

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

[Note: May also be combined with other notices such as state floodplain or wetland notices so long as it contains the required information]

To: All interested Federal, State, and Local Agencies (FEMA, U.S. EPA Region 6, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Harris County Flood Control District, and the General Land Office (GLO)) and the Public at Large

This is to give notice that the **City of Houston Housing & Community Development Department**, pursuant to **federal environmental regulations found at 24 CFR 58**, has conducted an evaluation as required by **Executive Order 11988**, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management, to determine the potential effect that its activity in the 100-year floodplain will have on the human environment for **Disaster Recovery Round 2 single family rehabilitation and reconstruction activity**, under GLO contract number 13-182-000-7295, for the purpose of assisting low to moderate income individuals and families who were impacted by storm damage from Hurricane Ike. This Early Notice and Public Review is part of a tiered review per federal environmental regulations found at 24 CFR 58.15, which allows a blanket environmental review to be performed for properties in a specific area before they are selected. **This project will cover approximately 400 units of housing.**

The proposed project(s) will be located within the boundaries of the neighborhoods depicted by the six accompanying maps: Acres Homes, Independence Heights, Northside Village, Greater Fifth Ward, OST-South Union, and Sunnyside. A total of **5,460 acres** are in the 100-year floodplain have the potential to be impacted, not including floodway areas where federally funded single family housing is not allowed. Acres Homes has 1,419 acres in the 100-year floodplain; Independence Heights has 822 acres in the 100-year floodplain; Northside Village has 457 acres in the 100-year floodplain; Greater Fifth Ward has 1,539 acres in the 100-year floodplain, OST-South Union has 75 acres in the 100-year floodplain, and Sunnyside has 1,148 acres in the 100-year floodplain. These selected neighborhoods are located in **Houston, Harris County, Texas.**

Each applicant, occupant, or homeowner located within the 100-year floodplain will be required to sign an Emergency Management Disaster Acknowledgment form acknowledging the following:

Applicant/Occupant/Homeowner has read and understood the Emergency Management Disaster Preparedness Statement and HCDD's obligations; Applicant/Occupant/Homeowner has received the pamphlet Hurricane and Disaster Preparedness Guide; Applicant/Occupant/Homeowner has registered with the Emergency Notification System (ENS). has registered (Individual Resident or Facility) with the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) online or called 2-1-1, and that Relationship Manager/Intake Counselor has informed the applicant/occupant/homeowner (client) about HCDD's obligations and client(s) is/are aware of the said responsibility.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate

public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by **the City of Houston Housing & Community Development Department** at the following address on or before **Wednesday, August 21, 2013**: **City of Houston Housing & Community Development Department, 601 Sawyer, 4th Floor, Houston, Texas 77007**. Attention: **Kimesha E. Sonnier, Environmental Section Supervisor**. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from **8:00 AM to 5:00 PM** at **601 Sawyer, 4th Floor, Houston, Texas 77007**. Comments may also be submitted via email at kimesha.sonnier@houstontx.gov and telephone inquiries may be directed to **(713) 868-8324**.

Date: Tuesday, August 6, 2013