



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE
GEORGE P. BUSH, COMMISSIONER

1700 N. Congress Ave. • Austin, TX 78701-1495 • 512- 463-5339 • FAX: 512-475-1415

PRESS RELEASE

Cmr. George P. Bush announces \$2.3 million sewer and street improvements and \$1.6 million for home buyouts in Sour Lake

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 03, 2020

Contact: Brittany Eck
(512) 463-5708
Brittany.Eck@GLO.Texas.gov

AUSTIN — Today Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced the Texas General Land Office (GLO) approved \$2,325,172 in Hurricane Harvey disaster recovery grants for sewer facility and street improvements for the city of Sour Lake, as well as \$1,646,971 for a buyout program to remove approximately 19 family homes from harm's way.

"Hurricane Harvey devastated communities across the Texas Coast," said Commissioner Bush. "These recovery funds are critical to protecting 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 Sour Lake will be able to make improvements to sewer facilities including constructing a 3.5-million-gallon earthen wet-weather flow-storage basin with concrete lining, installing a floating aerator, constructing a bypass return pump station, replacing piping, and constructing an electrical and control system. The city will also make street improvements in several areas south of TX-105 in Sour Lake to mitigate against future flooding.

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>.