

**METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION
ALLOCATION
SUMMARY**



County Method of Distribution for 2015 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation

Summary Information

Contact Information

County: **Hidalgo**

Principal Contact Name, Title: **Ramon Garcia, County Judge, c/o Diana R. Serna, Executive Director**

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Principal Contact Address: **100 E. Cano St. 2nd Floor**

City, State, Zip: **Edinburg, TX 78539**

Allocation Summary

County Allocation for All Activities: **\$ 4,313,027**

Housing Activities Total: **\$ 1,380,169**

Non-Housing Activities Total: **\$ 2,932,858**

Citizen Participation

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

Regarding the first MOD public comment period, the Hidalgo County conducted three Public Hearings, one in each of the affected Precincts (#1 and #4) and one Public Hearing at the Hidalgo County – Urban County Program (UCP) office. However, UCP will be conducting another public comment period, to include a public hearing, after revisions were made to the original MOD. The UCP will conduct the revised MOD Public Hearing at the Hidalgo County – Urban County Program office.

Hidalgo County requested written comment for those unable to attend the meetings. No comments were received. Notice for the Public Meeting were advertised in the local newspaper in English and Spanish, the notice was also posted on the Hidalgo County website as well as copies provided to County Precinct Office, applicable City Halls and public libraries. The notice was also posted on the TexasRebuilds.org web page (Texas Rebuilds Community Development & Revitalization).

Hidalgo County will review the information provided by FEMA and Hidalgo County Precincts to determine the best use of non-housing and housing funds for residents of the most affected areas. All information pertaining to the MOD will be posted on the Hidalgo County Web site.

All sub grantees and/or sub recipients 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. 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.

First Public Hearing Information

Date/Time: Tuesday, November 1, 2016 Location: Hidalgo County Precinct No. 1 - 1902 Joe Stephens Ave., Ste. 101, Weslaco, TX 78599
 Attendance: Staff only (four)

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

	Method	Date Sent	Documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Electronic Mail	March 9, 2017	
<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** days in advance using the following method:

	Method	Date Published	Documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Website	October 28, 2016	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Website	March 11, 2017	

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

	Newspaper Name	Date Published	Documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Monitor	October 28, 2016	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Monitor	March 11, 2017	

Citizen Comment Documentation

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The required copy of a sign-in sheet from the public hearing is attached.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	A summary of the citizen comments and meeting discussion is attached.		
	Describe any efforts to notify and accommodate those with modified communication needs, such as posting information and providing interpretive services for other languages.	Notice was posted at County Precinct Offices, city halls and public libraries. For non-English speaking citizens/residents, the County offered translation assistance from Spanish speaking staff.	

Long-Term Planning and Recovery

Below is an explanation of how the region’s method of distribution fosters long-term community recovery that is forward-looking and focused on permanent restoration of infrastructure, housing and the local economy.

Due to the limited amount of Disaster Recovery CDBG funding available, the Method of Distribution focused initially on the most affected areas of the County. Discussion amongst the most affected County Precincts resulted in an agreement to prioritize the projects by assisting the most affected areas. Hidalgo County Urban County Program (UCP), in conjunction with Precinct staff, concluded that Precinct 1 and Precinct 4 were the most affected areas. The Precincts created surveys via Survey Monkey to obtain essential information from residents in those areas. The surveys completed allowed for the identification of specific subdivisions within each precinct. Additionally, it was determined that the affected areas in Precinct 1 currently have funding allocated to complete the drainage improvements to minimize future flooding. Precinct 4, however, does not have the funding to complete their drainage improvement projects. Therefore, the County has determined that all round 3 General Land Office funds will be utilized for both housing and non-housing needs in the affected Precinct 4 subdivisions. An item of note, UCP utilized Census.gov along with HUD provided census tract and block group data to determine Precinct 4 affected areas, which was identified to be 71.57% LMI. As such, these improvement projects will address key infrastructure systems which will minimize the extent of flooding in this area.

Non-Housing Method of Distribution Detail

The County is required to prepare a method of distribution for non-housing activity funds between the eligible entities. The GLO has directed the County to use a direct allocation technique based on objective, verifiable data. The Method of Distribution will identify how it meets benefiting 70% low-to-moderate persons requirement, the entities eligible to serve as grantees and contract with the GLO, supports minimum allocation amounts that help ensure project feasibility, and provides an explanation of the distribution factors selected.

Distribution Factors

The County has selected the following distribution factors:

Distribution Factor*	Weight	Documentation Source	Explanation of Factor Selection and Weighting
County Precinct(s) Affected Area	100	County Precinct Assessment of Affected Areas	The County Precinct assessment identified the areas most affected areas the County. Two Precincts reported flooded subdivisions. Due to Precinct 1 already allocating other funds to their affected areas, Hidalgo County will focus on Precinct 4’s most affected area(s). The County is planning to combine its non-housing and housing funding that will be concentrated in the most area in an effort to improve key infrastructure systems and that includes housing assistance.

*Add more rows if needed

All allocations must meet or exceed a floor of \$100,000 to help ensure sufficient funds for at least one eligible project.

Eligible Activities

Grantee activities must be specifically related to 2015 disaster(s), and must meet the following criteria:

- Activity must be a CDBG-eligible project;
- Activity must be in response to a 2015 disaster(s) related impact in one of the following ways:
 - Direct verifiable damage from the disaster(s) that requires improvement of conditions, or
 - The facilities must have failed to function in the normal capacity as a result of the disaster(s).
- The County has added a stipulation that projects must meet a regionally-established recovery priority.

The County has addressed prioritization of eligible activities as follows:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The County has chosen not to limit Grantees in the region to projects meeting regional priority activities.		
-OR-			
<input type="checkbox"/>	The County has limited Grantees 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"/>	Specially Authorized Assistance to Private Utilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Debris Removal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Centers & Emergency Shelters (Existing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning and Urban Environmental Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Protection Facilities and Equipment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parks, Playgrounds and other Recreational Facilities		

Housing Method of Distribution Detail

The County is required to prepare a method of distribution for housing activity funds between the eligible entities. The GLO has directed the County to use a direct allocation technique based on objective, verifiable data, including Needs Assessment data provided by the GLO. The Method of Distribution will identify how it meets benefiting 70% low-to-moderate persons requirement, the entities eligible to serve as grantees and contract with the GLO, supports minimum allocation amounts that help ensure project feasibility, and provides an explanation of the distribution factors selected.

Distribution Factors

The County has selected the following distribution factors:

Distribution Factor*	Weight	Documentation Source	Explanation of Factor Selection and Weighting
County Precinct(s) Affected Area	100	County Precinct Assessment of Affected Areas	The County Precinct assessment identified the areas most affected areas the County. Two Precincts reported flooded subdivisions. Due to Precinct 1 already allocating other funds to their affected areas, Hidalgo County will focus on Precinct 4's most affected area(s). The County is planning to combine its non-housing and housing funding that will be concentrated in the most area in an effort to improve key infrastructure systems and that includes housing

			assistance.
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*Add more rows if needed

All allocations must meet or exceed a floor of \$500,000 to help ensure sufficient funds for at least one feasible housing program.

Eligible Activities

Grantee activities must be specifically related to 2015 disaster(s), and must meet the following criteria:

- Activity must be a CDBG-eligible project;
- Activity must be in response to a 2015 disaster(s) related impact in one of the following ways:
 - Direct verifiable damage from the disaster(s) that requires improvement of conditions, or
 - The housing replaces units lost or damaged by the disaster(s).

The County has addressed prioritization of eligible activities as follows:

<input type="checkbox"/>	The County has chosen not to limit Grantees in the county to projects meeting regional priority activities.		
-OR-			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The County has limited Grantees in the region to selecting projects meeting the following regional priority activities:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single-family repair and rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-family repair and rehabilitation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single-family replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-family replacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single-family elevation of homes in flood plains	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Multi-family to replace multi-family stock
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single family relocation from flood plains or identified environmental hazards	<input type="checkbox"/>	Buyouts

Approval and Signatory Authority

A Resolution of the County is attached 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.

Signature

Date

Diana R. Serna

Printed Name

Director

Title

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