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## PRESS RELEASE

## Cmr. George P. Bush announces regional Homeowner Assistance Program office locations in advance of application release dates

Housing repair program opening doors in local communities, expected to help thousands rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey

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AUSTIN — Today Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced the locations of regional Homeowner Assistance Program offices in advance of the application release dates. The Texas General Land Office (GLO) allocated \$1.098 billion of \$2.7 billion in Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for rehabilitation and reconstruction of thousands of owner-occupied single-family homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey. Homeowners in Harris County and the city of Houston will be able to apply for similar programs funded by direct allocations.

"Hurricane Harvey damaged thousands of homes and devastated the livelihoods of countless Texans," said Commissioner Bush. "In advance of the application being released in each region, the GLO is proud to announce the locations of several Homeowner Assistance Program offices that will welcome potential applicants and personally help with the process. The same day that applications will be available online, applicants will also be able to fill out an application in person."

Potential applicants can find offices by visiting <a href="http://recovery.texas.gov/hap">http://recovery.texas.gov/hap</a> and selecting their region. Additional satellite offices and application intake locations may be announced in the future.

In addition to a main Homeowner Assistance Program office in each region, each county will have at least one application drop off location or satellite office.

For implementation of this program across 48 eligible counties, the GLO allocated funds into six regions, with the majority of funds being directed to the most impacted counties and zip codes as prescribed by HUD requirements. Each region will retain funds until the available funds are awarded to homeowners in those regions.

Applicants are potentially eligible for assistance within their region if they owned their home, it was damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Harvey, and it was their primary residence, among other eligibility factors. The applications will be released on a regional schedule and will be considered for award on a first-come, first-serve basis, according to the priorities outlined in the Regional Housing Guidelines.

To prepare for the application being released in their region, potential applicants should review the <u>Homeowner Assistance Program Checklist</u> and have all applicable documents ready prior to the release date. For more information, please visit <a href="http://recovery.texas.gov/hap">http://recovery.texas.gov/hap</a>.

Regions, counties, funding and application availability:

Region	Regional funding available	Application release dates	Counties
Central/Golden Crescent Region	\$116,828,970	Nov. 27	Bastrop, Burleson, Caldwell, Calhoun, Comal, DeWitt, Fayette, Goliad, Gonzales, Grimes, Guadalupe, Jackson, Karnes, Lavaca, Lee, Madison, Milam, Victoria, Washington
Coastal Bend Region	\$121,608,469	Nov. 27	Aransas, Bee, Jim Wells, Kleberg, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio
South East Texas Region	\$205,019,250	Nov. 28	Hardin, Jefferson, Orange
HGAC-W/Lower Colorado Region	\$218,621,431	Dec. 1	Austin, Colorado, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Waller, Wharton
HGAC-E/Gulf Coast Region	\$258,049,169	Dec. 3	Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Liberty, Montgomery, Walker
Deep East Texas Region	\$127,884,027	Dec. 3	Jasper, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Tyler

The regional offices will be open to the public starting on the date the application is released.

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