

PRESS RELEASE

Cmr. George P. Bush announces more than \$2.6 million for flood and drainage improvements in City of Friendswood

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AUSTIN — Today Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced the Texas General Land Office (GLO) approved \$2,691,517 in Hurricane Harvey disaster grants for the city of Friendswood to make flood and drainage improvements.

"Hurricane Harvey devastated communities across the Texas Coast," said Commissioner Bush. "These recovery funds are critical to improving local infrastructure that will protect lives, homes and businesses from future storms. We continue to work with our partners in communities across the region to leverage these resources efficiently and effectively to benefit Texans affected by Hurricane Harvey."

With these funds, the city of Friendswood will add in-line detention capacity to the Deepwood Flood Control Project by constructing a new flood control shelving project. The improvement project will include hydro-mulching, excavation, and installing three new pipelines under the creek. The existing pipe rack bridge will be demolished. Construction will take place at Clear Creek near Lift Station 2 and at the back of Dave Brown Memorial Park.

Texas GLO Hurricane Harvey Recovery Funds:

Commissioner George P. Bush and the Texas General Land Office was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to lead the historic Hurricane Harvey housing recovery efforts funded by \$5.676 billion in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The GLO allocated \$413 million of the allocation for infrastructure projects to protect communities affected by the storm. The GLO allocated the funds to regional Council of Governments' (COGs) based on a HUD approved needs assessment. The locally-led COGs then conducted methods of distribution (MODs) for determining infrastructure and buyout and acquisition amounts for cities and counties within each jurisdiction. COG boards are comprised of officials from the impacted communities elected in part to prioritize funds allocated for recovery programs. The MOD process requires public engagement and the GLO reviewed each MOD for compliance with federal rules and requirements before approving each plan.

To review the approved MODs, please visit <https://recovery.texas.gov/action-plans/hurricane-harvey/index.html>.