CDBG MITIGATION CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1
Virtual Committee Meeting
Thursday February 20, 2025
3 – 4 p.m.
Teams Meeting
Meeting ID: 240 031 797 222
Passcode: Xb3cU3C7
Note: This meeting will be recorded

Attendance: Ian Werkheiser, Keith Downey, Hilton Kelley, Vivian Ballou

Committee Purpose: Each committee shall adopt the following statement of purpose: "The purpose of this committee is to advise the Texas General Land Office (GLO) on the implementation of programs using first-of-its-kind Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding."

Meeting Objective: GLO Updates

Agenda

3:00-3:10 p.m. **Welcome & Introductions**

3:11-3:20 p.m. **Updates from GLO**

- Refresh of the No-Show policy
  - Margaret reviewed the proposed update to the by-laws. Noted that low attendance and no-shows were an issue and wanted to discuss. Will hold enforcement until more members are able to comment.
- Amendments
  - Margaret reviewed Action Plan Amendment 4.
    - Resilient Home Program unexpended funds moved to Housing Oversubscription Supplemental Program.
    - Housing Oversubscription Supplemental Program eligibility expanded to include Harris County and City of Houston Homeowner Assistance Program applicants.
    - Regional Mitigation program allowed COGs to spend State MID funding in HUD MID areas and allowed localities to waive their LMI requirements (but kept the regional 50% LMI requirement). Mr. Kelley commented that some communities are underserved while other communities received funding twice for the same disaster. Wants to see more help delivered to these underserved areas. Asked why FEMA and GLO are always last to come see damage. Margaret asked to address this comment after the APA updates.
    - Resilient Communities Program included Comprehensive Disaster Recovery Plans as an eligible activity.
    - Hazard Mitigation Plan Program removed "enhanced" requirement.

- Program updates
    - New GLO website announced
        - www.glo.texas.gov/disaster-recovery
    - COG MOD
        - 206 applications received; 148 applications awarded.
        - Harris County submitted 26 applications, 22 approved.
        - Harris County Flood Control District submitted 16 applications, 14 under review.
    - Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
        - 102 applications received; 72 under contract
    - Resilient Homes
        - 202 applications received; 52 under contract
- Public comments
    - No written comments
    - No public comments received

3:21-3:56 p.m. **Discussion and questions**

- Mr. Kelley commented that some communities are underserved while other communities received funding twice for the same disaster. Wants to see more help delivered to these underserved areas. Asked why FEMA and GLO are always last to come see damage.
    - Margaret reviewed the requirements for federal disaster declarations and the timeline for federal assistance. Reviewed the FEMA data that is used by HUD. Margaret spoke generally about the double dipping issue. Sometimes an allocation is distributed, and money is returned. The GLO doesn't want to give the money back to the federal government, so we will redistribute the funding back out. Individual projects cannot be paid twice by GLO or other federal agencies. Margaret addressed the concern about not serving the most impacted populations. Pulled up the Special Conditions Report to show how the GLO documents who is benefiting from our funding.
    - Mr. Kelley asked how citizens can provide input before the funding comes to the state. Margaret recommended citizens contact their elected officials because HUD depends on FEMA data but doesn't have its own public comment period before the notice is published in the Federal Register. Margaret also noted that the newsletters shared by Sylvea include information about public comment period.
    - Mr. Kelley thinks the GLO should do workshops to decide what types of programs should be developed.

Ms. Ballou agreed with Mr. Kelley's points and thinks nonprofits should be allowed to apply for funding to assist with individual recovery. Thinks unmet need should be reviewed before returned funds are redistributed. Mr. Downey agreed.

3:56-4:00 p.m. **Next Steps**

Citizen Advisory Council Update

February 2025

Texas General Land Office • Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

Updates to Bylaws

- Bylaws updated in August for discussion with the CAC
- "Replacement after missing two consecutive meetings without cause"
  - Without cause = no notice
  - We'll reach out by phone and email to confirm you want to resign
  - We encourage recommendations for replacement

CDBG-MIT Citizen Advisory Committee updates

Texas General Land Office
Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

Changes to the Action Plan in Amendment 4

- Unexpended funds from the **Resilient Home Program** reallocated to the Housing Oversubscription Supplemental Program
- **Housing Oversubscription Supplemental Program** eligibility expanded to include Harris County and City of Houston Homeowner Assistance Program (HAP) applicants

CDBG-MIT Action Plan Amendment #4

HUD Acknowledged

July 9, 2024

Texas General Land Office
Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

Changes to the Action Plan in Amendment 4

- **Resilient Communities Program** allows Comprehensive Disaster Recovery Plans as an eligible activity
- **Hazard Mitigation Plan Program** updated to removed “enhanced” requirement for the state plan

CDBG-MIT Action Plan Amendment #4

HUD Acknowledged

July 9, 2024

Texas General Land Office
Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

Regional Mitigation Program

- 206 applications received thus far (+2)
  - 148 awarded (+44)
- **148 Awarded Projects**
  - Alamo Area COG – 9 projects
  - Brazos Valley COG – 25 projects
  - Capital Area COG – 13 projects
  - Central Texas COG – 1 project
  - Coastal Bend COG – 17 projects
  - Deep East Texas COG – 22 projects
  - Golden Crescent RPC – 13 project
  - Houston-Galveston AC – 44 projects
  - South East Texas RPC – 4 projects

Program Updates:

Regional Mitigation Program

Harris County Method of Distribution

- Harris County submitted 26 applications
  - 22 have been approved
- Harris County Flood Control District submitted 16 applications
  - 14 are being reviewed

Program Updates:

Harris County Method of Distribution

Local Hazard Mitigation Program

- 102 applications received so far (+12)
  - 72 under contract (+2)
  - Average ask: $74,607

Resilient Communities Program

- 202 applications received so far (+20)
  - 52 under contract (+17)
  - Average ask: $217,605

Program Updates:

Local Hazard Mitigation Program & Resilient Communities Program

Texas General Land Office
Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.