# Hurricane Harvey Citizen Participation Plan:

The Texas General Land Office (GLO) Community Development and Revitalization Program (CDR) citizen participation plan for the Hurricane Harvey allocation was developed based on the requirements outline the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Federal Register Notice, Vol. 82, No. 247, Wednesday, December 27, 2017.

### Citizen participation waiver and alternative requirement.

According to the Federal Register Notice "To permit a more streamlined process, and ensure disaster recovery grants are awarded in a timely manner, provisions of 42 U.S.C. 5304(a)(2) and (3), 42 U.S.C. 12707, 24 CFR 570.486, 24 CFR91.105(b) and (c), and 24 CFR 91.115(b) and (c), with respect to citizen participation requirements, are waived and replaced by the requirements below. The streamlined requirements do not mandate public hearings at a State, entitlement, or local government level, but do require providing a reasonable opportunity (at least 14 days) for citizen comment and ongoing citizen access to information about the use of grant funds."

## Publication of the Action Plan, opportunity for public comment, and substantial amendment criteria.

- 1. Before the GLO adopts the Action Plan for this grant or any substantial amendment to this grant, the GLO will publish the proposed plan or amendment on <a href="http://www.glo.texas.gov/recovery/reporting/action-plans/index.html">http://www.glo.texas.gov/recovery/reporting/action-plans/index.html</a>, the GLO's main website and will cross-reference with additional agency websites: TexasRebuilds.org and TexasRebuilds.com.
- 2. The GLO and/or subrecipients will notify affected citizens through electronic mailings, press releases, statements by public officials, media advertisements, public service announcements, newsletters, contacts with neighborhood organizations, and/or through social media.
- 3. The GLO will ensure that all citizens have equal access to information about the programs, including persons with disabilities and limited English proficiency (LEP). The GLO will ensure that program information is available in the appropriate languages for the geographic area served by the jurisdiction. For assistance in ensuring that this information is available to LEP populations, recipients should consult the *Final Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI, Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons*, published on January 22, 2007, in the Federal Register (72 FR 2732).
- 4. Subsequent to publication of the action plan or substantial amendment, the GLO will provide a reasonable opportunity of at least fourteen (14) days method(s) for receiving comments.

5. The GLO will take comments via USPS mail, fax, email, or through the GLO's website:

Texas General Land Office Community Development and Revitalization P.O. Box 12873 Austin, TX 78711-2873

Fax: 512-475-5150 Email: cdr@glo.texas.gov

Online Form: <a href="http://www.glo.texas.gov/recovery/reporting/action-plans/index.html">http://www.glo.texas.gov/recovery/reporting/action-plans/index.html</a>

6. In the action plan, the GLO will specify criteria for determining what changes in the GLO's plan constitute a substantial amendment to the plan. At a minimum, the following modifications will constitute a substantial amendment: a change in program benefit or eligibility criteria; the addition or deletion of an activity; or the allocation or reallocation of a monetary threshold specified by the GLO in the action plan.

#### **Public Website**

The GLO will make the following items available on <a href="www.glo.texas.gov/recovery">www.glo.texas.gov/recovery</a>: (1) the Action Plan (including all amendments); each Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) as created using the Disaster Recovery Grant Reporting System (DRGR) system; (2) procurement, policies and procedures; (3) executed CDBG-DR contracts; and (4) status of services or goods currently being procured by the GLO (e.g., phase of the procurement, requirements for proposals, etc.).

#### Consultation

The GLO will consult and conduct outreach for the impacted counties

### **Consideration of public comments**

The GLO will consider all written comments regarding the Action Plan or any substantial amendment. A summary of the comments and the GLO's response to each located in the Appendix section submitted to HUD with the Action Plan or substantial amendment.

#### **Citizen complaints**

The GLO will provide a timely written response to every citizen complaint. The response will be provided within 15 working days of the receipt of the complaint, if practicable.

#### **Substantial Amendment**

As additional information and funding becomes available through the grant administration process, amendments to this Action Plan are expected. Prior to adopting any substantial amendment to this Action Plan, the GLO will publish the proposed plan or amendment on the GLO's official website and will afford citizens, affected local governments, and other interested parties a reasonable opportunity to examine the plan or amendment's contents. At a minimum, the following modifications will constitute a substantial amendment:

- A change in program benefit or eligibility criteria;
- The allocation or reallocation of more than \$1 million; or
- The addition or deletion of an activity.

#### Nonsubstantial amendment

The GLO will notify HUD when it makes any plan amendment that is not substantial. HUD will be notified at least five business days before the amendment becomes effective. HUD will acknowledge receipt of the notification of non-substantial amendments via email within five (5) business days.