Texas Water Development Board Request for Applications for Planning and Project Grants under the FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Program

The Texas Water Development Board (Board), as administrator of the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, requests the submission of applications leading to the possible award of FMA Planning Grants and Project Grants from communities within the State with the legal authority to plan for and mitigate the impacts of flooding, and which participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), in accordance with FEMA policy and regulations set forth in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 79 (44 CFR 79). A community is defined as (a) a political subdivision, including any Indian tribe or authorized native organization, that has zoning and building code jurisdiction over a particular area having special flood hazards, and which is participating in the NFIP, or (b) a political subdivision or other authority that is designated to develop and administer a mitigation plan by political subdivisions, all of which meet the requirements of (a). Eligible applicants from any area of the State may submit applications for FMA Program Planning and Project grants. Eligible applicants for FMA Project Grants must have a FEMA approved Mitigation Action Plan.

Description of FMA Program Purpose and Objectives. The purpose of the FMA Program is to provide Planning and Project grants to develop or update Flood Mitigation Plans for their planning area, and for implementing flood mitigation projects. Examples of projects that could be funded under FMA are acquisitions/demolition or relocation; elevation of existing structures; dry flood proofing; and minor localized flood reduction projects. The overall goal of the program is to fund cost-effective measures that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other NFIP-insurable structures. Specific goals include reducing the number of repetitively or substantially damaged structures and associated claims under the NFIP and encouraging long-term comprehensive mitigation planning.

<u>Description of Funding Considerations.</u> The available allocated amounts for Federal Fiscal Year 2010 are expected to be \$250,000 for Planning Grants and \$2,892,400 for Project Grants. These grants all require a 25 percent local match, of which not more than one-half (12.5 percent) may be in the form of in-kind services. No award for a Planning Grant may exceed \$50,000, and no single community may receive more than one Planning Grant per 5-year period. In addition, there is a \$3,300,000 limit for the total amount of Project Grant funds to any single community over a five-year period.

Deadline, Review Criteria and Contact Person for Additional Information. It is required that applications be submitted electronically through FEMA's web-based Electronic Grants Management System (*e*-Grants). Applicants must request access into the *e*-Grants system. Access requests should be directed to Mr. Gilbert Ward at (512) 463-6418, or by e-mail to gilbert.ward@twdb.state.tx.us. Deadline for submitting applications to the Board for FMA Planning and/or Project Grant funds is 5:00 P.M., October 15, 2009. Applications will be evaluated according to rules provided in 31 TAC Chapter 368, see http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac\$ext.viewtac (Title 31, Part 10). For additional information on the FMA Program, go to http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/wrpi/flood/fma.htm or www.fema.gov/government/grant/fma/index . Go to www.fema.gov/government/grant/fma/index . Go to http://www.tema.gov/government/grant/fma/index . Go to http://www.tema.gov/government/grant/fma/index . Go to http://www.tema.gov/government/grant/fma/index . Go to http://www.tema.gov/government/grant/egrants for additional information on FEMA's e-grant system. Final awards for grant funding will be as approved by FEMA.

Issued in Austin, Texas

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