L.M. "Matt" Sebesta, Jr. County Judge



Lacey Powell Chief of Staff

March 11, 2024

The Honorable Randy Weber U.S. House of Representatives 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Texas 107 Cannon HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Weber:

I write to you today seeking your support and assistance in contacting the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to urge the Secretary to extend the Texas General Land Office's (GLO) contract for Hurricane Harvey Community Development Block-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding through 2027. Such extension would ensure that CDBG-DR Harvey funding made available to Brazoria County residents may be utilized for critical infrastructure improvements.

As you are aware, Brazoria County is a recipient of federal funding through the CDBG-DR program as a result of the impact of Hurricane Harvey to our county and residents in 2017. We have worked diligently with the guidance of the GLO to utilize more than \$10.9 million awarded to Brazoria County to complete critical improvements to address damage and mitigate flooding in the county. Despite these efforts and due to unavoidable delays, the county is now faced with returning more than \$7 million of this funding due to GLO's contract end date with HUD currently scheduled to expire in April 2025. Brazoria County has two pending projects that are subject to cancellation if the extension is not granted. Due to this pending timeline and to avoid any recapture, we have already taken steps to eliminate one project and significantly reduce the scope of another project to ensure we can realize some of the benefit of this funding. However, the county and its residents deserve full benefit that these funds can deliver and thus we seek your assistance to help achieve this goal and secure GLO's contract extension for these funds which allow these projects to proceed as initially planned.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and thank you in advance for your efforts to assist Brazoria County in obtaining this extension for the GLO that in turn will allow our projects to proceed. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Respectfully,

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L.M. "Matt" Sebesta, Jr. County Judge Brazoria County, Texas 979-864-1200 matts@brazoriacountytx.gov