



Texas General Land Office

PUBLIC NOTICE

Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS AND FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD (FFRMS) FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS

February 11, 2026

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

These notices shall satisfy three separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about February 27, 2026, the GLO will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District for the release of Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds appropriated under the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-123), as amended, to undertake a project known as the Channel Rehabilitation at Kuykendahl and Cypress Hill Stormwater Detention Basin and Channel Rehabilitation at Interstate Highway (IH) 45 and Senger Stormwater Detention Basin Project for the purpose of improving stormwater conveyance and decreasing flood risk within the Cypress Creek watershed through construction of channel benches along a 3,000-linear foot segment of Cypress Creek at Kuykendahl Road and a 4,300-linear foot segment of Cypress Creek at IH-45, a wet bottom stormwater detention basin with 147acre-feet of detention capacity, a dry bottom stormwater detention basin with 487 acre-feet of detention capacity, permanent and temporary access roads, overflow weirs, and outfall structures, at a total cost of \$52,334,173.60. The project site is in north-central Harris County, Texas

FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD (FFRMS) FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS

This is to give notice that GLO, under 24 CFR Part 58, has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under HUD's CDBG-MIT Program, GLO Contract# 24-064-000-E151 and HUD grant ID B-18-DP-48-0002. The proposed project is located along the downstream section of Cypress Creek near Kuykendahl Road and IH-45 in northwest Harris County. The project is within the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain and wetlands. The extent of



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the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 0.2-Percent-Annual Chance Floodplain Approach (0.2 PFA). The project meets HUD's definition of critical action under 24 CFR 55.2(b)(3). All actions occurring in the Regulatory Floodway will be functionally dependent as defined under 24 CFR 55.8(a).

The project will improve the stormwater conveyance in the main stem of Cypress Creek through construction of channel benches along approximately 3,000 linear feet near Kuykendahl Road and 4,300 linear feet near IH-45. The project will also increase stormwater detention volume with the construction of a wet bottom stormwater detention basin with 147 acre-feet of detention capacity near Kuykendahl Road and construction of a dry bottom stormwater detention basin with 487 acre-feet of detention capacity near IH-45. The purpose of the project is to alleviate flooding within the Cypress Creek watershed and to remove the 100-year floodplain from approximately 84 structures and reduce flooding impacts from approximately 480 structures identified in the flood hazard area.

Approximately 133 acres of the project site are within the FFRMS floodplain. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panels 48201C0265M and 48201C0270M (effective October 16, 2013), shows approximately 85.1 acres of the project site are in the Regulatory Floodway (Zone AE), 44.3 acres are in the 100-Year Floodplain (Zone AE), 3.6 acres are in the 500-Year Floodplain (Zone X), and 6 acres are outside of the floodplain (Zone X). The proposed action includes 0.35 acres of wetland impacts. The impacted wetlands provide no recreational, educational, scientific, cultural, or historic value. However, wetlands have the potential to provide similar benefits as those provided by the project, including floodwater storage, erosion control, water quality maintenance, and habitat for flora and fauna.

GLO has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain and wetlands: Alternative 1) One wet bottom stormwater detention basin with channel improvements along Cypress Creek at Kuykendahl Road and at IH-45 and 2) No Action. Alternative 1 consists of conventional rock channel stabilization along a 3,100-linear foot reach of Cypress Creek at Kuykendahl Road and a 6,000-linear foot reach of Cypress Creek at IH-45, and the construction of a 42.65-acre wet bottom stormwater detention basin with a 686-acre-foot volume capacity. The slope stabilization design includes benching along the north and south banks of the channel and the placement of riprap across the entire channel within both reaches. This design involves maximizing the size of the basin within currently undeveloped land and maximizing the depth of the basin within the floodplain without compromising slope stability. This alternative will result in 9,100 linear feet of channel alteration within Cypress Creek and a loss of 0.45 acres of wetlands. Since the location of the basin is within the flight path of George Bush Intercontinental Airport, the wet-bottom detention basin would also present a hazard to aircraft operations. While this alternative meets the project



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purpose and need, the engineering and design concerns and environmental impacts posed by the implementation of this action will result in higher adverse impacts than the proposed action. For these reasons, Alternative 1 was not selected. Under the No Action alternative, no channel rehabilitation will occur along the downstream reach of Cypress Creek (K100-00-00) and no stormwater detention basins will be constructed for flood reduction and flood mitigation. Cypress Creek will continue to erode and deteriorate, and residents and business will continue to be affected by area flooding. Extreme events in this area will continue to result in lost wages, damage to homes and businesses, mobility disruptions, and potential exposure to health risks associated with standing water. Additionally, no structures will be removed from the 100-year floodplain. The No Action Alternative does not meet the purpose and need of the project and is not considered the recommended alternative.

The proposed action meets the purpose and need of the project while minimizing environmental impacts and therefore is the Preferred Alternative. To meet the purpose and need, the project must be located within the FFRMS floodplain so that the basins can receive stormwater overflows from Cypress Creek during storm events and safely release it back once the storm has passed. The project will be constructed within existing easements and land currently owned by the Harris County Flood Control District and does not require acquisition, relocation, or displacements. The proposed action will require tree and vegetation removal and grading within the footprint of the basins. To address floodplain impacts, the project includes the development of on-site stormwater detention that will offset all construction activities in the floodplain. The existing wetland within the project site will be fully removed. However, compensatory wetland mitigation credits will be purchased from the Greens Bayou Wetland Mitigation Bank to offset impacts to wetlands.

The GLO has reevaluated alternatives to building in the FFRMS floodplain and wetlands and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to the FFRMS floodplain and wetlands development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 are available for public inspection, review, and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.



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Written comments must be received by the GLO at the following address:

Texas General Land Office

Community Development & Revitalization (CDR) Division

PO Box 12873, Austin TX 78711-2873

(512) 475-5051

ATTN: David Camarena, Director of Environmental Oversight

A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. at the address above and at: (<https://www.hcfcd.org/Activity/Projects/Cypress-Creek/CI-012-Major-Maintenance-of-Cypress-Creek-and-Tributaries>). Comments may also be submitted via email at env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The GLO, on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District, has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at Texas General Land Office's Community Development & Revitalization (CDR) Division, located at 1700 Congress Ave., Austin TX 78701-1495, as well as the Harris County Flood Control District, located at 9900 Northwest Freeway, Houston TX 77092, and may be examined or copied weekdays 9A.M to 5 P.M. The ERR will also be made available to the public for review electronically and can be requested at env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Texas General Land Office's Community Development & Revitalization (CDR) Division. All comments received by February 26, 2026, will be considered by the GLO prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The GLO on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District certifies to HUD that Jet Hays in his capacity as Deputy Director of Integration consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's



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approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Harris County Flood Control District to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the GLO's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases:

- (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the GLO;
- (b) the GLO has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58;
- (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or
- (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division at: 451 7th Street SW, Room 7272, Washington, DC 20410 or by email at disasterrecovery@hud.gov.

Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Jet Hays, Deputy Director of Integration

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