Disclaimer

Attached is a draft of the Community Services Block Grant Disaster Relief Supplemental Funds Needs Assessment and Proposed Allocation Table Notice for Public Comment that was approved by TDHCA staff on February 25, 2020.

Public Comment

Public Comment Period: Starts: 4 PM Austin local time on February 25, 2020 Ends: 5 PM Austin local time on March 3, 2020

Comments received after 5 PM Austin local time on March 3, 2020 will not be accepted.

Written comments may be submitted, in hard copy/fax or electronic formats to:

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
Attn: Rita Garza
P.O. Box 13941
Austin, Texas 78711-3941
Fax: (512) 475-3935
Email: rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us

Written comments may be submitted in hard copy, fax, or email formats within the designated public comment period. Those making public comment are encouraged to reference the specific draft rule, policy, or plan related to their comment as well as a specific reference or cite associated with each comment.

Please be aware that all comments submitted to the TDHCA will be considered public information.
OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT ON NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED ALLOCATION TABLE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS

BACKGROUND:
On June 6, 2019, the Additional Supplemental Appropriation for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-20) was signed into law. The law provides the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program with an additional $25 million to address the consequences of presidentially declared disasters in 2018 and 2019. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Community Services (OCS), will allocate the funds to states, territories, and tribes based on an assessment of need. States in turn will issue CSBG Disaster Relief Supplemental Funds (DRSF) to CSBG eligible entities serving areas impacted by one of the eligible disasters. DRSFs will be available in three stages and states must apply for each stage of funding.

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (the Department) is the state lead agency in Texas that will receive the CSBG DRSFs. The Department submitted a Stage 1 application in December 2019, for DRSFs and has been awarded the funds.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT:
As part of receiving Stage 1 funds, HHS-OCS requires the State to issue its Needs Assessment and Allocation Formula for review and comment prior to distribution. The proposed allocation table below indicates the proposed funding available for each stage. The Department is posting this document to receive public comment on the Needs Assessment and proposed DRSF Allocation Formula. The period to accept comments from the public will be open from Tuesday, February 25, 2020, through Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Austin local time. Public comment is to be submitted via e-mail to rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us or by mail to Rita Garza, P.O. Box 13941, Austin, TX 78711-3941.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT:
Texas’ need for the DRSF is based on receiving two separate presidential disaster declarations for storms and flooding which impacted 10 counties occurring in calendar year 2019. Further, as part of the assessment of need, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance (IA) was authorized, for which households in the 10 impacted counties registered. The two disaster declarations, the impacted counties, and IA data for each disaster are listed below:

1) DR-4454, Severe Storms and Flooding, impacted Cameron, Willacy, and Hidalgo counties. Incident period June 24-25, 2019. Disaster declaration made on July 17, 2019. FEMA program dollars approved, per FEMA data on website as of February 25, 2020, totals $12,809,066. As of December 6, 2019, a total of 5,850 IA requests for the three counties (Cameron=2,906, Willacy=895, Hidalgo=2,045). Of the valid IA requests by county, the following have reported damage to their homes: 2,668 in Cameron County, 834 in Willacy County, and 1,960 in Hidalgo County for a total of 5,462 homes.
OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT ON NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED ALLOCATION TABLE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS

2) DR-4466, Tropical Storm Imelda, impacted Chambers, Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, Montgomery, Orange, and San Jacinto counties. Incident period September 17-23, 2019. Disaster declaration made on October 4, 2019. FEMA program dollars approved, per FEMA data on website as of February 25, 2020, totals $68,523,894. As of December 6, 2019, a total of 26,202 IA requests for the seven counties (Chambers=1,086, Harris=8,182, Jefferson=8,182, Liberty=1,939, Montgomery=2,804, Orange=3,503, San Jacinto=103). Of the valid IA requests, the following have reported damage to their homes: 990 in Chambers County, 6,594 in Harris County, 7,034 in Jefferson County, 1,730 in Liberty County, 2,556 in Montgomery County, 3,185 in Orange County, and 99 in San Jacinto County for a total of 22,188 homes.

HHS-OCS requires that eligible entities who will receive CSBG DRSF submit a Disaster Needs Assessment (DNA) to the State. A DNA is needed in order for CSBG eligible entities to: 1) determine the needs of persons impacted by the presidentially declared disaster, 2) develop a plan of action to address the identified needs, and 3) coordinate services with organizations working to serve the needs of these families. The Department has issued guidance and instructions to these eligible entities regarding the development of the DNA. Data and findings from their DNA will be utilized to submit a Disaster Community Action Plan outlining the proposed activities and budget for each stage of CSBG DRSF funds.

ELIGIBILITY: Low-income persons that live in one of the impacted zip codes related to DR-4454 and DR-4466 may be eligible for the DRSF. As with regular CSBG funding, eligible households must meet 125% FPIG. CSBG DRSF cannot be used to assist persons with expenses that have been or will be reimbursed by FEMA or insurance.

PROPOSED ALLOCATION FORMULA:

The following CSBG eligible entities serve the counties impacted by the presidentially-declared disasters and have expressed an interest in receiving their allotment of the DRSF:

1) DR4454
   a. Hidalgo County Community Services Agency-Hidalgo County
   b. Cameron and Willacy Counties Communities Projects, Inc.-Cameron and Willacy counties

2) DR4466
   a. Brazos Valley Community Action Program-Chambers, Liberty, and Montgomery counties
   b. Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission-Jefferson and Orange counties

NOTE: Greater East Texas Community Action Program (San Jacinto County) and Gulf Coast Community Services Association (Harris County) whose areas include counties impacted by the declared disasters have opted to not receive DRSF.

The allocation distribution reflected below is calculated based on each eligible county’s proportional share of the number of Total Valid FEMA Registrants. Total Valid FEMA Registrants per county is derived from data obtained from FEMA.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County/Parish</th>
<th>Total Valid FEMA Registrants</th>
<th>Percentage FEMA Registrants</th>
<th>Estimated Allocation Stage 1</th>
<th>Estimated Allocation Stage 2</th>
<th>Estimated Allocation Stage 3</th>
<th>FEMA DR #</th>
<th>CSBG Eligible Entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cameron (County)</td>
<td>2,926</td>
<td>12.48%</td>
<td>$12,483</td>
<td>$136,288</td>
<td>$101,119</td>
<td>DR-4454 Severe Storms &amp; Flooding</td>
<td>Cameron Willacy CCP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willacy (County)</td>
<td>897</td>
<td>3.83%</td>
<td>$3,827</td>
<td>$41,781</td>
<td>$30,999</td>
<td>DR-4454 Severe Storms &amp; Flooding</td>
<td>Cameron Willacy CCP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo (County)</td>
<td>2,085</td>
<td>8.90%</td>
<td>$8,895</td>
<td>$97,115</td>
<td>$72,055</td>
<td>DR-4454 Severe Storms &amp; Flooding</td>
<td>Hidalgo County CSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson (County)</td>
<td>8,206</td>
<td>35.01%</td>
<td>$35,009</td>
<td>$382,220</td>
<td>$283,590</td>
<td>DR-4466 Tropical Storm Imelda</td>
<td>SETRPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange (County)</td>
<td>3,498</td>
<td>14.92%</td>
<td>$14,923</td>
<td>$162,930</td>
<td>$120,887</td>
<td>DR-4466 Tropical Storm Imelda</td>
<td>SETRPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty (County)</td>
<td>1,948</td>
<td>8.31%</td>
<td>$8,311</td>
<td>$90,734</td>
<td>$67,321</td>
<td>DR-4466 Tropical Storm Imelda</td>
<td>BVCAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery (County)</td>
<td>2,802</td>
<td>11.95%</td>
<td>$11,954</td>
<td>$130,512</td>
<td>$96,834</td>
<td>DR-4466 Tropical Storm Imelda</td>
<td>BVCAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chambers (County)</td>
<td>1,078</td>
<td>4.60%</td>
<td>$4,599</td>
<td>$50,211</td>
<td>$37,254</td>
<td>DR-4466 Tropical Storm Imelda</td>
<td>BVCAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$100,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,091,791</strong></td>
<td><strong>$810,059</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Texas has been awarded $100,000 for Stage 1 and anticipates receiving $1,091,791 for Stage 2 and $810,059 for Stage 3 funding. The table above shows the proposed allocation for each county. **If any of the proposed eligible entities decides to not accept funds, the funding will be redistributed proportionally to the remaining entities based on the number of Total Valid FEMA Registrants.**