

# Montgomery County Draft Method of Distribution April/May 2016 Flood Disasters

---

On October 13th, 2016 the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the allocation of \$45,200,000 million dollars in disaster recovery assistance to Texas. On December 28th, 2016 HUD announced an additional 1.8 billion to states that were impacted by the flooding disaster of 2016. Texas received a total of \$222,264,000 in disaster recovery assistance with five counties in Texas named “the most impacted and distressed.” Montgomery County was one of the five most impacted and distressed areas and will receive \$22,298,808. The State’s draft Action Plan identifies Montgomery County as the entity that will develop the Method of Distribution.

In order to develop a Method of Distribution for the CDBG-DR funds for the April/May 2016 floods which most closely follows the will of the citizens of Montgomery County, Community Development conducted outreach to multiple groups throughout the impacted areas. On May 16, 2017 the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) committee, comprised of representatives of minority, disabled, and low income residents, met and gave specific input regarding how funds should be split between housing and infrastructure, who should be given priority for housing intervention, and what sorts of infrastructure projects should be addressed.

On May 18, the Continuum of Care of Montgomery County comprised of representatives of the homeless, low income, elderly, and disabled residents, met and also gave input regarding priorities and distribution.

In addition, Community Development contacted fourteen municipalities with a survey of damage and needs, and invited all to attend a planning meeting regarding distribution, by email and telephone. Five responses were received.

On May 23, 2017, eight municipalities attended the meeting with Montgomery County government officials to develop priorities for distribution of \$22,298,808 in disaster recovery funds. The following cities were represented: Conroe, Magnolia, City of Montgomery, Montgomery County, Oak Ridge, Patton Village, Stagecoach, Willis, and Woodloch.

The cities that were represented filled out an additional feedback sheet that gathered information regarding priority of infrastructure needs. Below, ranked in priority order, will be the projects the County has restricted for the CDBG-DR 4269 and 4272 funds. The projects below must be located in a census-designated Low to Moderate Income (LMA) neighborhood or at least 51% of beneficiaries of the project must be Low to Moderate Income Individuals (LMI).

Infrastructure priorities:

1. Drainage
2. Water/Sewer
3. Road Repair
4. Generator

# Montgomery County Draft Method of Distribution April/May 2016

## Flood Disasters

---

5. Street improvements related to flood safety
6. FEMA Match

Montgomery County will manage Housing repairs, replacement, elevation, or buyouts in all unincorporated areas and within the ETJ's of participating cities.

1. Repair/Replacement, Elevation
2. Buyouts (only if repair or replacement is not an option)

Based on the feedback sheets, the most number of cities and residents are requesting a 60/40 split, Infrastructure at 60% and Housing at 40%. Based on the \$22,298,808 allocation to Montgomery County, \$13,379,284.80 will go towards infrastructure projects. The remaining \$8,919,523.20 will go towards unmet Housing needs.

Montgomery County will receive \$1,379,284.80 for one drainage project and \$8,919,523.20 for Housing needs. The remaining \$12,000,000 will be divided out to the eight participating cities. Since the County is handling all housing issues, the focus of feedback from the cities became how to equitably distribute across cities with a large disparity in population and need. Montgomery County decided to use two equally weighted factors in determining the amounts for the cities, 1) Total amount of FEMA Public Assistance and 2) The highest percentage of poverty. These factors capture the infrastructure needs of the entity and prioritize LMI citizens. Based on each factor, the eight participating cities were ranked from ten (highest) to three (lowest). The two scores were then added together. If any of the cities had the same score, the tie breaker was the highest percentage of poverty. The city with the highest poverty rate kept its original score and the other city lost one point. Each score was then converted to percentage.

Not only did this method prioritize infrastructure need and low income population, it effectively eliminated advantages to larger cities, even when damage estimates were unknown for two of the smallest cities.

# Montgomery County Draft Method of Distribution April/May 2016 Flood Disasters

<u>Highest amount of public assistance damage</u> 10-Montgomery- \$1,466,861.85 9-Conroe-\$1,139,196.54 8-Magnolia- \$438,078.59 7-Stagecoach-\$198,052.89 6-Patton Village-\$110,796.71 5-Willis-\$64,374.32 4-Woodloch-\$47,382.00 3-Oakridge-\$35,385.14	<u>Highest percentage of poverty</u> 10-Patton Village-32.9% 9-Montgomery-27.8% 8-Magnolia-21.6% 7-Conroe-19.3% 6-Willis-16.8% 5-Stagecoach-3.2% 4-Oak Ridge-3.2% 3-Woodloch-2.3%	<u>Final Scores with the two factors added up:</u> Montgomery-19 Patton Village-16 Magnolia-15 Conroe-14 Stagecoach-12 Willis-11 Oakridge-7 Woodloch-6  <b>Tie Breaker:</b> The city with the highest poverty kept its original score and the other city lost one point.
---	---	--

Recommended direct allocation by jurisdiction:

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Total Amount (\$)</u>
Montgomery County	\$10,298,808
City of Montgomery	\$2,280,000
Patton Village	\$1,920,000
Magnolia	\$1,800,000
Conroe	\$1,680,000
Stagecoach	\$1,440,000
Willis	\$1,320,000
Oakridge	\$840,000
Woodloch	\$720,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,298,808</b>