

Texas General Land Office

State of Texas CDBG-Mitigation Regional Mitigation Program
MIT COG MOD Citizen Participation Plan (CPP)



Delivered to the GLO: _____

Approved by the GLO: _____

Contact Information

Council of Governments (COG): Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG)

Principal Contact Name, Title: Dee Harrison, Homeland Security Administrative Coordinator

Principal Contact Telephone: (512) 916-6035

Principal Contact Email: dharrison@capcog.org

Outreach

Explain how the COG will encourage citizens, with particular emphasis on persons of low- and moderate-income and other vulnerable populations, to submit their views regarding local mitigation needs and long-term resiliency solutions against future disaster(s).

CAPCOG will conduct two hybrid in-person and virtual public hearings with local elected and appointed officials, school officials, community organization leaders, stakeholders and residents of the four counties included in the CDBG Regional Mitigation Program to request input on planning priorities, local mitigation needs, and long-term resiliency solutions against future disasters and the proposed method of distribution. Meetings will be held both in-person and virtually using Microsoft Teams. Registration for the meetings will be posted on the CAPCOG website and registered participants will be emailed the Microsoft Teams link 24 hours prior to the date of the meetings.

CAPCOG will use a variety of methods to notify residents, especially those who are low-and moderate-income, non-English speaking, and other socially vulnerable populations. The methods will include:

- English and Spanish language notices in local newspapers, both print and on-line versions
- CAPCOG email distribution lists
- postings on CAPCOG social media sites
- press releases to local news media
- correspondence targeting local agencies and organizations that provide services to low- and moderate-income residents and other socially vulnerable populations
- the CAPCOG website
- the CAPCOG monthly newsletter, Connections

List the local government entities that will receive written notification concerning the date, time, location and topics to be covered at the method of distribution public hearings, at a minimum including:

- Cities;
- Counties; and
- Indian Tribes.

Bastrop County

- Cities of Bastrop, Elgin, and Smithville

Caldwell County

- Cities of Lockhart, Luling, and Martindale

Fayette County

- Cities of Carmine, Ellinger, Fayetteville, Flatonia, LaGrange, Round Top, and Schulenburg

Lee County

- Cities of Giddings and Lexington

List which local organizations that provide services or housing for low- and moderate-income persons will receive written notification concerning the date, time, location and topics to be covered at the method of distribution public hearings, at a minimum including:

- Local Public Housing Authorities;
- Local Health and Human Services Offices;
- Local mental health and MHMR Offices;
- Community Development Corporations; and
- Community Housing Development Organizations.

Local Public Housing Authorities:

- Bastrop County: County Housing Authority and Cities of Elgin, Smithville, and Waelder Housing Authorities
- Caldwell County: Lockhart and Luling Housing Authorities
- Fayette County: Flatonia, LaGrange, and Schulenburg Housing Authorities
- Lee County: Lee County Housing Authority

Local Health and Human Services Offices:

- Capital Area Agency on Aging (AAA), Capital Area Aging and Disability Resource Center office in Austin

Local Mental Health and IDD Offices:

- Bluebonnet Trails Community Services offices in Bastrop, Elgin, Giddings, LaGrange, Lockhart, Luling, and Schulenburg

Local Community Development Corporations (CDCs):

- Frameworks CDC (serves all counties, Bastrop Economic Development Corporation (EDC), Caldwell County EDC, Fayette County EDC, Fayetteville EDC, and Giddings EDC)

Community Housing Development Corporations: See Housing Authorities and CDCs/EDCs above

List which local organizations interested in fair housing issues and representing protected classes of individuals will be contacted to gain additional perspective on fair housing and civil rights issues in the region, including how the people they represent were affected by past disaster(s). Approaches beyond simple written notification of public hearings are encouraged.

Local Mental Health and IDD Offices that have participated in disaster response activities and/or federally-funded disaster grants and/or Crisis Counseling Program (CCP) grants:

- Bluebonnet Trails Community Services offices in Bastrop, Elgin, Giddings, LaGrange, Lockhart, Luling, and Schulenburg

Frameworks CDC (serves all counties)

Texas Appleseed (serves all counties)

Texas Housers (serves all counties)

Texas NAACP (serves all counties)

Accommodations

Explain how the COG will address Limited English Proficiency and disabilities, including auditory and visual impairments, that may hamper efforts to effectively notify residents, if necessary.

Notices for public hearings and media releases and advisories will be sent to local print and broadcast media outlets that serve the residents of the four counties that are part of this program, The media distribution will include those who serve non-English speaking and Limited English Proficiency populations and persons with disabilities, including those with visual and/or hearing impairments, behavioral health disorders, and/or IDD.

CAPCOG will provide reasonable accommodations for persons attending the public meetings. Requests from persons needing special accommodations will be requested 48 hours prior to the public meetings. The meetings will be conducted in English and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Explain how the COG will provide interpretive services when a significant number of Limited English Proficiency residents will participate in the public hearing, if necessary.

CAPCOG uses a variety of methods to communicate with non-English speaking residents. CAPCOG and Fayette County have Spanish speaking employees who can provide translation services. In addition, CAPCOG subscribes to a telephone service that provides translation services for multiple languages. CAPCOG will provide American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation services, if requested within 48 hours of the public meetings.

Accessibility

Explain how the COG will hold hearings at a time and location convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries, and how the COG will provide accommodations in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The public meetings will be held as hybrid meetings, both in-person and virtually via Microsoft Teams at CAPCOG offices and in Fayette County to ensure participation by the most potential or actual residents/beneficiaries possible. Both in-person meeting locations are handicapped accessible and comply with ADA requirements for government buildings.

Efforts Exceeding Minimum Participation Requirements

Explain how the COG will seek additional public participation when developing the Method of Distribution.

CAPCOG will continue to identify other government agencies and organizations that can provide additional input and expertise and expand upon representation of the residents of Bastrop, Caldwell, Fayette, and Lee Counties.

Public Hearing Content

The public hearings will include at a minimum a discussion of the following topics:

- The development of projects to mitigate the effects of future disasters;
- The amount of funding available;
- All eligible activities under the Community Development Block Grant Mitigation program, including linking activities to the mitigation needs of the region;
- Proposed objective factors; and
- The GLO-conditionally-approved Preliminary Method of Distribution for the MOD Public Hearing.

Public Hearings Scheduling Information

To the extent possible, the COG will adhere to the following schedule of hearings and notifications:

Public Planning Meeting – 1st Public Hearing

Date/Time:	05/09/22, 12 - 1 PM	Location:	CAPCOG Pecan Room, 6800 Burleson Rd, Bldg. 310, Suite 165, Austin, TX 78744		
Virtual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In-Person	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

MOD Public Hearing – 2nd Public Hearing

Date/Time:	07/6/22, 12-1 PM	Location:	CAPCOG Pecan Room, 6800 Burleson Rd, Bldg. 310, Suite 165, Austin, TX 78744		
Virtual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In-Person	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Optional Additional Public Hearings

Date/Time:	05/13/22, 2 - 3 PM		Location:	Fayette Co. EMS, 1721 N Von Minden Rd., La Grange, TX 78945			
Virtual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In-Person	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Planning Meeting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOD Public Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date/Time:			Location:				
Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>	In-Person	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Planning Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOD Public Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date/Time:			Location:				
Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>	In-Person	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Planning Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOD Public Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date/Time:			Location:				
Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>	In-Person	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Planning Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOD Public Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date/Time:			Location:				
Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>	In-Person	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Planning Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOD Public Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>

Notification Methods

Notification consistent with GLO requirements will be provided on or before the following dates:

Dates Direct Notice of Hearings will be sent to entities:	5/3/22 & 6/1/22 or NLT 5 days before date of hearing
Dates Notice of Hearings will be published on the COG's Website:	4/29/22 & 6/1/22 or NLT 5 days before date of hearing
Dates Notice of Hearings will be published in regional newspaper(s):	5/4 & 6/1 or NLT 5 days before date of hearing, depending on newspaper publication date(s)

Posting of GLO-conditionally-approved Preliminary Method of Distribution for Public Review

Date/Time:	7/27/ 2022 for at least 15 days	Website Address:	www.capcog.org
------------	------------------------------------	------------------	----------------