

Information regarding Civil Rights Resolutions for 2022 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.