

## RESOLUTION NO. R-021323-2

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A 2023/2024 TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND.**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Port Lavaca desires to develop a viable community, including decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low-to-moderate income; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and in the best interests of the City of Port Lavaca to apply for funding under the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program;

WHEREAS, the City of Port Lavaca, in consideration for the receipt and acceptance of federal funding if awarded, agrees to comply with all federal rules and regulations including those rules and regulations governing citizen participation and civil rights protections as follows:

- 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, to take actions to ensure that no person or group is denied benefits such as employment, training, housing, and contracts generated by the CDBG activity, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability;
- In accordance with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, and 24 CFR Part 75, to the greatest extent feasible, to provide training and employment opportunities to lower income residents and contract opportunities to businesses in the Section 3 Service Area;
- 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), to adopt an excessive force policy that prohibits the use of excessive force against non-violent civil rights demonstrations;
- in accordance with Executive Order 13166, to 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 TxCDBG project;
- In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to 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
- 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, to conduct at least one activity during the contract period of the TxCDBG contract, to affirmatively further fair housing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Port Lavaca, agrees to 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 THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

1. That a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program application for the Community Development Fund is hereby authorized to be filed on behalf of the City of Port Lavaca with the Texas Department of Agriculture.
2. That the City of Port Lavaca application be placed in competition for funding under the Community Development Fund.
3. That the application be for up to \$500,000.00 of grant funds to provide wastewater improvements.
4. That all funds will be used in accordance with all applicable federal, state, local and programmatic requirements including but not limited to procurement, environmental review, labor standards, real property acquisition, and civil rights requirements.
5. That it further be stated that the City of Port Lavaca is committing at minimum \$75,000.00 from its Public Utility Fund as a cash contribution toward the administration, engineering, and/or construction activities of this wastewater improvement project.
6. The City of Port Lavaca adopts the following policies:
  - a. Citizen Participation Plan and Grievance Procedures (Form A1013);
  - b. Excessive Force Policy (Form A1003);
  - c. Fair Housing Policy (Form A1015);
  - d. Section 504 Policy and Grievance Procedures (Form A1004); and
  - e. Code of Conduct Policy (Form A1002).
7. The City of Port Lavaca affirms its commitment to conduct a project-specific analysis and take all appropriate action necessary to comply with program requirements for the following:
  - f. Section 3 economic opportunity;
  - g. Limited English Proficiency; and
  - h. Activity to affirmatively Further Fair Housing choice.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Whitlow, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mandy Grant, City Secretary

**CITY OF PORT LAVACA  
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN  
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

*Note to Grant Recipients regarding Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requirements:*

In accordance with federal law, if there is a significant number of the population who are non-English speaking residents and are affected by the TxCDBG project, such citizens should have “meaningful access” to all aspects of the TxCDBG project. To provide ‘meaningful access’, Grant Recipients may need to provide interpreter services at public hearings or provide non-English written materials that are routinely provided in English. Examples of such vital documents include Citizen Participation notices (e.g. complaint procedures, hearing notices) civil rights notices, and any other published notice that may allow an eligible person with limited English proficiency to participate in discussing proposed CDBG activities.

For more information, see LEP.gov.

**COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

These complaint procedures comply with the requirements of the Texas Department of Agriculture’s Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program and Local Government Requirements found in 24 CFR §570.486 (Code of Federal Regulations). Citizens can obtain a copy of these procedures at The City of Port Lavaca, 202 N. Virginia, Port Lavaca, TX 77979, (361) 552-9793 during regular business hours.

Below are the formal complaint and grievance procedures regarding the services provided under the TxCDBG project.

1. A person who has a complaint or grievance about any services or activities with respect to the TxCDBG project, whether it is a proposed, ongoing, or completed TxCDBG project, may during regular business hours submit such complaint or grievance, in writing to the Mayor, at The City of Port Lavaca, 202 N. Virginia, Port Lavaca, TX 77979 or may call (361) 552-9793.
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 TxCDBG 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 of Port Lavaca shall provide technical assistance to groups that are representative of persons of low- and moderate-income in developing proposals for the use of TxCDBG funds. The City of Port Lavaca, 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 HEARING PROVISIONS

For each public hearing scheduled and conducted by The City of Port Lavaca, the following public hearing provisions shall be observed:

1. Public notice of all 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 can 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.
2. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents are a part of the potential service area of the TxCDBG project, vital documents such as notices should be published in the predominant language of these non-English speaking citizens.

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 to attend the hearings and The City of Port Lavaca:

3. The city must make arrangements for individuals who require auxiliary aids or services if contacted at least two days prior to the hearing.
4. A public hearing held prior to the submission of a TxCDBG application must be held at or after 5:00 PM on a weekday or at a convenient time on a Saturday or Sunday.
5. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate in a public hearing, an interpreter should be present to accommodate the needs of the non-English speaking residents.

The City of Port Lavaca shall comply with the following citizen participation requirements for the preparation and submission of an application for a TxCDBG project:

At a minimum, The City of Port Lavaca:

1. Shall hold at least one (1) public hearing to prior to submitting the application to the Texas Department of Agriculture.

The City of Port Lavaca:

2. Shall retain documentation of the hearing notice(s), a listing of persons attending the hearing(s), minutes of the hearing(s), and any other records concerning the proposed use

of funds for three (3) years from closeout of the grant to the state. Such records shall be made available to the public in accordance with Chapter 552, Texas Government Code.

3. The public hearing shall include a discussion with citizens as outlined in the applicable TxCDBG application manual to include, but is not limited to, the development of housing and community development needs, the amount of funding available, all eligible activities under the TxCDBG program, and the use of past TxCDBG contract funds, if applicable. Citizens, with particular emphasis on persons of low- and moderate-income who are residents of slum and blight areas, shall be encouraged to submit their views and proposals regarding community development and housing needs. Citizens shall be made aware of the location where they may submit their views and proposals should they be unable to attend the public hearing.
4. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate in a public hearing, an interpreter should be present to accommodate the needs of the non-English speaking residents.

The City of Port Lavaca must comply with the following citizen participation requirements in the event that the city receives funds from the TxCDBG program:

The City of Port Lavaca:

1. Shall also hold a public hearing concerning any substantial change, as determined by TxCDBG, proposed to be made in the use of TxCDBG funds from one eligible activity to another again using the preceding notice requirements.

Upon completion of the TxCDBG project, The City of Port Lavaca:

2. Shall hold a public hearing and review its program performance including the actual use of the TxCDBG funds.
3. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate in a public hearing, for either a public hearing concerning substantial change to the TxCDBG project or for the closeout of the TxCDBG project, publish notice in both English and Spanish, or other appropriate language and provide an interpreter at the hearing to accommodate the needs of the non-English speaking residents.

The City of Port Lavaca:

4. Shall retain documentation of the TxCDBG project, including hearing notice(s), a listing of persons attending the hearing(s), minutes of the hearing(s), and any other records concerning the actual use of funds for a period of three (3) years three (3) years from closeout of the grant to the state. Such records shall be made available to the public in accordance with Chapter 552, Texas Government Code.

---

Jack Whitlow, Mayor

---

Date

**LA CIUDAD DE PORT LAVACA  
PLAN DE PARTICIPACIÓN CIUDADANA  
PROGRAMA DE TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT  
PROGRAM**

*Nota a los receptores de subvención en relación a requisitos de Dominio Limitado del inglés:*

De acuerdo con la ley federal hay un número significativo de población que son residentes y que no hablan inglés y son afectados por el proyecto TxCDBG, estos ciudadanos deben tener "acceso significativo" a todos los aspectos del proyecto TxCDBG. Para proporcionar "acceso significativo," receptores de la subvención pueden ser utilizados para proporcionar servicios de interpretación en las audiencias públicas o proporcionar materiales no escritos en inglés que se proporcionan de manera rutinaria en inglés.

Para obtener más información, consulte LEP.gov.

**PROCEDIMIENTOS DE QUEJA**

Estos procedimientos de queja cumplen con los requisitos del Departamento de Programa de Agricultura de Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) y los requisitos del gobierno local de Texas se encuentran en 24 CFR §570.486 (Código de Regulaciones Federales). Los ciudadanos pueden obtener una copia de estos procedimientos en La Ciudad de Port Lavaca de dirección postal 202 N. Virginia, Port Lavaca, TX 77979, (361) 552-9793, en horario de oficina.

A continuación, se presentan los procedimientos formales de quejas y quejas relativas a los servicios prestados en el marco del proyecto TxCDBG.

1. Una persona que tiene una queja o reclamación sobre cualquiera de los servicios o actividades en relación con el proyecto TxCDBG, o si se trata de una propuesta, en curso o determinado proyecto TxCDBG, pueden durante las horas regulares presentar dicha queja o reclamo, por escrito a El Alcalde de la Ciudad en 202 N. Virginia, Port Lavaca, TX 77979, (361)552-9793.
2. Una copia de la queja o reclamación se transmitirá por el alcalde/el juez a la entidad que es encargada de la queja o reclamación y al Abogado de La Ciudad dentro de los cinco (5) días hábiles siguientes a la fecha de la queja o día que la reclamación fue recibida.
3. El alcalde deberá cumplir una investigación de la queja o reclamación, si es posible, y dará una respuesta oportuna por escrito a la persona que hizo la denuncia o queja dentro de los diez (10) días.
4. Si la investigación no puede ser completada dentro de los diez (10) días hábiles anteriormente, la persona que hizo la queja o denuncia será notificada, por escrito, dentro de los quince (15) días cuando sea posible después de la entrega de la queja original o quejas y detallará cuando se deberá completar la investigación.

5. Si es necesario, la queja y una copia escrita de la investigación posterior se remitirán a la TxCDBG para su posterior revisión y comentarios.
6. Se proporcionará copias de los procedimientos de queja y las respuestas a las quejas, tanto en inglés y español, u otro lenguaje apropiado.

### ASISTENCIA TÉCNICA

Cuando lo solicite, La Ciudad proporcionará asistencia técnica a los grupos que son representantes de las personas de bajos y moderados ingresos en el desarrollo de propuestas para el uso de los fondos TxCDBG. La Ciudad, en base a las necesidades específicas de los residentes de la comunidad en el momento de la solicitud, deberá determinar el nivel y tipo de asistencia.

### DISPOSICIONES AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA

Para cada audiencia pública programada y llevada a cabo por La Ciudad, se observarán las disposiciones siguientes de audiencias públicas:

1. Aviso público de todas las audiencias deberá publicarse al menos setenta y dos (72) horas antes de la audiencia programada. El aviso público deberá publicarse en un periódico local. Cada aviso público debe incluir la fecha, hora, lugar y temas a considerar en la audiencia pública. Un artículo periodístico publicado también puede utilizarse para cumplir con este requisito, siempre y cuando cumpla con todos los requisitos de contenido y temporización. Los avisos también deben ser un lugar prominente en los edificios públicos y se distribuyen a las autoridades locales de vivienda pública y otros grupos interesados de la comunidad.
2. Cuando se tenga un número significativo de residentes que no hablan inglés serán una parte de la zona de servicio potencial del proyecto TxCDBG, documentos vitales como las comunicaciones deben ser publicados en el idioma predominante de estos ciudadanos que no hablan inglés.
3. Cada audiencia pública se llevará a cabo en un momento y lugar conveniente para los beneficiarios potenciales o reales e incluirá alojamiento para personas con discapacidad. Las personas con discapacidad deben poder asistir a las audiencias y La Ciudad debe hacer los arreglos para las personas que requieren ayudas o servicios auxiliares en caso de necesitarlo por lo menos dos días antes de la audiencia pública.
4. Una audiencia pública celebrada antes de la presentación de una solicitud TxCDBG debe hacerse a las 5:00 pm o después en un día de semana o en un momento conveniente en sábado o domingo.
5. Cuando un número significativo de residentes que no hablan inglés se registra para participar en una audiencia pública, un intérprete debe estar presente para dar cabida a las necesidades de los residentes que no hablan inglés.

La Ciudad deberá cumplir con los siguientes requisitos de participación ciudadana para la elaboración y presentación de una solicitud para un proyecto TxCDBG:

1. Como mínimo, La Ciudad deberá tener por lo menos un (1) audiencia pública antes de presentar la solicitud al Departamento de Agricultura de Texas.

2. La Ciudad conservará la documentación de la convocatoria(s) audiencia, un listado de las personas que asistieron a la audiencia(s), acta de la vista(s), y cualquier otra documentación relativa a la propuesta de utilizar los fondos para tres (3) años a partir de la liquidación de la subvención para el Estado. Dichos registros se pondrán a disposición del público, de conformidad con el Capítulo 552, Código de Gobierno de Texas.
3. La audiencia pública deberá incluir una discusión con los ciudadanos como se indica en el manual correspondiente de aplicación TxCDBG, pero no se limita a, el desarrollo de las necesidades de vivienda y desarrollo comunitario, la cantidad de fondos disponibles, todas las actividades elegibles bajo el programa TxCDBG y el uso de fondos últimos contratos TxCDBG, en su caso. Los ciudadanos, con especial énfasis en las personas de bajos y moderados ingresos que son residentes de las zonas de tugurios y tizón, se fomentará a presentar sus opiniones y propuestas sobre el desarrollo de la comunidad y las necesidades de vivienda. Los ciudadanos deben ser conscientes de la ubicación en la que podrán presentar sus puntos de vista y propuestas en caso de que no pueda asistir a la audiencia pública.
4. Cuando un número significativo de residentes que no hablan inglés se registra para participar en una audiencia pública, un intérprete debe estar presente para dar cabida a las necesidades de los residentes que no hablan inglés.

La Ciudad debe cumplir con los siguientes requisitos de participación ciudadana en el caso de que La Ciudad recibe fondos del programa TxCDBG:

1. La Ciudad celebrará una audiencia pública sobre cualquier cambio sustancial, según lo determinado por TxCDBG, se propuso que se hará con el uso de fondos TxCDBG de una actividad elegible a otro utilizando de nuevo los requisitos de notificación.
2. Una vez finalizado el proyecto TxCDBG, La Ciudad celebrará una audiencia pública y revisará el desempeño del programa incluyendo el uso real de los fondos TxCDBG.
3. Cuando un número significativo de residentes que no hablan inglés se puede registra para participar en una audiencia pública, ya sea para una audiencia pública sobre el cambio sustancial del proyecto TxCDBG o para la liquidación del proyecto TxCDBG, publicará un aviso en inglés y español u otro idioma apropiado y se proporcionara un intérprete en la audiencia para dar cabida a las necesidades de los residentes.
4. La Ciudad conservará la documentación del proyecto TxCDBG, incluyendo aviso de audiencia(s), un listado de las personas que asistieron a la audiencia(s), acta de la vista(s), y cualquier otro registro concerniente al uso real de los fondos por un período de a tres (3) años a partir de la liquidación del proyecto al estado.

Dichos registros se pondrán a disposición del público, de conformidad con el Capítulo 552, Código de Gobierno de Texas.

---

Jack Whitlow, Alcalde

---

Fecha



### Excessive Force Policy

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.325(b)(6), The City of Port Lavaca hereby adopts and will enforce the following policy with respect to the use of excessive force:

1. It is the policy of The City of Port Lavaca to prohibit the use of excessive force by the law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individual engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations;
2. It is also the policy of The City of Port Lavaca to enforce applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location that is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction; and
3. The City of Port Lavaca will introduce and pass a resolution adopting this policy.

As officers and representatives of City of Port Lavaca, we the undersigned have read and fully agree to this plan, and become a party to the full implementation of this program.

---

Jack Whitlow, Mayor

---

Date

### **Fair Housing Policy**

In accordance with Fair Housing Act, The City of Port Lavaca hereby adopts the following policy with respect to the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing:

1. City of Port Lavaca agrees to affirmatively further fair housing choice for all seven protected classes (race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin).
2. City of Port Lavaca agrees to plan at least one activity during the contract term to affirmatively further fair housing.
3. City of Port Lavaca will introduce and pass a resolution adopting this policy.

As officers and representatives of the City of Port Lavaca, we the undersigned have read and fully agree to this plan and become a party to the full implementation of this program.

---

Jack Whitlow, Mayor

---

Date

## Section 504 Policy Against Discrimination Based on Handicap and Grievance Procedures

In accordance with 24 CFR Section 8, Nondiscrimination based on Handicap in federally assisted programs and activities of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), and Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5309), City of Port Lavaca hereby adopts the following policy and grievance procedures:

1. Discrimination prohibited. No otherwise qualified individual with handicaps in the United States shall, solely by reason of his or her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
2. City of Port Lavaca does not discriminate on the basis of handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs and activities.
3. City of Port Lavaca recruitment materials or publications shall include a statement of this policy in 1. above.
4. City of Port Lavaca shall take continuing steps to notify participants, beneficiaries, applicants and employees, including those with impaired vision or hearing, and unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the recipients that it does not discriminate on the basis of handicap in violation of 24 CFR Part 8.
5. For hearing and visually impaired individuals eligible to be served or likely to be affected by the TxCDBG program, City of Port Lavaca shall ensure that they are provided with the information necessary to understand and participate in the TxCDBG program.
6. Grievances and Complaints
  - a. Any person who believes she or he has been subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability may file a grievance under this procedure. It is against the law for City of Port Lavaca to retaliate against anyone who files a grievance or cooperates in the investigation of a grievance.
  - b. Complaints should be addressed to the Mayor, The City of Port Lavaca, 202 N. Virginia, Port Lavaca, TX 77979-0105, (361) 552-9793, who has been designated to coordinate Section 504 compliance efforts.
  - c. A complaint should be filed in writing or verbally, contain the name and address of the person filing it, and briefly describe the alleged violation of the regulations.
  - d. A complaint should be filed within thirty (30) working days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation.

- e. An investigation, as may be appropriate, shall follow a filing of a complaint. The investigation will be conducted by the Mayor. Informal but thorough investigations will afford all interested persons and their representatives, if any, an opportunity to submit evidence relevant to a complaint.
- f. A written determination as to the validity of the complaint and description of resolution, if any, shall be issued by Mayor, and a copy forwarded to the complainant with fifteen (15) working days after the filing of the complaint where practicable.
- g. The Section 504 coordinator shall maintain the files and records of The City of Port Lavaca relating to the complaint files.
- h. The complainant can request a reconsideration of the case in instances where he or she is dissatisfied with the determination/resolution as described in f. above. The request for reconsideration should be made to The City of Port Lavaca within ten working days after the receipt of the written determination/resolution.
- i. The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of a Section 504 complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Utilization of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.
- j. These procedures shall be construed to protect the substantive rights of interested persons, to meet appropriate due process standards and assure that the City of Port Lavaca complies with Section 504 and HUD regulations.

---

Jack Whitlow, Mayor

---

Date

## Code of Conduct Policy of The City of City of Port Lavaca

As a Grant Recipient of a TxCDBG contract, the City of Port Lavaca shall avoid, neutralize, or mitigate actual or potential conflicts of interest so as to prevent an unfair competitive advantage or the existence of conflicting roles that might impair the performance of the TxCDBG contract or impact the integrity of the procurement process.

For procurement of goods and services, no employee, officer, or agent of the City of Port Lavaca shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by TxCDBG funds if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict could arise if the employee, officer or agent; any member of his/her immediate family; his/her partner; or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.

No officer, employee, or agent of the City of Port Lavaca shall solicit or accept gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from contractors or firms, potential contractors or firms, or parties to sub-agreements, except where the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal intrinsic value.

Contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements.

For all other cases, no employee, agent, consultant, officer, or elected or appointed official of the state, or of a unit of general local government, or of any designated public agencies, or subrecipients which are receiving TxCDBG funds, that has any CDBG function/responsibility, or is in a position to participate in a decision-making process or gain inside information, may obtain a financial interest or benefit from the TxCDBG activity.

The conflict-of-interest restrictions and procurement requirements identified herein shall apply to a benefitting business, utility provider, or other third-party entity that is receiving assistance, directly or indirectly, under a TxCDBG contract or award, or that is required to complete some or all work under the TxCDBG contract in order to meet the National Program Objective.

Any person or entity including any benefitting business, utility provider, or other third-party entity that is receiving assistance, directly or indirectly, under a TxCDBG contract or award, or that is required to complete some or all work under the TxCDBG contract in order to meet a National Program Objective, that might potentially receive benefits from TxCDBG awards may not participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by CDBG funding.

Any alleged violations of these standards of conduct shall be referred to The City Attorney. Where violations appear to have occurred, the offending employee, officer or agent shall be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to dismissal or transfer; where violations or infractions appear to be substantial in nature, the matter may be referred to the appropriate officials for criminal investigation and possible prosecution.

---

Jack Whitlow, Mayor

---

Date

*These procedures are intended to serve as guidelines for the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction services and professional services for the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program. The regulations related to conflict of interest and nepotism may be found at the Texas Government Code Chapter 573, Texas Local Government Code Chapter 171, Uniform Grant Management Standards by Texas Comptroller, 24 CFR 570.489(g) &(h), and 2 CFR 200.318*

## **Information regarding Civil Rights Resolutions for CDBG Grants**

The individual items in the TxCDBG Civil Rights Resolutions are policies all grant recipients must adopt at City Council or Commissioner's Court. The policies are outlined in the Housing and Urban Development federal regulations and enforced by the Texas Department of Agriculture as the pass-through agency for grant implementation.

The components of the Civil Rights Resolutions are explained below:

1. Citizen Participation Plan and Grievance Procedures (Form A1013)
  - This policy enacts procedures for encouraging public participation and for citizens to file complaints or grievances regarding services provided in the community's TxCDBG project.
  - If your community has a certain percentage of non-English speakers, then the procedures must also be provided to the community in that identified language.
2. Section 3 Policy
  - This policy enacts steps for your community to follow to provide job training, employment, and contracting opportunities to lower income residents or businesses that self-identify as Section 3 in the community.
3. Excessive Force Policy (Form A1003)
  - This policy enacts a plan to prohibit use of excessive force against any individual engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations.
4. Section 504 Policy and Grievance Procedures (Form A1004)
  - This policy states no individual with handicaps shall be excluded from participation or subject to discrimination in any program or activity of this grant.
  - The policy also enacts procedures to file complaints or grievances for any person who believes she or he is subjected to discrimination.
5. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Standards and Plan (Form A1010)
  - This plan identifies if your community has a significant percentage of non-English speakers.
  - If the Census data indicates that a significant portion of the community population speaks English less than very well, your community must provide language assistance to ensure meaningful access to services in federally assisted programs and activities.
  - Activities which should be made accessible to LEP persons include:
    - Public Notices and hearings regarding applications for grant funding, amendments to project activities, and completion of grant-funded projects;
    - Publications regarding environmental reviews, civil rights, and other program requirements; and
    - Other program documents as needed.

6. Fair Housing Policy (Exhibit 1015)

- This policy enacts an agreement for the community to affirmatively further fair housing choice and plan at least one activity during the grant contract period. The activity for the community is declaring April as Fair Housing Month and running a public notice on Fair Housing in the local paper.

7. Code of Conduct Policy

- This policy enacts procedures intended to serve as guidelines for the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction services and professional services for the TxCDBG program.
- The policy outlines procedures to mitigate conflicts of interest so as to prevent an unfair competitive advantage or the existence of conflicting roles that might impair the performance of the TxCDBG contract.
- The regulations related to conflict of interest and nepotism may be found at the Texas Government Code Chapter 573, Texas Local Government Code Chapter 171, Uniform Grant Management Standards by Texas Comptroller, 24 CFR 570.489(g) &(h), and 2 CFR 200.318.