

**Resolution Regarding Civil Rights
Waller County, Texas**

Whereas, Waller County, Texas, (hereinafter referred to as "Waller County") has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) grant from the Texas General Land Office (hereinafter referred to as "GLO");

Whereas, Waller County, 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-MIT activity, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability;

Whereas, Waller County, 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, Waller County, 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-MIT project area;

Whereas, Waller County, 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, Waller County, 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-MIT project;

Whereas, Waller County, 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, Waller County, 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, Waller County, 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 Commissioners' Court OF Waller County, TEXAS, THAT Waller County 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 _____ day of _____, 2024

Signature of Elected Official
Waller County Judge

Carbett "Trey" Duhon, III

Printed Name of Elected Official

**WALLER COUNTY
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE (GLO)
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – MITIGATION (CDBG-MIT) PROGRAM**

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

These complaint procedures comply with the requirements of the Texas General Land Office's Community Development Block Grant – MITIGATION PROGRAM (CDBG-MIT) Program and Local Government Requirements found in 24 CFR §570.486 (Code of Federal Regulations). Citizens can obtain a copy of these procedures at Waller County offices, 425 FM 1488, Suite 106, Hempstead, Texas 77445, (Street Address), (979) 826-7700 (Phone) during regular business hours.

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

1. A person who has a complaint or grievance about any services or activities with respect to the CDBG-MIT project(s), whether it is a proposed, ongoing, or completed CDBG-MIT project(s), may during regular business hours submit such complaint or grievance, in writing to the County Judge of Waller County at 425 FM 1488, Suite 106, Hempstead, Texas 77445 or may call (979) 826-7700.
2. A copy of the complaint or grievance shall be transmitted by the County Judge to the entity that is the subject of the complaint or grievance and to the County Attorney within five (5) working days after the date of the complaint or grievance was received.
3. The County Judge 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 Item 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-MIT 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 County shall provide technical assistance to groups that are representative of persons of low- and moderate-income in developing proposals for the use of CDBG-MIT funds. The County, 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 County shall provide for reasonable public notice, appraisal, examination and comment on the activities proposed for the use of CDBG-MIT 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-MIT funds are proposed to be used;
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-MIT funds;
3. Furnish citizens information, including but not limited to:
 - a) the amount of CDBG-MIT funds expected to be made available
 - b) the range of activities that may be undertaken with the CDBG-MIT funds
 - c) the estimated amount of the CDBG-MIT 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-MIT 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-MIT 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-MIT funds available per application for MITIGATION PROGRAM
 - (b)** The range of activities that may be undertaken with the CDBG-MIT MITIGATION PROGRAM funds;
 - (c)** The estimated amount of the CDBG-MIT MITIGATION PROGRAM 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-MIT 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 to attend the hearings and an applicant must make arrangements for individuals who require auxiliary aids or services if contacted at least two days prior to each hearing.
4. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate in a public hearing, an interpreter will be present to accommodate the needs of the non-English speaking residents.
5. County may conduct a public hearing via webinar if they also follow the provisions above. If the webinar is used to conduct a public hearing, a physical location with associated reasonable accommodations must be made available for citizens to participate so as to ensure that those individuals without necessary technology are able to participate.
6. If applicable, the locality must retain documentation of the hearing notice(s), attendance lists, minutes of the hearing(s), and any other records concerning the actual use of funds for a period of three years after the project is closed out. Such records must be made available to the public in accordance with Chapter 552, Government Code.

Signature

Carbett "Trey" Duhon III
Waller County Judge

Date

WALLER COUNTY

PLAN DE PARTICIPACIÓN CIUDADANA

OFICINA GENERAL DE TIERRAS DE TEXAS (GLO) SUBVENCIÓN EN BLOQUE PARA EL DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO – MITIGACIÓN (CDBG-MIT)

PROCEDIMIENTOS DE QUEJA

Estos procedimientos de quejas cumplen con los requisitos de la Oficina General de Tierras de Texas para la Mitigación en las Asignaciones de Bloques de Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG-MIT) y los requisitos del gobierno local de Texas que se encuentran en 24 CFR §570.486 (Código de Regulaciones Federales). Los ciudadanos pueden obtener una copia de estos procedimientos en Waller County, 425 FM 1488, Suite 106, Hempstead, Texas 77445 (Dirección postal), (979) 826-7700, (teléfono) durante el horario de oficina.

A continuación se presentan los procedimientos formales de quejas y reclamos relacionados con los servicios prestados en el marco del proyecto CDBG-MIT.

1. Una persona que tiene una queja o reclamo sobre cualquier servicios o actividad en relación con el proyecto CDBG-MIT, ya sea un proyecto propuesto, en curso o completado de CDBG-MIT, pueden durante las horas regulares presentar dicha queja o reclamo, por escrito al County Judge, a Waller County, 425 FM 1488, Suite 106, Hempstead, Texas 77445, (979) 826-7700.
2. Una copia de la queja o reclamo se transmitirá por el Juez de Condado a la entidad que es encargada de la queja o reclamo y al Abogado del El Condado dentro de los cinco (5) días hábiles siguientes a la fecha de la queja o día que el reclamo fue recibida.
3. El Juez de Condado completará una investigación de la queja o reclamo, si es posible, y dará una respuesta oportuna por escrito a la persona que hizo la queja o reclamo dentro de los diez (10) días.
4. Si la investigación no puede ser completada dentro de diez (10) días hábiles, la persona que hizo la queja o reclamo será notificada, por escrito, dentro de los quince (15) días cuando sea posible después de la entrega de la queja original o reclamo 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 CDBG-MIT para su posterior revisión y comentarios.
6. Se proporcionara copias de los procedimientos de queja y las respuestas a las quejas, tanto en inglés y español, u otro lenguaje apropiado.

ASISTENCIA TÉCNICA

Cuando se solicite, El Condado proporcionará asistencia técnica a los grupos que son representantes de las personas de ingresos bajos y moderados en el desarrollo de propuestas para el uso de los fondos CDBG-MIT. El Condado, basándose en las necesidades específicas de los residentes de la comunidad en el momento de la solicitud, deberá determinar el nivel y tipo de asistencia.

ESFUERZOS PUBLICOS

En casos de un cambio en el alcance o impacto para los beneficiarios que resulte en un aumento o disminución del 15% en las cantidades, una variación del 25% en el número de beneficiarios, aumento o disminución de un área beneficiaria específica, o suma o resta de una actividad de HUD, el Condado proporcionará un aviso público razonable para la evaluación, examinación y comentarios sobre las actividades propuestas para el uso de fondos de CDBG-MIT. Estos esfuerzos incluirán:

1. Proveer y fomentar la participación ciudadana, en particularmente por personas de ingresos bajos y moderados que residen en áreas marginales o deterioradas y áreas en las cuales se proponen utilizar fondos de CDBG-MIT;
2. Asegurar que los ciudadanos tendrán acceso razonable y oportuno a las reuniones locales, información y registros relacionados con el uso propuesto y real de fondos de CDBG-MIT por parte de la entidad;
3. Proporcionar información a los ciudadanos, incluyendo pero no limitado a:
 - a) la cantidad de fondos CDBG-MIT que se espera estén disponibles
 - b) la gama de actividades que se pueden emprender con los fondos CDBG-MIT
 - c) La cantidad estimada de los fondos CDBG-MIT que se propone utilizar para actividades que cumplan el objetivo nacional de beneficio para personas de ingresos bajos y moderados
 - d) si corresponde, las actividades propuestas de CDBG-MIT que puedan resultar en desplazamiento y el plan de anti-desplazamiento y reubicación de la entidad;
4. Proporcionar a los ciudadanos un aviso anticipado razonable y la oportunidad de comentar sobre las actividades propuestas en una solicitud al estado y, para las subvenciones ya realizadas, las actividades que se proponen agregar, eliminar o cambiar sustancialmente de la aplicación de la entidad al estado. Cambios sustanciales significa cambios hechos en términos de propósito, alcance, ubicación o beneficiarios según lo definido por los criterios establecidos por el estado; y
5. Estos esfuerzos de divulgación pueden lograrse a través de uno o más de los siguientes métodos:
 - a) Publicación de un aviso en un periódico local: se puede utilizar un artículo de periódico publicado siempre que proporcione información suficiente sobre las actividades del programa y las fechas pertinentes;
 - b) Avisos destacados en edificios públicos y distribuidos a las Autoridades Locales de Vivienda ya otros grupos comunitarios interesados;
 - c) Publicación de aviso en el sitio web de la entidad local (si está disponible);
 - d) Audiencia pública; o
 - e) Notificación individual a ciudades elegibles y otras entidades según sea aplicable usando uno o más de los siguientes métodos:
 - i. Correo certificado
 - ii. Correo electrónico o fax
 - iii. Correo de primera clase (regular)
 - iv. Entrega personal (por ejemplo, en una reunión del Consejo de Gobiernos [COG]).

DISPOSICIONES PARA LA AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA

Para cada audiencia pública programada y conducida por un solicitante o receptor de CDBG-MIT, se observarán las siguientes disposiciones de audiencia pública:

1. Proporcionar a los ciudadanos información, que incluye pero no se limita a:
 - a. La cantidad de fondos de CDBG-MIT disponibles por solicitud para Huracán Harvey;
 - b. El rango de actividades que se pueden realizar con los fondos de la CDBG de Huracán Harvey;
 - c. El monto estimado de los fondos de CDBG-MIT Huracán Harvey propuestos para ser utilizados en actividades que cumplirán el objetivo nacional de beneficiar a las personas de ingresos bajos y moderados; y
 - d. Las actividades propuestas de CDBG-MIT que probablemente resulten en desplazamiento y la unidad de los planes generales de anti desubicación y reubicación del gobierno local requeridos bajo 24 CFR 570.488
2. El aviso público de cualquier audiencia debe ser publicado por lo menos setenta y dos (72) horas antes de la audiencia programada. El aviso público debe ser publicado en un periódico local. Cada

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. El Condado 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

Carbett "Trey" Duhon III
Waller Juez de Condado

Fecha

SECTION 3 POLICY

In accordance with 12 U.S.C. 1701u, (Section 3), Waller County agrees to implement the following steps, which, to the *greatest extent feasible*, will provide job training, employment and contracting opportunities for Section 3 residents and Section 3 businesses of the areas in which the program/project is being carried out.

- A. Introduce and pass a resolution adopting this plan as a policy to strive to attain goals for compliance to Section 3 regulations by increasing opportunities for employment and contracting for Section 3 residents and businesses.
- B. Assign duties related to implementation of this plan to the designated Section 3 Coordinator.
- C. Notify Section 3 residents and business concerns of potential new employment and contracting opportunities as they are triggered by CDBG-MIT grant awards through the use of: Public Hearings and related advertisements; public notices; bidding advertisements and bid documents; notification to local business organizations such as the Chamber(s) of Commerce or the Urban League; local advertising media including public signage; project area committees and citizen advisory boards; local HUD offices; regional planning agencies; and all other appropriate referral sources. Include Section 3 clauses in all covered solicitations and contracts.
- D. Maintain a list of those businesses that have identified themselves as Section 3 businesses for utilization in CDBG-MIT funded procurements, notify those businesses of pending contractual opportunities, and make this list available for general Grant Recipient procurement needs.
- E. Maintain a list of those persons who have identified themselves as Section 3 residents and contact those persons when hiring/training opportunities are available through either the Grant Recipient or contractors.
- F. Require that all Prime contractors and subcontractors with contracts over \$100,000 commit to this plan as part of their contract work. Monitor the contractors' performance with respect to meeting Section 3 requirements and require that they submit reports as may be required by HUD or GLO to the Grant Recipient.
- G. Submit reports as required by HUD or GLO regarding contracting with Section 3 businesses and/or employment as they occur; and submit reports within 20 days of federal fiscal year end (by October 20) which identify and quantify Section 3 businesses and employees.
- H. Maintain records, including copies of correspondence, memoranda, etc., which document all actions taken to comply with Section 3 regulations.

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

Signature

Carbett "Trey" Duhon III, Waller County Judge
Name, Title

Date

Excessive Force Policy

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

1. It is the policy of Waller County 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 Waller County 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.
3. Waller County will introduce and pass a resolution adopting this policy.

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

Signature

Carbett "Trey" Duhon III, Waller County Judge
Name, Title

Date

Limited English Proficiency Plan - 24-065-015-E172 & 24-065-016-E173

Texas General Land Office

Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery

Grant Subrecipient:	Waller County
Community Population:	53,917
LEP Population:	4,762 8.83%
Languages spoken: 1) by more than 5% of the eligible population or beneficiaries and has more than 50 in number; or 2) By more than 1,000 individuals in the eligible population in the market area or among current beneficiaries	Spanish

Program activities to be accessible to LEP persons:	
☒	Public Notices and hearings regarding applications for grant funding, amendments to project activities, and completion of grant-funded project
☒	Publications regarding CDBG-MIT application, grievance procedures, <i>complaint procedures</i> , <i>complaint procedures</i> , <i>answers to complaints</i> , <i>notices</i> , <i>notices of rights and disciplinary action</i> , and other vital hearings, documents, and program requirements
☒	Other program documents: Documents available in Spanish for directly assisted beneficiaries, if applicable.

Resources available to Grant Recipient:	
☒	Translation services: available upon request
☒	Interpreter services: available upon request with prior notice
	Other resources: _____

Language Assistance to be provided:	
☒	Translation (oral and/or written) of advertised notices and vital documents for: <u>Public hearing, Complaint and Grievance, Equal Opportunity, Policy of Non-discrimination Based on Disability Status and Fair Housing notices are available in Spanish. Other CDBG required program notices are available in Spanish upon request.</u>
☒	Referrals to community liaisons proficient in the language of LEP persons <u>Spanish-speaking liaisons are available upon request.</u>
☒	Public meetings conducted in multiple languages: <u>Available upon request with two days advance notice.</u>
☒	Notices to recipients of the availability of LEP services: <u>Included in translated notices.</u>
	Other services: _____

Signature - Chief Elected Official or Civil Rights Officer

Date

See also: http://www.lep.gov/resources/2011_Language_Access_Assessment_and_Planning_Tool.pdf

Limited English Proficiency Plan – 22-130-043-E436

Texas General Land Office

Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery

Grant Subrecipient:	Waller County
Community Population:	53,917
LEP Population:	4,762 8.83%
Languages spoken: 3) by more than 5% of the eligible population or beneficiaries and has more than 50 in number; or 4) By more than 1,000 individuals in the eligible population in the market area or among current beneficiaries	Spanish

Program activities to be accessible to LEP persons:

☒	Public Notices and hearings regarding applications for grant funding, amendments to project activities, and completion of grant-funded project
☒	Publications regarding CDBG-MIT application, grievance procedures, <i>complaint procedures</i> , <i>complaint procedures</i> , <i>answers to complaints</i> , <i>notices</i> , <i>notices of rights and disciplinary action</i> , and other vital hearings, documents, and program requirements
☒	Other program documents: Documents available in Spanish for directly assisted beneficiaries, if applicable.

Resources available to Grant Recipient:

☒	Translation services: available upon request
☒	Interpreter services: available upon request with prior notice
	Other resources: _____

Language Assistance to be provided:

☒	Translation (oral and/or written) of advertised notices and vital documents for: <u>Public hearing, Complaint and Grievance, Equal Opportunity, Policy of Non-discrimination Based on Disability Status and Fair Housing notices are available in Spanish. Other CDBG required program notices are available in Spanish upon request.</u>
☒	Referrals to community liaisons proficient in the language of LEP persons <u>Spanish-speaking liaisons are available upon request.</u>
☒	Public meetings conducted in multiple languages: <u>Available upon request with two days advance notice.</u>
☒	Notices to recipients of the availability of LEP services: <u>Included in translated notices.</u>
	Other services: _____

Signature - Chief Elected Official or Civil Rights Officer

Date

See also: http://www.lep.gov/resources/2011_Language_Access_Assessment_and_Planning_Tool.pdf

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), Waller County 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. Waller County 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. Waller County's recruitment materials or publications shall include a statement of this policy in 1. above.
4. Waller County 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 CDBG-MIT program, Waller County shall ensure that they are provided with the information necessary to understand and participate in the CDBG-MIT 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 Waller County to retaliate against anyone who files a grievance or cooperates in the investigation of a grievance.
 - b. Complaints should be addressed to the County Judge, 425 FM 1488, Suite 106, Hempstead, TX, 77445 or call (979) 826-7700, 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 County Judge, 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 Waller County 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 Waller County 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 Waller County complies with Section 504 and HUD regulations.

Signature

Carbett "Trey" Duhon III, Waller County Judge
Name, Title

Date

Code of Conduct Policy of Waller County

As a Grant Recipient of a CDBG-MIT contract Waller County 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 CDBG-MIT contract or impact the integrity of the procurement process.

For procurement of goods and services, no employee, officer, or agent of Waller County shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by CDBG-MIT 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 Waller County 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 CDBG-MIT funds, that has any CDBG-MIT 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 CDBG-MIT 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 CDBG-MIT contract or award, or that is required to complete some or all work under the CDBG-MIT 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 CDBG-MIT contract or award, or that is required to complete some or all work under the CDBG-MIT contract in order to meet a National Program Objective, that might potentially receive benefits from CDBG-MIT awards may not participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by CDBG-MIT funding.

Any alleged violations of these standards of conduct shall be referred to Waller County 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.

Signature

Carbett "Trey" Duhon III, Waller County Judge
Name, Title

Date

These procedures are intended to serve as guidelines for the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction services and professional services for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-MIT) 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

Fair Housing Policy

In accordance with Fair Housing Act, Waller County hereby adopts the following policy with respect to the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing:

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

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

Signature

Carbett "Trey" Duhon III, Waller County Judge
Name, Title

Date