



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE  
COMMISSIONER DAWN BUCKINGHAM, M.D.

March 1, 2023

Charles Wemple, Executive Director  
Houston-Galveston Area Council  
PO Box 22777  
Houston, TX 77227

Re: Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Hurricane Harvey CDBG-DR Local Infrastructure Program MOD Amendment Approval

Mr. Wemple,

The Texas General Land Office (GLO) Community Development and Revitalization division (GLO-CDR) is approving the H-GAC Hurricane Harvey CDBG-DR Local Infrastructure Program Method of Distribution (MOD) Amendment. The amendment was initially submitted January 30, 2023, underwent review by GLO staff, and was submitted a final time with corrections made on February 9, 2023. The below entities have been allocated funds in addition to their initial totals:

Entity	Initial Allocation	Reallocation Amount	Final Total Allocation
Austin County	\$4,301,175	\$182,360	\$4,483,535
Brazoria County	\$10,916,934	\$533,393	\$11,450,327
Fort Bend County	\$17,417,192	\$1,187,302	\$18,604,494
Walker County	\$4,445,805	\$106,901	\$4,552,706
Waller County	\$4,036,599	\$295,549	\$4,332,148
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$41,117,705</b>	<b>\$2,305,505</b>	<b>\$43,423,210</b>

Acceptance of the MOD amendment does not indicate approval of any proposed reallocation recommendations. With this approval, entities receiving reallocated funds will receive additional information regarding the application process from the GLO. If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact Alex Swift at [alex.swift.glo@recovery.texas.gov](mailto:alex.swift.glo@recovery.texas.gov)

Sincerely,

*Alexandra Gamble*

Alexandra Gamble, Policy Development Director  
Community Development and Revitalization

Cc: Shawn Strange, Community Development and Revitalization Policy Development Manager



## Houston-Galveston Area Council Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program Method of Distribution Reallocation Amendment

In 2018, the Houston-Galveston Area Council Board of Directors approved a Method of Distribution for \$129 million in Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery funds for local infrastructure projects in the H-GAC region.

The Board-approved 2018 Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Method of Distribution of Funds included a reallocation process for any of the allocated funds that were declined or de-obligated.

Ten entities have unused/unspent funds totaling \$2,305,505.00 available to reallocate, as noted in the table below. H-GAC sought public comment on the amended Method of Distribution.

The reallocation process entails:

1. Any declined or de-obligated funds are offered to the county in which the initial recipient was located.
2. If the counties do not accept the funds, they would then be offered to a set of specific local governments established by the Board.

1. Any declined or de-obligated funds are first offered to the county in which the initial recipient was located		
Entity Declining Funds	Declined Funds	County to Receive Funds
Town of San Felipe	\$182,360.00	Austin
Bailey's Prairie Village	\$210,679.00	Brazoria
Manvel	\$322,714.00	Brazoria
Arcola City	\$171,400.00	Fort Bend
Richmond City	\$219,160.00	Fort Bend
Stafford City	\$132,567.00	Fort Bend
Sugar Land	\$417,341.00	Fort Bend
Weston Lakes	\$246,834.00	Fort Bend
Riverside	\$106,901.00	Walker
Waller	\$295,549.00	Waller

2. If the counties do not accept the funds, they would then be offered to a set of specific local governments established by the H-GAC Board	
Reallocating Rank	Jurisdiction
1	Dickinson city
2	Wharton county
3	Chambers county
4	La Marque city
5	Liberty county
6	Galveston county
7	Matagorda county
8	Brazoria county
9	Colorado county
10	Waller county
11	Fort Bend county
12	Austin county
13	Montgomery county
14	Walker county



H-GAC hosted a public planning meeting November 9, 2022, to provide information, answer questions, and take feedback. H-GAC sought public comment on the reallocation amendment. Public comment was accepted by email, phone, postal mail, through an online portal, and at a public hearing on December 6, 2022. No changes were made following the public comment period ending December 15, 2022.

More details on the approved 2018 Method of Distribution process and 2022 Amendment process for reference are available at <https://www.h-gac.com/hurricane-harvey-recovery/cdbg-disaster-funds>.

At their regularly scheduled meeting on January 17, 2023, the H-GAC Board of Directors approved the amendment for submittal to the Texas General Land Office for approval. This meeting was open to the public.

Subsequent to the Board approval, H-GAC confirmed that the counties of origin indicated in step 1 of the reallocation process would all accept the reallocated funds, eliminating the need for step 2. The final reallocation of funds is represented by the amounts and recipients indicated in the table for Step 1.



**Council of Governments (COG) Method of Distribution  
Amendment 1  
Hurricane Harvey CDBG-Disaster Recovery  
Local Infrastructure Program**

**Contact Information**

Council of Governments:	<b>Houston-Galveston Area Council</b>
Principal Contact Name, Title:	<b>Cheryl Mergo, Senior Manager, Community and Environmental Planning</b>
Principal Contact Telephone:	<b>713-993-4520</b>

**Local Infrastructure Program COG MOD Amount:**

\$129,751,767.00
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**Reallocation Amount: \$2,305,505**

HUD MID Total	<b>\$1,720,695.00</b>
State MID Total	<b>\$584,810.00</b>
<b>Total Reallocation Amount</b>	<b>\$2,305,505.00</b>

**Local Infrastructure Program Method of Distribution Amendment Detail**

The COG is required to prepare a method of distribution amendment for the Local Infrastructure Program funds between the eligible cities and counties. The GLO has directed the COG to use a direct allocation technique based on objective and verifiable data. The distribution should be based on, but not limited to, unmet need tied back to Hurricane Harvey damages.

**Reallocation Summary**

The following is a summary of the reallocation process of funds, including entities that have declined funds, entities that are receiving reallocated funds, and eligible activities.

Should a city decline or be unable to utilize the funding allocated under this Method of Distribution, H-GAC proposed a two-step reallocation methodology.

Ten entities have declined or de-obligated funds totaling \$2,305,505.00 available to reallocate. H-GAC proposed these funds be first offered to the county of origin for each of the ten entities, as listed below.

<b>Entity Declining Funds</b>	<b>Declined/Deobligated Funds</b>	<b>County to Receive Funds</b>
San Felipe, Town of	\$182,360.00	Austin
Bailey's Prairie, Village of	\$210,679.00	Brazoria
Manvel, City of	\$322,714.00	Brazoria
Arcola, City of	\$171,400.00	Fort Bend
Richmond, City of	\$219,160.00	Fort Bend
Stafford, City of	\$132,567.00	Fort Bend
Sugar Land, City of	\$417,341.00	Fort Bend
Weston Lakes, City of	\$246,834.00	Fort Bend
Riverside, City of	\$106,901.00	Walker
Waller, City of	\$295,549.00	Waller

Should one or more counties be unable to utilize the funds, H-GAC proposed they be reallocated in the order listed below:

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Local Government</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Local Government</b>
1	Dickinson, City of	8	Brazoria County
2	Wharton County	9	Colorado County
3	Chambers County	10	Waller County
4	La Marque, City of	11	Fort Bend County
5	Liberty County	12	Austin County
6	Galveston County	13	Montgomery County
7	Matagorda County	14	Walker County

Subsequent to the H-GAC Board of Directors approval of this methodology, H-GAC confirmed that the counties would all accept the reallocated funds, eliminating the need for the ranked list. The final reallocation of funds is represented by the amounts and recipients indicated in the following table.

<b>Recipient County</b>	<b>Total Reallocated Funds</b>
Austin County	\$182,360
Brazoria County	\$533,393
Fort Bend County	\$1,187,302
Waller County	\$106,901
Walker County	\$295,549

## Reallocation Changes Table:

Attached is a table showing all jurisdictions that have had a change in allocation, including jurisdictions that have declined funds and the jurisdictions that have been reallocated those funds. All allocations must meet or exceed a floor of \$100,000 to help ensure sufficient funds for at least one eligible project.

Reallocation Table Page Number:	9	
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## Distribution Factors

Have the distribution factors been amended?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
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The COG has selected the following distribution factors:

Distribution Factor*	Weight	Documentation Source	Explanation of Factor Selection and Weighting
FEMA Individual Assistance Housing Registrants Large Disasters-V1	See below	FEMA <a href="https://www.fema.gov/openfema-data-page/individual-assistance-housing-registrants-large-disasters-v1">https://www.fema.gov/openfema-data-page/individual-assistance-housing-registrants-large-disasters-v1</a>	FEMA disaster data is the best data available to access personal and real property damages caused by Hurricane Harvey.
<p>FEMA Disaster Data is categorized based on Owner's Real Property Damage and Renter's Personal Property Damage. A similar method was used by HUD in categorizing damages for CDBG allocation.</p> <p><b>Minor Low:</b> Owner Real Property Damage less than \$3,000 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage less than \$1,000  <b>Minor High:</b> Owner Real Property Damage between \$3,001 and \$7,999 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage between \$1,001 and \$1,999  <b>Major Low:</b> Owner Real Property Damage between \$8,000 and \$14,999 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage between \$2,000 and \$3,499  <b>Major High:</b> Owner Real Property Damage between \$15,000 and \$28,800 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage between \$3,500 and \$7,499  <b>Severe:</b> Owner Real Property Damage more than \$28,800 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage more than \$7,499</p> <p>Weights are assigned to the damage levels            Minor Low: <b>0.5</b>            Minor High: <b>1</b>            Major Low: <b>2</b>            Major High: <b>4</b>            Severe: <b>5</b>            For example: 10 Minor Low damage claims are equal to 1 Severe claim</p>			

\*Add more rows if needed

## Threshold Factors

(New Added Section)

If any, please describe threshold factors that were used to allocate funds.

Distribution Factor	Documentation Source	Explanation of Factor Selection

**Eligible Activities**

Have the eligible activities been amended?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
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Activities must be specifically related to Hurricane Harvey, and must meet the following criteria as outlined in the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey as amended.

Each infrastructure activity must demonstrate how it will contribute to the long-term recovery and restoration of housing.

The COG has addressed prioritization of eligible activities as follows:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The COG has chosen not to limit Subrecipients in the region to projects meeting regional priority activities.		
<b>-OR-</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	The COG has limited Subrecipients in the region to selecting projects meeting the following regional priority activities:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Specially Authorized Public Facilities & Improvements
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sewer Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Public Utilities (gas, et al)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clearance & Demolition Activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Street Improvements	<input type="checkbox"/>	Code Enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Flood and Drainage Improvements	<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Centers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Debris Removal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Centers & Emergency Shelters (Existing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parks, Playgrounds and other Recreational Facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Protection Facilities and Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other CDBG-DR eligible activities related to infrastructure

**Ineligible Activities**

Ineligible activities for the local infrastructure program are outlined in the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey and should be referenced accordingly.

**Low- and Moderate-Income Requirement**

Below is an explanation of how the method of distribution meets the 70 percent low- and moderate-income (LMI) requirement for each program. This means that 70 percent of the funds must benefit areas that are 51% or more LMI persons with incomes below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI).

Per requirements of the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey June 25, 2018, submitted to the United States Department Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by the Texas General Land Office (GLO), at least 70% of the program funds will benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons. All entities will be required to follow established rules and regulations related to the funding received.

## Citizen Participation

Below is a description addressing how the COG complied with their Citizen Participation Plan regarding citizen and non-governmental organization outreach, and any additional efforts exceeding GLO minimum public participation requirements:

Beyond the minimum requirements that the GLO has outlined in the contract, H-GAC implemented the additional tactics listed below to increase overall public participation:

- Distributed electronic flyers and asked community organizations to share information with their audiences
  - H-GAC sent a one-page flyer that contains all the information about the meetings to identified stakeholders so they could either forward the information to their membership or print off the material to post on a bulletin board or high-traffic area at their location.
- Purchased legal ads in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Mandarin newspapers across the region.
- Sent direct emails to identified stakeholders (i.e., elected officials and staff, fair housing groups, long term recovery groups etc.)
  - In addition to direct emails to elected officials and staff representing jurisdictions across the 13-county region, H-GAC also invited the following groups to attend the public planning meeting on November 9 to provide feedback and ask questions, to attend the public hearing on December 6, and to provide comment in writing or verbally. State and Federal Elected Officials, Office of Emergency Management Staff, Regional Flood Management Committee Members, and Soil and Water Conservation staff.
  - To gain additional perspective on fair housing and civil rights issues in the region, H-GAC also invited the following groups to attend the public planning meeting on November 9 to provide feedback and ask questions, to attend the public hearing on December 6, and to provide comment in writing or verbally. Community Development Directors and Staff, Faith-based Organizations, Neighborhood and Community Improvement Organizations. Long-Term Recovery Groups, Housing Authorities, Housing Advocacy Groups, Homeless Services Organizations, Food Banks, County Health Districts, and other non-profit organizations, including MMHR, NAACP, United Way, Habitat for Humanity, Area Agency on Aging, Meals on Wheels, and LULAC.
- Promoted the public planning meeting, public hearing, and comment period through H-GAC’s external newsletters, the Community and Environmental Planning Update and the Regional Focus.
- Promoted the public planning meeting, public hearing, and comment period by posting to community calendars and newsletters.
- Promoted the public planning meeting, public hearing, and comment period via social media posts (i.e., Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and Twitter).

## Public Hearing Information

Meeting Type	Public Planning Meeting	MOD Public Hearing
Date(s):	11/9/22	12/6/22
Location(s):	Virtual on Zoom	Virtual on Zoom and at H-GAC Offices
Total Attendance:	53	42

*Direct Notice.* As required, direct notice was sent to eligible entities at least **five (5) days** in advance of the public hearing using the following method(s) (at least one must be selected):



Method		Public Planning Meeting	MOD Public Hearing
		Date(s) Sent	Date(s) Sent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Email	11/3/22	11/30/22
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fax		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hand Delivery		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Certified Mail		

*Internet Notice.* As required, public notice was distributed on the Internet at least **five (5) days** in advance using the following method:

Website Notice	Public Planning Meeting	MOD Public Hearing
Date(s)	10/26/22	10/26/22

*Published Notice.* As required, notice of the public hearing was published in all newspapers of record at least **three (3) days** in advance. Notice of public hearing was published in the following regional newspaper(s):

Newspaper Name	Public Planning Meeting	MOD Public Hearing
	Date Published	Date Published
The Sealy News	11/3/22	
The Facts	10/28/22	
The Anahuac Progress	11/2/22	
The Citizen	11/2/22	
Fort Bend Herald	10/30/22	
The Daily News	10/27/22	
Houston Chronicle	10/27/22	
The Vindicator Liberty County	10/27/22	
Bay City Tribune	10/30/22	
The Courier of Montgomery County	11/3/22	
The Huntsville Item	10/27/22	
The Waller Times	11/2/22	
The Wharton Journal-Spectator	10/29/22	
Forward Times	11/2/22	
La Informacion	11/2/22	
La Voz De Houston		11/16/22
The Vietnam Post	11/4/22	
Southern News Group (Chinese)	10/31/22	

## Public Comment Period

Provide the dates of the public comment period for the COG MOD Amendment.

Start Date:	11/15/22	End Date:	12/15/22	No. of Days:	30
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*Accommodations.* Describe any efforts to notify and accommodate those with modified communication needs, such as posting information and providing interpretive services for persons with Limited English Proficiency and for people with hearing impairments or other access and functional needs (ADA compliance).

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) stipulates that meetings involving the public must be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Meetings must comply with all applicable ADA accessibility requirements and should also be conducted in such a way that all participants can participate in an equal and meaningful way. H-GAC fully complies with these requirements through its internal policies and procedures. H-GAC facilitates public participation for individuals with disabilities using the following guidelines:

- Meetings, public hearings, and formal events are held in facilities accessible by persons with disabilities.
- American Sign Language interpreters are provided.
- All slides and images used throughout presentations are compliant for those with visual impairments.
- Public notices of meetings and events include a notice of accommodations for individuals who are disabled. Such accommodations will be provided by request with a minimum 24-hour notice.

The public planning meeting was held online, and the public hearing was held online and in person. H-GAC hosted the public planning meeting on the Zoom platform and hosted the public hearing at its offices in Houston and via the Zoom platform to allow participants to participate in person or to join via desktop, mobile phone, or dial-in should they have limited internet connectivity.

All public outreach efforts attempt to solicit as much feedback as possible by making meeting times and locations accessible and by working with organizations that provide public-focused services.

Additionally, H-GAC provided multiple methods in which stakeholders could provide feedback including not only verbally and in chat at public meetings, but also via email, voicemail, and web portal until 5 p.m. December 15, 2022.

Recognizing that the 13-county region is diverse, and using current census data, H-GAC provided Spanish, Vietnamese, and Mandarin interpreters at all public meetings and hearings so participants can actively listen, ask questions, or engage in dialogue with H-GAC staff. American Sign Language interpreters were present throughout an public planning meeting on November 9, and closed captioning was enabled online during the public hearing on December 6. The availability of interpreters was advertised in all outreach materials. Any additional languages could be requested 48 hours in advance by calling Sara Hart at 713-993-4560 or Sara.Hart@h-gac.com.

## **Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Statement**

All subrecipients will certify that they will affirmatively further fair housing (“AFFH”) in their grant agreements and will receive GLO training and technical assistance in meeting their AFFH obligations. Additionally, all project applications will undergo AFFH review by GLO before approval of projects. Such review will include assessment of a proposed project’s area demography, socioeconomic characteristics, housing configuration and needs, educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, environmental hazards or concerns, and all other factors material to the AFFH determination. Applications should show that projects are likely to lessen area racial, ethnic, and low-income concentrations, and/or promote affordable housing in low-poverty, nonminority areas in response to natural hazard related impacts.

## Approval and Signatory Authority

Attached is a Resolution from the COG approving the method of distribution and authorizing its submittal to the Texas General Land Office. I certify that the contents of this document and all related attachments are complete and accurate.



[Chuck Wemple \(Feb 9, 2023 16:37 CST\)](#)

Signature

02/09/2023

Date

Chuck Wemple

Printed Name

Executive Director

Title

charles.wemple@h-gac.com

Email Address

713-993-4514

Telephone Number

**H-GAC MOD Allocation Summary and Calculation Worksheet(s) in  
Excel with intact formulas**

**Reallocation Procedure**

Should a city be unable to utilize the funding allocated under Hurricane Harvey Method of Distribution, H-GAC proposes the funds be reallocated to the county where the city is located. Should the county be unable to utilize the funds, H-GAC proposes they be reallocated in the order listed in the table below.

<b>Hurricane Harvey- Community Development Block Grant Reallocation Hierarchy</b>	
<b>Reallocation Ranks</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>
1	Dickinson city
2	Wharton county
3	Chambers county
4	La Marque city
5	Liberty county
6	Galveston county
7	Matagorda county
8	Brazoria county
9	Colorado county
10	Waller county
11	Fort Bend county
12	Austin county
13	Montgomery county
14	Walker county

<b>Hurricane Harvey- Community Development Block Grant Reallocation Method</b>				
(* Includes Cities with minimum 5,000 total housing units in damaged area. Cities with less than 5,000 units are counted towards County Totals)				
<b>Reallocation Ranks</b>	<b>Jurisdiction*</b>	<b>Total Damage Claims</b>	<b>Total Housing Units in Damaged Area</b>	<b>Percent Damaged</b>
1	Dickinson city	3,850	7,250	53.10%
2	Wharton county	2,210	7,799	28.34%
3	Chambers county	3,140	12,628	24.87%
4	La Marque city	1,311	6,257	20.95%
5	Liberty county	5,064	24,309	20.83%
6	Galveston county	4,700	23,024	20.41%
7	Matagorda county	1,128	6,359	17.74%
8	Brazoria county	8,923	54,907	16.25%
NA	Friendswood city	1,053	6,628	15.89%
NA	League City city	3,909	27,458	14.24%
NA	Texas City city	2,085	14,824	14.07%
9	Colorado county	387	3,032	12.76%
NA	Alvin city	749	6,623	11.31%
10	Waller county	973	9,292	10.47%
11	Fort Bend county	10,781	108,204	9.96%
NA	Bay City city	494	5,223	9.46%
12	Austin county	255	3,380	7.54%
13	Montgomery county	6,463	87,744	7.37%
NA	Missouri City city	1,451	20,506	7.08%
NA	Pearland city	1,784	25,828	6.91%
NA	Galveston city	1,091	16,572	6.58%
14	Walker county	443	7,397	5.99%
NA	Rosenberg city	351	6,656	5.27%
NA	Sugar Land city	564	16,434	3.43%
NA	Huntsville city	201	5,865	3.43%
NA	Conroe city	340	14,264	2.38%

Jurisdiction	Unused Local Infrastructure Funds	County
San Felipe	\$182,360	Austin
Bailey's Prairie	\$210,679	Brazoria
Arcola	\$171,400	Fort Bend
Richmond	\$219,160	Fort Bend
Stafford	\$132,567	Fort Bend
Sugar Land	\$417,341	Fort Bend
Weston Lakes	\$246,834	Fort Bend
Riverside	\$106,901	Walker
Waller (City)	\$295,549	Waller
Manvel	\$322,714	Brazoria
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,305,505</b>	

County*	Local Infrastructure Initial Allocation	Local Infrastructure Reallocation Amount	Local Infrastructure Total Allocation	70% Low-to-Moderate Income Benefit Requirement
Austin	\$4,301,175	\$182,360	\$4,483,535	\$3,138,474.42
Brazoria	\$10,916,934	\$533,393	\$11,450,327	\$8,015,228.95
Fort Bend	\$17,417,192	\$1,187,302	\$18,604,494	\$13,023,145.87
Walker	\$4,445,805	\$106,901	\$4,552,706	\$3,186,894.23
Waller	\$4,036,599	\$295,549	\$4,332,148	\$3,032,503.33
Total	\$41,117,705	<b>\$2,305,505</b>	\$43,423,210	\$30,396,247
Note- * includes Counties expected to receive reallocation amount, only.				

**H-GAC MOD Evidence of Adoption of Final MOD by COG's Executive  
Committee or Board**



# RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUIVE DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT THE AMENDED METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM FUNDS TO THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

WHEREAS, Hurricane Harvey directly impacted the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) region with devastating flooding, causing extensive damage to local public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Congress appropriated Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funds to Texas through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be administered by the Texas General Land Office (GLO); and

WHEREAS, H-GAC developed a Method of Distribution (MOD) for allocating \$129,751,767 in Local Infrastructure Program funds to local governments under GLO's State Action Plan in response to our region's impacts during Hurricane Harvey; and

WHEREAS, \$2,305,505 of the allocated funds were declined or de-obligated by local communities, and an amendment to the MOD is required to formally include the reallocation methodology developed by the H-GAC Board in 2018; and

WHEREAS, taking into account public comment, H-GAC presented an amended MOD reallocation methodology at H-GAC's Board of Directors meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, which was duly posted and conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE H-GAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

1. THAT the amended Method of Distribution of the H-GAC region is hereby approved; and
2. THAT the Executive Director of the Houston-Galveston Area Council is duly authorized to execute the Method of Distribution and all other supporting documents; and
3. THAT this is a true and correct copy of the resolution reciting the actions and approvals given by the Board of Directors at its meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023.

APPROVED:

The Honorable Sally Harris Branson  
Councilmember, City of Friendswood  
H-GAC Chair

ATTEST:

The Honorable Rissie Owens  
Trustee, Huntsville Independent School District  
H-GAC Vice Chair





## **H-GAC MOD Public Comment Period Appendix**

- Comments and responses to all comments received during the Public Planning Meetings and Public Comment period (November - December 2022)

H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

Date Received	Method of Communications	Name	Role/Title	County	City	Comment	Response	Associated changes to the MOD
12/15/2022	Email	Shaneka Smith	Chief of Staff, Fort Bend County	Fort Bend		To Whom It May Concern: Fort Bend County would like to keep the available reallocated funds. We welcome the chance to have the City of Rosenberg be sub-recipient partners to the County for local infrastructure improvements as an LMI Community that was affected by Hurricane Harvey. The City of Rosenberg has multiple needs and is in a position readily to utilize all available funding should the opportunity arise.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO).	None
12/13/2022	Email	Melissa Peña	Project Director   Capital Projects, Rosenberg	Fort Bend	Rosenberg	The City of Rosenberg is in support of Fort Bend County keeping the available reallocated funds. We welcome the chance to become a sub-recipient partner to the County for local infrastructure improvements as an LMI Community that was affected by Hurricane Harvey. The City of Rosenberg has multiple needs and is in a position readily to utilize all available funding should the opportunity arise.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO).	None
12/5/2022	Web Portal	Morad Kabiri	City Manager, Friendswood	Galveston	Friendswood	Reallocated funds should be offered to jurisdictions with active projects that are currently underfunded due to inflation and property price increases.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Director for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO).	None

H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

Date Received	Method of Communications	Name	Role/Title	County	City	Comment	Response	Associated changes to the MOD
12/1/2022	Email	Rick Sallier	Public Works Director	Galveston	La Marque	The original MIT-MOD Program allowed multiple projects, including waterline replacement; the specific language in the Reallocation Funding seems to relate to specific infrastructure 'damage' caused by Harvey. Is the project scope more restrictive with the Reallocation Funds than the original MIT-MOD Funding options?	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). In addition, staff have provided a direct answer to your question: "Good morning, Rick. Yes, in comparison to the CDBG-Mitigation program, the scope of projects under this 2018 CDBG Disaster Recovery Local Infrastructure Program reallocation is more limited, and generally is tied to impacts from Hurricane Harvey. That's primarily due to the inherently different focuses of the MIT and DR programs themselves at the federal level. GLO's Action Plan for the funding can be found here: <a href="https://recovery.texas.gov/action-plans/2017-hurricane-harvey/index.html">https://recovery.texas.gov/action-plans/2017-hurricane-harvey/index.html</a> , and the description of the Local Infrastructure Program starts on p. 166. The list of eligible activities is on p. 168. That being said, GLO is the final word on project eligibility and can probably answer any questions that get into the nuance of what they will and won't allow.	None

H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

Date Received	Method of Communications	Name	Role/Title	County	City	Comment	Response	Associated changes to the MOD
11/30/2022	Web Portal	Mayor Jon Keeney	Mayor, Taylor Lake Village	Harris	City of Taylor Lake Village	The GLO/HGAC are both practicing discrimination against small cities that happen to have incomes above poverty levels. I highly recommend that small cities be included for funding as our ability to fund and correct drainage issues is very limited by our budget restrictions. Small cities are under constant attack by our Legislature as they keep removing our ability to fund our budget needs. It adds insult to injury when we are precluded from funding by arbitrary decisions that are not well thought out. Water seeks it own level and impacts people of all income levels. In addition, the cities by the gulf coast are at the end of a massive drainage system that ultimately dumps water on our cities.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). The low-to-moderate income requirements stem from the federal source of funds. Community Development Block Grant funding programs are specifically focused on low-to-moderate income populations.	None
12/6/2022	Email	Nate McDonald	County Judge, Matagorda County	Matagorda		To Whom It May Concern, With regards to the 2018 Method of Distribution for Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funds for local infrastructure projects in the H-GAC region I believe the MOD has been properly discussed, vetted and approved by the majority of the H-GAC Board in the past and I see no reason to change it in any way. Thank you for this opportunity to comment today.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO).	None

H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

Date Received	Method of Communications	Name	Role/Title	County	City	Comment	Response	Associated changes to the MOD
12/9/2022	Email	Meg Duffy	Policy Analyst, Texas Appleseed	Travis	Austin	Good morning, I am reaching out with a question about the reallocation of the 2018 CDBG-DR funds. Is the damage hierarchy the same as what was applied in 2018? What data are used to determine the damage hierarchy and from which year? Many thanks	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). In addition, H-GAC staff provided this direct answer to your question: "Good morning Ms. Duffy, Thank you for your question. We used this Methodology to develop the Method of Distribution in 2018 - MOD-Draft-Methodology-6-19-18.pdf (h-gac.com). The damage hierarchy for the reallocation is the same as the 2018 Method of Distribution. With respect to the data, we used Hurricane Harvey damage data from FEMA's Individual Assistance Housing Registrants Large Disasters-V1 data. The data is specific to Hurricane Harvey.	None

H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

Date Received	Method of Communications	Name	Role/Title	County	City	Comment	Response	Associated changes to the MOD
12/15/2022	Email	Madison Sloan	Director, Disaster Recovery and Fair Housing Project, Texas Appleseed	Travis	Austin	<p>See Correspondence 2 - Tomaskovic-Mccloud-Sloan-Duffy</p> <p>Coalition for Equity, Environment, and Resilience (CEER) Comments on 2018 Hurricane Harvey Disaster Recovery Funds Reallocation Funds</p> <p>Dear Mr. Taebel: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the H-GAC method of distribution for the remaining \$2,305,505 of the 2018 CDBG-DR allocation. The Coalition for Equity, Environment, and Resilience is a group of 28 nonprofits that work to raise awareness of the connections between pollution, place, and the public's health. Since our inception in 2018, we have advocated for the equitable distribution of disaster recovery funding and flood infrastructure investments.</p> <p>To be effective, this method of distribution must ensure that the remaining CDBG-DR funds are reallocated to the areas with the greatest remaining unmet infrastructure needs. It is possible that the current damage hierarchy would reach that objective but H-GAC has not provided enough information about the data used to create the damage hierarchy to fully assess its potential effectiveness, including whether the damage hierarchy remains the same five years after Hurricane Harvey. The material conditions on the ground have changed dramatically since the initial disbursement of post-Harvey CDBG-DR funds, so it is crucial that H-GAC use current data to calculate the damage hierarchy. During the November 9th, 2022 Method of Distribution Public Planning Meeting, H-GAC staff made it clear that this funding could only be used on infrastructure, including drainage and flood infrastructure. Thus, the applied damage hierarchy should include data on remaining unmet infrastructure need and not solely data on housing damage. We strongly urge H-GAC to make sure that the damage hierarchy uses up-to-date data that reflects a current assessment of remaining unmet infrastructure needs.</p> <p>Finally, we support H-GAC's decision not to pursue a waiver of the 70% LMI requirement. Structural inequality not only makes low-income communities and</p>	<p>Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). To develop the damage hierarchy list, which is used only if one or more of the counties of origin for each community declines the reallocated funds, H-GAC used Hurricane Harvey damage data from FEMA's Individual Assistance Housing Registrants Large Disasters-V1 data. The list was ranked by the number of impacted housing units for entities with at least 5,000 impacted units. The 2018 MOD allocated Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funds, whose primary focus was local infrastructure impacts from Hurricane Harvey. Recipients of reallocated funds will need to apply to the Texas General Land Office for approval to use reallocated funds for eligible projects under the intended uses and restrictions of that funding source.</p>	None

H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

					<p>communities of color more vulnerable to disasters in the first place but also slows down the recovery process, making them more likely to have remaining unmet recovery needs years after a disaster. It is vital that low- and moderate-income communities are the primary beneficiaries of this funding.</p> <p>In conclusion, we encourage H-GAC to include an assessment of unmet flood and drainage infrastructure needs in the reallocation formula for 2018 CDBG-DR funds and stronger</p> <p>guidelines for subgrantees as they engage in land acquisition and home buyouts. Please let us know if we can provide further information.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Sefania Tomaskovic, Executive Director CEER</p> <p>Ayanna Jolivet Mccloud, Executive Director Bayou City Waterkeeper</p> <p>Maddie Sloan Meg Duffy Texas Appleseed</p>		
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H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

Date Received	Method of Communications	Name	Role/Title	County	City	Comment	Response	Associated changes to the MOD
12/6/2022	Email	Rev. Dave Smith	Executive Director, GS Mission	Walker	Huntsville	Cheryl, I need a transcript or recording. I had a major conflict, got in late & technology did not work immediately. So sorry.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). H-GAC staff provided this direct answer to your question: "The agenda, hearing presentation, and hearing recording are available on our webpage here 2018 Hurricane Harvey Disaster Recovery Funds Planning   Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Scroll down to "Public Hearing." You can also access the agenda, presentation and recording directly using the links below: Agenda - <a href="https://www.h-gac.com/getmedia/cc8b9c97-2591-41bd-aae2-7b9425734869/12-6-22-Agenda_2018MODAmendment">https://www.h-gac.com/getmedia/cc8b9c97-2591-41bd-aae2-7b9425734869/12-6-22-Agenda_2018MODAmendment</a> Presentation – <a href="https://www.h-gac.com/getmedia/6192588b-952b-48e4-8ab6-4ee7d9eba07b/12-6-22-Presentation_2018MODAmendment">https://www.h-gac.com/getmedia/6192588b-952b-48e4-8ab6-4ee7d9eba07b/12-6-22-Presentation_2018MODAmendment</a> Recording - <a href="https://youtu.be/aiDQdVEHfM8">https://youtu.be/aiDQdVEHfM8</a> .	None
11/8/2022	Email	Carolyn James	Resident	Wharton	Eagle Lake	See Correspondence-1-Carolyn James (attached)	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). H-GAC staff forwarded your question and concerns regarding other GLO program resources unrelated to the funding referenced in this amendment to additional H-GAC staff who contacted you to help you find resources.	None



H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

Date Received	Method of Communications	Name	Role/Title	County	City	Comment	Response	Associated changes to the MOD
11/7/2022	Email	Janet Kinght				Note: This email was sent without content	Thank you. We provided all comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO).	None
11/14/2022	Phone	Godfrey Hubert	Founder Hope Disaster Recovery			Hi, this is Godfrey Hubert with Hope disaster recovery and I had received some communication from someone probably not in your office but it had been forwarded to me about a disaster fund, residual funds and about a work group and then a public hearing. Following up but the work group meeting I think was in November 9th and then the other December 3rd. I just wanted more information about that. Could you give me a call at 281-433-1412? Thank you.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). H-GAC staff contacted you directly to inform you that this funding is only for municipalities, but anyone is welcome to review information on our website or attend the public hearing and provide feedback on this process.	None

H-GAC 2018 Infrastructure Method of Distribution Amendment Public Comments

Date Received	Method of Communications	Name	Role/Title	County	City	Comment	Response	Associated changes to the MOD
11/7/2022	Phone	Shirley Moore				Yes Shirley Moore e-mail address is shirleymoore106@yahoo.com and that's spelled SHIRLEymoore and my phone number is 979-253-2614 and my comment is relocation After Harvey thank you.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). H-GAC staff returned your call to inform you about the uses of this funding source, which is not applicable to individual housing.	None
11/2/2022	Phone	Timothy Taylor				Yes, good morning. My name is Timothy Taylor. I'm trying to find someone to help me get some help on some relief on getting work done on my house. Uh, I've never gotten, uh, work done. My house is a myth. I've never gotten work done on my house from the ice storm or Hurricane Harvey. My phone number is 979-202-5224. My e-mail. It's Mr. Tim Taylor at 509. And MrTimTaylor509@gmail.com please give me a call back at 979-302-5624. I'm trying to get some help getting my house fixed from the ice storm and Hurricane Harvey. I have cracks in the. House and I. I'm getting air coming in here. Please give me a call back at your earliest convenience. I'm in desperate need of some help getting work done on my house. Thank you and have a blessed day goodbye.	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). H-GAC staff returned your call to inform you about the uses of this funding source, which is not applicable to individual housing.	None
11/15/2022	Phone	Jim Herrinton				What due diligence is being done on the CDBG infrastructure applications. [Environmental consultant looking for information about what entities received allocations]	Thank you for providing feedback. We provided your comments to the H-GAC Board of Directors for their consideration prior to the Board's approval of the amendment on January 17, 2023, of an amended Method of Distribution (MOD) for submittal to the Texas General Land Office (GLO). Environmental review subject to the type of each project is completed by applicants prior to approval to use funds. For more information, we recommend contacting GLO directly.	None

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [HarveyMODComments@h-gac.com](mailto:HarveyMODComments@h-gac.com)  
**Subject:** Harvey-H-GAC Public Comment - by December 15 2022  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 11:07:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[Well Pictures with documentation 10-21-22.pdf](#)  
[James, Carolyn 2nd Level Complaint Response Letter 06.08.2022\(1\).pdf](#)

**CAUTION:** This message originated outside of H-GAC. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the source and know the content is safe. Report any suspicious email using the Phish Alert button.

Carolyn James – [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## 1. WATER WELL

Texas General Land Office “reconfigured” my water well and made it worse. **This is my only source of drinking water.** This is not a submersible pump (flood pump) as stated in the papers I signed for Texas Glo to build my home.

The “WATER” and the “WATER WELL” is not safe. **My pets will not drink the water and neither can I.**

Texas GLO also installed a water filter outside by the water well and I was told I had to find a way to protect it from the elements/weather. (Pictures below and attached)

The utilities go out often in this area and I have to prime this well with at least 20 gallons of water. I have had to go days without water. Please help to replace my pump.

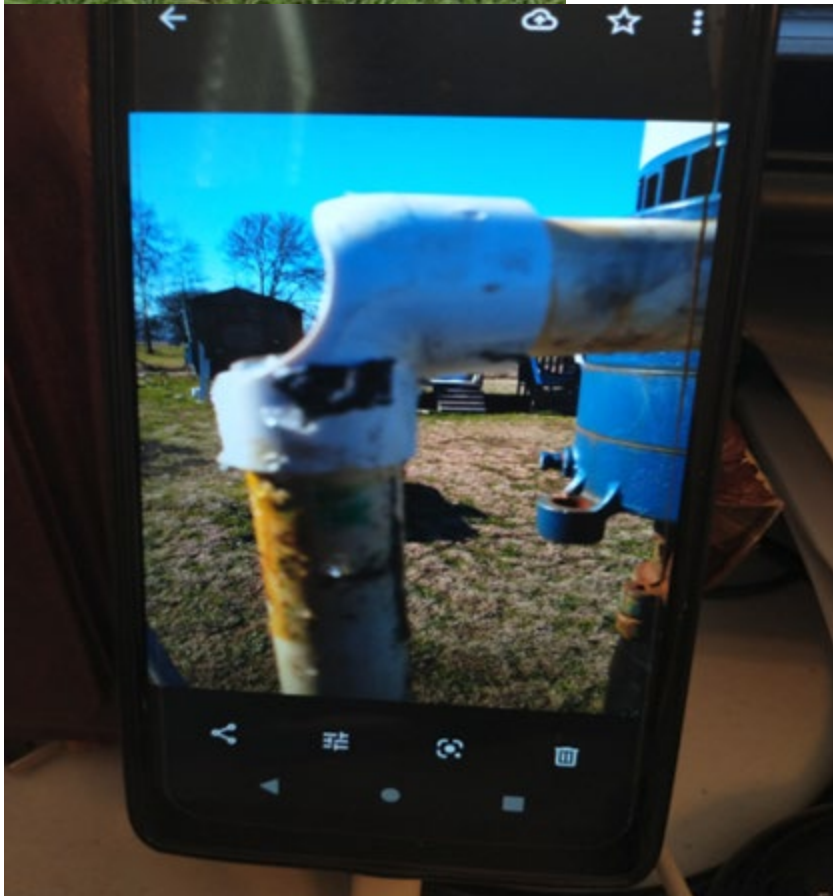
This well is ruining my appliances. When it’s cold weather pipes freeze and burst because it’s too high in the air. My neighbors do not have this problem.

**2. EXIT – Rear of Home** - My house is 7-ft 6 inches high. My husband has come down ill with cancer and has lost the use of his legs. The stove exploded, and that is when I realized that I could not get out if there was a fire. My husband is 85 and I am 66 years old.

**Please HELP! NOTE:** I have requested help and submitted appeals to Texas GLO and have been denied several times, last letter of denial enclosed which, in the way it’s worded, I only had problems with the water. It is the Water and The Water Well.

Please advise, I have been complaining about my water and the water well since I moved in my home in June 2020. I have been a victim of 2015, 2016 and Harvey 2017 declared floods...when I ask for help I have been told by Wharton County Officials that funding is only available for the "City" of Wharton.







1. Texas General Land Office “reconfigured” my water well and made it worse. This is not a submersible pump (flood pump) as stated in the papers I signed for the state to build my home. **. The “WATER” and the “WATER WELL” is not safe. My pets will not drink the water and neither can I.** They also installed a water filter that should be protected from the weather elements. The utilities go out often in this area and I have to prime this well with at least 20 gallons of water. **Please help to replace my pump.** This well is ruining my appliances. When it’s cold weather pipes freeze and burst because it’s too high in the air. My neighbors do not have this problem.
2. I need help to get a grant to have exits added to the back of my home. My house is 7-ft 6 inches high. My husband has come down ill with cancer and has lost the use of his legs. The stove exploded, and that is when I realized that I could not get out if there was a fire. **My husband is 85 and I am 66 years old and not working. Please HELP!**

**NOTE:** I have requested help from Texas GLO and have been denied several times, last letter of denial enclosed.



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE  
GEORGE P. BUSH, COMMISSIONER

June 08, 2022

Certified Mail: [REDACTED]

Carolyn James  
[REDACTED]

RE: Homeowner Assistance Program (HAP) Complaint

Dear Ms. James:

Thank you for contacting our Community Development and Revitalization Division at the Texas General Land Office (GLO). We appreciate your feedback and take all complaints seriously. We log and review all complaints to ensure compliance, so we can build back stronger and more resilient communities.

Lemoine Disaster Recovery tested the quality of your water well on April 29, 2022 and confirmed that it is free of contaminants. Any pending issues are likely the result of a low water table. Any further resolution to these issues is considered general homeowner maintenance. The GLO will not take any additional action regarding this item. Your complaint is now considered closed.

Please note that your one-year warranty expired on June 23, 2021. Non-structural warranty claims submitted after June 23, 2021 will not be addressed by Lemoine Disaster Recovery.

If you have further questions, then please contact me at [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Ashley Hurst  
Community & Quality Assurance  
Community Development and Revitalization  
Texas General Land Office

Cc: GLO Program Staff, Vendor

December 15, 2022

Jeff Taebel  
Director, Community and Environmental Planning  
Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)  
via email to [harveyMODcomments@h-gac.com](mailto:harveyMODcomments@h-gac.com)

Coalition for Equity, Environment, and Resilience (CEER) Comments on 2018 Hurricane Harvey Disaster Recovery Funds Reallocation Funds

Dear Mr. Taebel:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the H-GAC method of distribution for the remaining \$2,305,505 of the 2018 CDBG-DR allocation. The Coalition for Equity, Environment, and Resilience is a group of 28 nonprofits that work to raise awareness of the connections between pollution, place, and the public's health. Since our inception in 2018, we have advocated for the equitable distribution of disaster recovery funding and flood infrastructure investments.

To be effective, this method of distribution must ensure that the remaining CDBG-DR funds are reallocated to the areas with the greatest remaining unmet infrastructure needs. It is possible that the current damage hierarchy would reach that objective but H-GAC has not provided enough information about the data used to create the damage hierarchy to fully assess its potential effectiveness, including whether the damage hierarchy remains the same five years after Hurricane Harvey. The material conditions on the ground have changed dramatically since the initial disbursement of post-Harvey CDBG-DR funds, so it is crucial that H-GAC use current data to calculate the damage hierarchy. During the November 9th, 2022 Method of Distribution Public Planning Meeting, H-GAC staff made it clear that this funding could only be used on infrastructure, including drainage and flood infrastructure. Thus, the applied damage hierarchy should include data on remaining unmet infrastructure need and not solely data on housing damage. **We strongly urge H-GAC to make sure that the damage hierarchy uses up-to-date data that reflects a current assessment of remaining unmet infrastructure needs.**

Finally, we support H-GAC's decision not to pursue a waiver of the 70% LMI requirement. Structural inequality not only makes low-income communities and communities of color more vulnerable to disasters in the first place but also slows down the recovery process, making them more likely to have remaining unmet recovery needs years after a disaster. It is vital that low- and moderate-income communities are the primary beneficiaries of this funding.

In conclusion, we encourage H-GAC to include an assessment of unmet flood and drainage infrastructure needs in the reallocation formula for 2018 CDBG-DR funds and stronger



guidelines for subgrantees as they engage in land acquisition and home buyouts. Please let us know if we can provide further information.

Sincerely,

Sefania Tomaskovic, Executive Director  
CEER



Ayanna Jolivet Mccloud, Executive Director  
Bayou City Waterkeeper

Maddie Sloan  
Meg Duffy  
Texas Appleseed

