# **Long-Term** Recovery: The 2021 Winter Storm









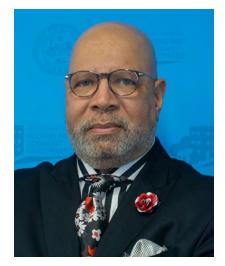
# **Agenda**

- Welcome
- Presentation
- Public Hearing
- Final Remarks & Resources





# Welcome



Keith W. Bynam

Director
City of Houston
Housing and Community
Development Department



# **Speakers**



**Kris Robinson** 



**Derek Sellers** 



**Megan Rowe** 

# OVERVIEW

### **OUR VISION**

We envision a city where everyone has a home they can afford in a community where they can thrive.



Affordable Homes



Infrastructure/ Neighborhood Services



Community Economic Development



Supportive Services





## **OUR GOALS**



Preserve and expand the supply of affordable housing



Expand homeownership opportunities



Provide assistance to persons affected by HIV/AIDS



Reduce homelessness



Improve quality of life



Promote health and safety



Revitalize communities



Foster community economic development



Promote fair housing





# **Phases of Disaster Management**

**Preparedness** 

Response





**Disaster** 







Montinique Monroe/Getty Images



Brett Coomer/Houston Chronicle



Lucio Vasquez / Houston Public Media





# 2021 CDBG-DR Allocation

City of Houston allocated: \$30,296,000 Set-aside for Mitigation Activities: \$3,952,000

- 6-year expenditure timeline
- Winter Storm allocations also awarded to the State of Texas, City of Dallas, and City of Fort Worth





# **Overview of Grant Requirements**

- 70% overall low- and moderate-income (LMI) benefit
- Address a direct or indirect impact from the disaster in a most impacted and distressed area (tie-back)
- Eligible activities include
  - Affordable homes
  - Infrastructure / Community Facilities
  - Supportive Services
  - Economic Development





# **Mitigation Activities**

Mitigation set-aside: \$3,952,000

HUD defines mitigation as activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship by lessening the impact of future disasters





## **Risks & Hazards**

HAZARD	FREQUENCY OF OCCURENCE	POTENTIAL SEVERITY	RISK RANKING
Flood	Highly Likely	Substantial	High
Hurricane	Highly Likely	Major	High
Extreme Heat	Highly Likely	Substantial	High
Thunderstorm Wind	Highly Likely	Substantial	High
Lightning	Highly Likely	Substantial	Moderate
Tornado	Likely	Substantial	Moderate
Expansive Soils	Likely	Limited	Low
Hail	Highly Likely	Limited	Low
Wildfire	Highly Likely	Minor	Low
Drought	Highly Likely	Limited	Low
Dam Failure	Unlikely	Substantial	Low
Winter Storm	Likely	Limited	Low





# What mitigation activities would you support with these funds?

#### **Action Plan**

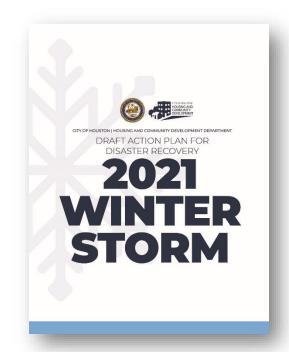
Impact & Unmet Needs

Housing Infrastructure Economic Revitalization

Proposed Use of Funds

Proposed Budget Proposed Program Program Descriptions

General Grant Requirements Public Engagement Minimize Displacement Promote Resilience







# **Grant Timeline**

May 31, 2022



Federal Register
Notice

**Jun – Jul 2022** 



Action Plan
Development

Aug - Sep 2022



30-day Public Comment Period; Public Hearing

Aug 9, 2022



Public Hearing

**Sep 2022** 



Respond and Incorporate Comments; City Council Approval

**Sep 28, 2022** 



Submit Action Plan to HUD

Grant Award Received and Programs Expected to Begin Early 2023



# Impacts & Neds

What are current unmet needs in your community from the 2021 Winter Storm?

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
   Individual Assistance (IA) Applications: 102,783
  - All had a household member under 18
  - 20% had a member 65 and older
  - 15% had a member with a disability
- FEMA Verified Loss: \$39 million
- 14% of applicants were approved for assistance





- Small Business Administration Disaster Loans for Homes: 5,481 applicants
  - Approved applicants: 939
  - Average estimated repair costs for each approved applicant: \$17,834

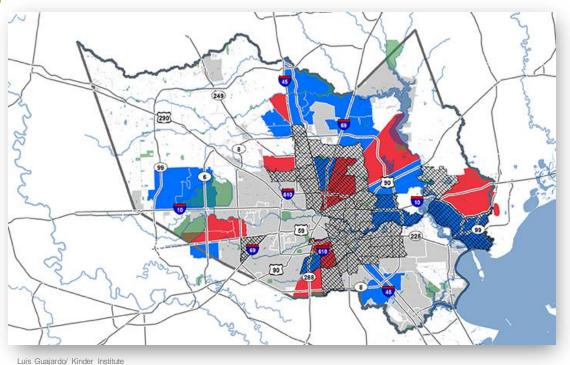




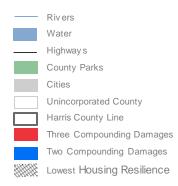
- Infrastructure
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program: \$10,036,950
- Economic Revitalization
  - SBA Business Disaster Loan Applicants: 332
    - Approved: 32 applicants
    - Estimated loss for approved applicants:
      \$2,401,862







#### **Compounding Damages** and Composite Housing Resilience







# **Public Engagement Findings**

- Partner/Stakeholder Interviews
- Agency Survey
- Resident Survey
- Public Hearing
- Comment Period





# **Interviews**

- Repair homes to address deferred maintenance and unrepaired damage
- Fund community organizations to carry out assistance programs
- Create resilience hubs that provide resources
- Prioritize vulnerable residents and areas with compounding need
- Work with residents and community partners to design and carryout programs





# Partner Survey 99 Surveys Responses

Unmet Needs Home repair & weatherization Address needs of underserved populations Assist residents in need of housing

Funding Priorities

Repair owner-occupied homes with outstanding damage Improve City infrastructure to withstand future disaster events Improve community facilities to be resources during disasters

Priority Groups LMI People Seniors People with physical disabilities People experience homelessness



# Resident Survey 908 Surveys Responses

Loss of Power & Water

93% Lost electricity

47% Lost electricity or had rolling blackouts for more than 3 days 84% Lost water or had low water pressure

Loss of Income

28% Lost pay 18% Lost pay for more than 3 days 4% Permanently lost employment

Damage to Home

53% Had damage to their home59% Had damage to personal belongings49% Have made some repairs or no repairs at all





# Resident Survey 908 Surveys Responses

Financial Recovery 27% Had trouble making necessary repairs to their home27% Had trouble paying utility bills20% Had trouble paying rent or mortgages

Funding Priorities

Improve City infrastructure to withstand future disaster events Repair owner-occupied homes with outstanding damage Improve community facilities to be resources during disasters

Priority Groups Seniors
People with a physical disability
People experiencing homelessness



# Budget & Activities

#### **Estimated Grant Allocation**

Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery 2021	Amount	Percent
Home Repair: Rehabilitation or Reconstruction Pathway	\$ 22,222,222	73.4%
Home Repair: Reimbursement Pathway	\$ 1,656,978	5.5%
Neighborhood Facilities Resilience	\$ 4,152,000	13.7%
Renter Housing Counseling	\$ 550,000	1.8%
Planning	\$ 200,000	0.6%
Administration	\$ 1,514,800	5.0%
TOTAL	\$ 30,296,000	100.0%





# Winter Storm Home Repair Rehabilitation & Reconstruction Pathway

**Goal:** Assist homeowners impacted by 2021 Winter Storm

**CDBG-DR21 Amount:** \$22,222,222

Rehabilitate or reconstruct storm damaged homes







# Winter Storm Home Repair Reimbursement Pathway

**Goal:** Assist homeowners impacted by 2021 Winter Storm

**CDBG-DR21 Amount:** \$1,656,978

Must have made partial or full repairs to their home before applying to the program







# Renter Housing Counseling

Goal: Assist renters impacted by the 2021 Winter Storm

**CDBG-DR21 Amount:** \$550,000

Assist renter households earning at or below 80% AMI with

- Finding affordable homes
- Educating renters on tenant rights and potential fair housing issues
- Financial empowerment
- Connecting renters with helpful resources





### Neighborhood Facilities Resilience

Goal: Improve neighborhood facilities to prepare for future disaster events

**CDBG-DR21 Amount:** \$4,152,000

**Eligible Activities** 

Improve power resilience of neighborhood facilities to be resources for Houstonians during future disaster events





# Which two budgeted activities would you prioritize?

- A. Reimburse homeowners for completed repairs
- B. Repair or reconstruct homes
- C. Provide households with renter housing counseling
- D. Improve power resilience of neighborhood facilities
- E. Other activity

# What do we need from you...

Tell us about activities or initiatives that would benefit families or individuals in your community.





# LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

# **Ways to Comment Live**



Online <a href="mailto:bit.ly/frz-ph">bit.ly/frz-ph</a>



Live Call

Dial: 1-936-755-1521

English ID: 442 784 740#

Español ID: 968 283 886#





# **Public Hearing**

#### **Ground Rules**

- Each speaker has 3 minutes to testify
- 2. Yielding time to another person is not allowed

#### Note that:

- Testimony is recorded and transcribed
- Not a Q&A session
- Summaries with responses included in final Action Plan

Other Ways to Comment





## Tell us More!



bit.ly/freez-p



bit.ly/freez-r





# Other Ways to Comment

Comment by September 4<sup>th</sup> on the Draft Action Plan for Disaster Recovery – 2021 Winter Storm



Online Survey www.houstontx.gov/housing



Mail

Attn: Planning & Grants Management 2100 Travis St., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Houston, TX 77002



Email HCDDPlanning@houstontx.gov



Voicemail 832-394-5400





### **Hazardous Event Resources**

#### **Before/During the Event**

- Sign up for AlertHouston at houstonemergency.org/
- For more preparedness resources visit: houstonoem.org

#### **During/After the Event**

Visit <u>houstonrecovers.org</u>

Visit <u>houston311.org</u> or call
 311





# THANK YOU!



2100 Travis Street, 9th floor Houston, TX 77002 832-394-6200

www.houstontx.gov/housing



@HoustonHCDD

