

Public Notice

The City of Houston (City) was allocated \$1,275,878,041 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for assisting in long-term recovery from Hurricane Harvey. The City submitted information to the Texas General Land Office (GLO), which has been incorporated into the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey – Round 1. The City's Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD) has developed program guidelines for the Homeowner Assistance Program (HoAP). These HoAP guidelines have been altered to reflect changes to make the program more operational. These non-substantial changes are being presented to the public for comments.

To make these guidelines accurately reflect the most efficient method of operating, the following changes have been made:

Alignment with Action Plan and Current HUD Standards

- Adjusted Interim Mortgage Assistance and Temporary Relocation Assistance to reflect language in Amendment 3 to the Action Plan
- Updated income limits to reflect 2019 HUD limits
- Updated allocation amounts from the GLO

Clarification and Editing Changes

- Format updates
- Minor language changes
- Corrected point system matrix for priority system
- Introduced version numbers (this is version 1.5)
- Included Communication Designee requirement

Eligibility Information Clarifications

- Clarified that Low- and Moderate- Income Households will not be placed in priority group 6
- Clarified that participants in the reimbursement-only track will be served outside of the priority system
- Specified lien payable terms in the event of a conveyance of ownership
- Clarified the \$5,000 incomplete repair threshold for the Reimbursement Only eligibility criteria
- Revised phasing chart in place of previous scoring and prioritization chart

Program Changes / Updates

- Specified maximum assistance caps and additional allocations for Reimbursement, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction
- Included "neighborhood requirements" as a potential additional allocation for reconstruction and rehabilitation
- Included deadline for repairs eligible for reimbursement to reflect HUD and GLO guidance
- Elaborated unit size terms and included provision allowing Director to allocate non-federal funds to restore 3 bed/2 bath homes for qualifying applicants
- Included deed-restriction and HOA standards as eligible expenses for reconstruction and rehabilitation
- Revised Rehabilitation vs Reconstruction cut-offs as a measure of the estimated cost to repair, including a Director-level discretionary waiver
- Clarified homeowner responsibilities within the homeowner managed track

Flood Plan and Elevation Information

- Updated Elevation language
- Clarified elevation process and included matrix detailing when elevation will be performed
- Clarified ineligibility criteria regarding the 100-year flood plain
- Included provision detailing the City's purchase of Flood Insurance for program participants

The non-substantive changes to the HoAP guidelines are available for review and public comment from Tuesday, November 19, 2019 through Tuesday, November 26, 2019. Public comments may be submitted by email to: Kennisha.London@HoustonTX.gov or by mail to: HCDD, ATTN: Kennisha London, 2100 Travis Street, Suite 900, Houston, TX 77002. View the changes to the HoAP guidelines at:

- HCDD website – <https://houstontx.gov/housing/>
- Main Public Library – 500 McKinney, 77002
- HCDD Office – 2100 Travis Street, Suite 900, Houston, TX 77002 (copies may be obtained at this location upon request)

To learn more about CDBG-DR and upcoming events related to disaster recovery, please call 832.393.0550 or visit <https://houstontx.gov/housing/>

For specific questions or concerns about fair housing or landlord/tenant relations, please contact Yolanda Guess-Jeffries at (832) 394-6308. For any information about HCDD's Complaints and Appeals Process, please access HCDD's Complaints and Appeals page at <https://www.houstontx.gov/housing/complaints.html>.