe Higgs <jhiggsne@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 4:49 PM
To: Harvey Comments <harveycomments@setrpc.org>; TMO Houston <email.tmohouston@gmail.com>
Subject: Comments by Gulf Coast Leadership Council to SETRPC regarding the proposed MOD for Buyouts

Please confirm by return email that these comments have been received by SETRPC and will be considered.

Comments to SETRPC
The Metropolitan Organization (TMO) is a coalition of 30 congregations and organizations located in Harris and Fort Bend Counties. TMO and our training affiliate, Gulf Coast Leadership Council (GCLC), are also working with clergy and faith leaders in Jefferson and Orange Counties who are working on recovery in Southeast Texas. We have reviewed the proposed Method of Distribution for Buyout funds proposed by Southeast Texas Regional Planning (SETRPC) and we have a number of questions and concerns.

We oppose the current proposed MOD unless and until SETRPC can explain and justify this proposed allocation of funds on a number of grounds.

1) The proposed allocations do not pass the common-sense test

SETRPC has proposed a “share the wealth plan” where every town, no matter how small or how many households were impacted, receives at least $1 Million and the cities and areas with the greatest number of impacted residents receive at most $4.2 Million of the $51 Million. Three small cities receive over $40,000 per impacted person and five cities or unincorporated areas receive less than $200 per impacted person.

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SETRPC method relies heavily on the number of “impacted” individuals in each city rather than number of impacted households even though buyouts will be done by households, not individuals. SETRPC presents a table of “factors” and does not adequately explain to the public how these multiple “factors” operate to fairly determine the amount each city/area will receive. SETRPC also does not indicate how it uses data from FEMA, NOAA, USGS or other “objective and verifiable” sources to identify the location of the most flood prone houses in the region and within each city/area. Instead, it relies on the proportion of “impacted” individuals in each city/area to drive the distribution. This reduces the range of grants so that every city gets at least $1 Million but no city gets more than $4.2 Million.

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Collin Sheldon

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Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 4:49 PM
To: Harvey Comments; TMO Houston
Subject: Comments by Gulf Coast Leadership Council to SETRPC regarding the proposed MOD for Buyouts
Attachments: Comments by Gulf Coast Leadership Council to SETRPC regarding their proposed allocation of Buyout funds.docx; Summary of SETRPC proposed use of Buyout funds.ods

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## Gulf Coast Leadership Council Summary of SETRPC Plan

### Proposed Grants Sorted by County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cities with <strong>&quot;Special Allocation&quot;</strong></th>
<th># identified by SETRPC as &quot;Impacted&quot; Population</th>
<th>Proposed grant Amount</th>
<th>Grant per &quot;impacted&quot; individual</th>
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<td>Jeff Co Uninc</td>
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<td>$2,685,101</td>
<td>$180</td>
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<td><strong>$205</strong></td>
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</table>

* SETRPC says "A special allocation was made to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received >100% damage."

SETRPC says Port Neches and Kountze "opted out of the buyouts/acquisitions program"

### Unincorporated Areas

| Total Grants | $10,226,880 |
| Impacted Pop | 70,646      |

### Beaumont, Port Arthur & Orange

| Total Grants | $11,256,787 |
| Impacted Pop | 153,995    |
### Gulf Coast Leadership Council Summary of SETRPC Plan

#### Proposed Grants Sorted by County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cities with &quot;Special Allocation&quot;*</th>
<th># Identified by SETRPC as &quot;Impacted&quot; Population</th>
<th>Proposed grant Amount</th>
<th>Grant per &quot;impacted&quot; individual</th>
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<td>$207</td>
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# Gulf Coast Leadership Council Summary of SETRPC Plan

## Proposed Grants Sorted by Amount of Grant

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# Gulf Coast Leadership Council Summary of SETRPC Plan

## Proposed Grants Sorted by Amount per "impacted" individual

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Total: $3,553,344
Gulf Coast Leadership Council Summary of SETRPC Plan

Proposed Grants Sorted by Number of "impacted" individuals

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<td>$40,070.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nome</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>$1,138,271</td>
<td>$49,490.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taylor Landing</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$1,333,160.00</td>
<td>$60,598.18</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Gulf Coast Leadership Council Summary of SETRPC Plan

### Proposed Grants Sorted by County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cities with &quot;Special Allocation&quot;**</th>
<th># identified by SETRPC as &quot;Impacted&quot; Population</th>
<th>Proposed grant Amount</th>
<th>Grant per &quot;impacted&quot; individual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bevil Oaks</td>
<td>1,242</td>
<td>$257,094</td>
<td>$207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Forest</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>$105,156</td>
<td>$207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose City</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>$108,261</td>
<td>$207</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rose Hill Acres</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>$92,115</td>
<td>$207</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HARDIN CO</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hardin Co Uninc</td>
<td>21,838</td>
<td>$4,520,466</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lumberton</td>
<td>2,496</td>
<td>$516,672</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silsbee</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>$79,281</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sour Lake</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>$69,759</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JEFFERSON CO</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Co Uninc</td>
<td>14,946</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beaumont</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>Groves</td>
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<td>$1,062,531</td>
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<td>Nederland</td>
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<td>Port Arthur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taylor Landing</td>
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<td>$4,554</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ORANGE CO</strong></td>
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<td>Orange Co Uninc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinehurst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vidor</td>
<td>3,293</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Orange</td>
<td>2,006</td>
<td>$415,242</td>
<td>$207.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Three County Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>249,359</strong></td>
<td><strong>$51,617,313</strong></td>
<td><strong>$207</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* SETRPC says " A special allocation was made to four (4) small, vulnerable communities that received %100 damage."

SETRPC says Port Neches and Kountze "opted out of the buyouts/acquisitions program"