



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**

Principal Contact Telephone: **(956) 787-8127**

Principal Contact Email: countyjudge@co.hidalgo.tx.us, diana.serna@co.hidalgo.tx.us

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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: **\$ 2,932,585**

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:

Hidalgo County has 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 office.

Hidalgo County requested written comment for those unable to attend the meetings. No comments were received. Notices for the Public Meetings were advertised in the local newspaper in English and Spanish, the notice was also posted on the Hidalgo County website as well as posted at Hidalgo County Precinct No. 1, Precinct No. 4, Urban County Program offices. The notice was also posted on the TexasRebuilds.org web page (Texas Rebuilds Community Development & Revitalization).

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

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		
<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	

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"/>	<i>The Monitor</i>	October 28, 2016	
<input type="checkbox"/>			

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.	
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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 first. Priority will be established to address key infrastructure systems which will correct damage and alleviate future disasters, particularly flooding. Additionally, the same method of priority will be used for new housing repairs and/or reconstruction. The overall plan is to funnel housing funding into areas that will be improved with the non-housing funds.

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
Number of Low/Moderate Income Individuals	50	FY 2016 LMISD Data, 2006-2010 American Community Survey	The number of individuals who are low to moderate income as defined by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. This factor was included because the funds are intended to benefit low to moderate income individuals. It was weighted less heavily than the damage assessment factor because the data was for the entire jurisdiction and is not directly tied to areas affected by the flood.
County Precinct(s) Affected Areas	30	County Drainage District Assessment of Affected Areas	The County is utilizing the "Assessment of affected Areas" to determine the most impacted sections of the County. Additionally, creating a plan to combine funding that will concentrate on one of those areas in an effort to improve both non-housing and housing projects.
FEMA Verified Loss	20	FIDA 24549 4223 4245 Unmet Needs Hidalgo County	The total value of FEMA Verified Loss by jurisdiction based on aggregation by address. This factor was weighted more heavily because it is tied directly to the areas most impacted.

*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 Areas	50	County Drainage District Assessment of Affected Areas	The County is utilizing the “Assessment of affected Areas” to determine the most impacted sections of the County. Additionally, creating a plan to combine funding that will concentrate on one of those areas in an effort to improve both non-housing and housing projects.
FEMA Verified Loss	30	FIDA 24549 4223 4245 Unmet Needs Hidalgo County	The total value of FEMA Verified Loss by jurisdiction based on aggregation by address. This factor was weighted more heavily because it is tied directly to the areas most impacted.
Number of Low/Moderate Income Individuals	20	FY 2016 LMISD Data, 2006-2010	The number of individuals who are low to moderate income as defined by the US

		American Community Survey	Department of Housing and Urban Development. This factor was included because the funds are intended to benefit low to moderate income individuals. It was weighted less heavily than the damage assessment factor because the data was for the entire jurisdiction and is not directly tied to areas affected by the flood.
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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

Diana R. Serna

 Printed Name

diana.serna@co.hidalgo.tx.us

 Email Address



 Date

Executive Director

 Title

(956)787-8127

 Telephone Number