

**Resolution 2023-25 Regarding Civil Rights
City of La Feria, Texas**

Whereas, City of La Feria, Texas, (hereinafter referred to as "City of La Feria") has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grant from the Texas General Land Office (hereinafter referred to as "GLO");

Whereas, City of La Feria, in accordance with Section 109 of the Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act. (24 CFR 6); the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107); and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and for construction contracts greater than \$10,000, must take actions to ensure that no person or group is denied benefits such as employment, training, housing, and contracts generated by the CDBG-DR activity, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability;

Whereas, City of La Feria, in consideration for the receipt and acceptance of federal funding for the Contract, agrees to comply with all federal rules and regulations including those rules and regulations governing citizen participation and civil rights protections;

Whereas, City of La Feria, in accordance with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, and 24 CFR Part 135 is required, to the greatest extent feasible, to provide training and employment opportunities to lower income residents and contract opportunities to businesses in the CDBG-DR project area;

Whereas, City of La Feria, in accordance with Section 104(1) of the Housing and Community Development Act, as amended, and State's certification requirements at 24 CFR 91.325(b)(6), must adopt an excessive force policy that prohibits the use of excessive force against non-violent civil rights demonstrations;

Whereas, City of La Feria, in accordance with Executive Order 13166, must take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to services in federally assisted programs and activities by persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and must have an LEP plan in place specific to the locality and beneficiaries for each CDBG-DR project;

Whereas, City of La Feria, in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, does not discriminate on the basis of disability and agrees to ensure that qualified individuals with disabilities have access to programs and activities that receive federal funds; and

Whereas, City of La Feria, in accordance with Section 808(e)(5) of the Fair Housing Act (42 USC 3608(e)(5)) that requires HUD programs and activities be administered in a manner affirmatively to further the policies of the Fair Housing Act, agrees to conduct at least one activity during the contract period, to affirmatively further fair housing;

Whereas, City of La Feria, has designated an overseer and will maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE City Council OF City of La Feria, TEXAS, THAT City of La Feria ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING:

1. Citizen Participation Plan and Grievance Procedures;
2. Section 3 Policy;
3. Excessive Force Policy;
4. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Standards Plan;
5. Section 504 Policy and Grievance Procedures;
6. Code of Conduct Policy; and
7. Fair Housing Policy.

Passed and approved this 26 day of September, 2023.

Olga H. Maldonado

Signature of Elected Official
City of La Feria

Olga H. Maldonado

Printed Name of Elected Official

**LA FERIA
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE (GLO)
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – DISASTER RECOVERY (CDBG-DR) PROGRAM**

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

These complaint procedures comply with the requirements of the Texas General Land Office's Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program and Local Government Requirements found in 24 CFR §570.486 (Code of Federal Regulations). Citizens can obtain a copy of these procedures at La Feria offices, 115 E Commercial Ave, La Feria, Texas 78559, (Street Address), (956) 797-2261 (Phone) during regular business hours.

Below are the formal complaint and grievance procedures regarding the services provided under the CDBG-DR project.

1. A person who has a complaint or grievance about any services or activities with respect to the CDBG-DR project(s), whether it is a proposed, ongoing, or completed CDBG-DR project(s), may during regular business hours submit such complaint or grievance, in writing to the Mayor of La Feria at 115 E Commercial Ave, La Feria, Texas 78559 or may call (956) 797-2261.
2. A copy of the complaint or grievance shall be transmitted by the Mayor to the entity that is the subject of the complaint or grievance and to the City Attorney within five (5) working days after the date of the complaint or grievance was received.
3. The Mayor shall complete an investigation of the complaint or grievance, if practicable, and provide a timely written answer to person who made the complaint or grievance within ten (10) days.
4. If the investigation cannot be completed within ten (10) working days per 3. above, the person who made the grievance or complaint shall be notified, in writing, within fifteen (15) days where practicable after receipt of the original complaint or grievance and shall detail when the investigation should be completed.
5. If necessary, the grievance and a written copy of the subsequent investigation shall be forwarded to the CDBG-DR for their further review and comment.
6. If appropriate, provide copies of grievance procedures and responses to grievances in both English and Spanish, or other appropriate language.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

When requested, the City shall provide technical assistance to groups that are representative of persons of low- and moderate-income in developing proposals for the use of CDBG-DR funds. The City, based upon the specific needs of the community's residents at the time of the request, shall determine the level and type of assistance.

PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS

In instances of a change in scope or impact to beneficiaries that result in a 15% increase or decrease in quantities, a 25% variance in number of beneficiaries, addition or subtraction of a targeted beneficiary area, or addition or subtraction of a HUD activity, the City shall provide for reasonable public notice, appraisal, examination and comment on the activities proposed for the use of CDBG-DR funds. These efforts shall include:

1. Provide for and encourage citizen participation, particularly by low and moderate income persons who reside in slum or blighted areas and areas in which CDBG-DR funds are proposed to be used;
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2. Ensure that citizens will be given reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records relating to an entity's proposed and actual use of CDBG-DR funds;
3. Furnish citizens information, including but not limited to:
 - a) the amount of CDBG-DR funds expected to be made available
 - b) the range of activities that may be undertaken with the CDBG-DR funds
 - c) the estimated amount of the CDBG-DR funds proposed to be used for activities that will meet the national objective of benefit to low and moderate income persons
 - d) if applicable, the proposed CDBG-DR activities likely to result in displacement and the entity's anti-displacement and relocation plan;
4. Provide citizens with reasonable advance notice of, and opportunity to comment on, proposed activities in an application to the state and, for grants already made, activities which are proposed to be added, deleted or substantially changed from the entity's application to the state. Substantially changed means changes made in terms of purpose, scope, location or beneficiaries as defined by criteria established by the state; and
5. These outreach efforts may be accomplished through one or more of the following methods:
 - a) Publication of notice in a local newspaper—a published newspaper article may be used so long as it provides sufficient information regarding program activities and relevant dates;
 - b) Notices prominently posted in public buildings and distributed to local Public Housing Authorities and other interested community groups;
 - c) Posting of notice on the local entity website (if available);
 - d) Public Hearing; or
 - e) Individual notice to eligible cities and other entities as applicable using one or more of the following methods:
 - i. Certified mail
 - ii. Electronic mail or fax
 - iii. First-class (regular) mail
 - iv. Personal delivery (e.g., at a Council of Governments [COG] meeting).

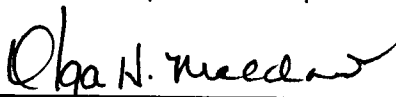
PUBLIC HEARING PROVISIONS

For each public hearing scheduled and conducted by a CDBG-DR applicant or recipient, the following public hearing provisions shall be observed:

1. 1. Furnish citizens information, including but not limited to:
 - (a) The amount of CDBG-DR funds available per application for Hurricane Harvey;
 - (b) The range of activities that may be undertaken with the CDBG-DR Hurricane Harvey funds;
 - (c) The estimated amount of the CDBG-DR Hurricane Harvey funds proposed to be used for activities that will meet the national objective of benefit to low- and moderate-income persons; and
 - (d) The proposed CDBG-DR activities likely to result in displacement and the unit of general local government's antidisplacement and relocation plans required under 24 CFR 570.488.
2. Public notice of any hearings must be published at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the scheduled hearing. The public notice must be published in a local newspaper. Each public notice **MUST** include the DATE, TIME, LOCATION and TOPICS to be considered at the public hearing. A published newspaper article may also be used to meet this requirement so long as it meets all content and timing requirements. Notices should also be prominently posted in public buildings and distributed to local Public Housing Authorities and other interested community groups.
3. Each public hearing shall be held at a time and location convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries and will include accommodation for persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities must be able

aviso público DEBE incluir la FECHA, TIEMPO, LOCALIZACIÓN y TEMAS a ser considerados en la audiencia pública. Un artículo de periódico publicado también puede usarse para cumplir este requisito, siempre y cuando cumpla con todos los requisitos de contenido y tiempo. Los avisos también deben ser destacados en los edificios públicos y distribuidos a las Autoridades Locales de Vivienda ya otros grupos comunitarios interesados.

3. Cada audiencia pública se celebrará en un momento y lugar conveniente para los beneficiarios potenciales o reales e incluirá alojamiento para personas con discapacidades. Las personas con discapacidades deben ser capaces de asistir a las audiencias y el solicitante debe hacer arreglos para las personas que requieren ayudas o servicios auxiliares si se ponen en contacto por lo menos dos días antes de cada audiencia.
4. Cuando un número significativo de residentes que no hablan inglés puede ser razonablemente esperado para participar en una audiencia pública, un intérprete estará presente para acomodar las necesidades de los residentes que no hablan inglés.
5. La Ciudad puede conducir una audiencia pública a través de un seminario si también siguen las disposiciones anteriores. Si el seminario web se utiliza para llevar a cabo una audiencia pública, debe ponerse a disposición de los ciudadanos un lugar físico con adaptaciones razonables asociadas para garantizar que los individuos sin la tecnología necesaria puedan participar.
6. Si es aplicable, la localidad debe conservar la documentación de los avisos de audiencia, las listas de asistencia, las actas de las audiencias y cualquier otro registro referente al uso real de los fondos por un período de tres años después del cierre del proyecto. Dichos registros deben ponerse a disposición del público de conformidad con el Capítulo 552, Código del Gobierno.



Signature

Olga H. Maldonado
Name, Alcalde

9 - 26 - 2023
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