

**COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
and NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
and FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A
FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN AND WETLAND**

November 26, 2024

Colorado County, 400 Spring Street, Columbus, TX 78934-2456
(979)733-0184

This Notice shall satisfy the above-cited three separate but related procedural notification requirements to be undertaken by Colorado County

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about December 12, 2024, Colorado County (County) will submit a request to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) for the release of Community Development Block Grant Mitigation funding (CDBG-MIT) appropriated under the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-123), as amended, to undertake a project known as Communication Tower, Water & Sewer Improvements to establish and enhance communications for emergency response, school safety, community alerting and future broadband connectivity, and to increase the reliability of water and wastewater service during times of need, under GLO Contract #24-065-079-E734.

Project Locations: Cities of Columbus, Garwood, Glidden, Rock Island and Sheridan, Colorado County, TX

Communication Tower (Garwood)

306 Main Street Garwood, TX	Southeast corner off Nelle Street, 29.44778, -96.39868	One Public Facility
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Project Description: Subrecipient shall build a communication tower and equipment building; install fence; solar panels; access drive; and complete associated appurtenances.

Rock Island WSC Water Improvements (Rock Island)

Main Street (CR106) and 11 th Street Water Line	From US Highway 90A southward to 4 th Street, and then from 6 th Street southward to 11 th St, thence westward 1,250' past Tinkler St, Rock Island, 29.52722, -96.57541	4,190 LF
Rock Island Well I Generator	3326 County Road 106 (Main Street), Rock Island, 29.53140, -96.57578	
Rock Island Backup Well Generator	At the southeast corner of the intersection of 6 th Street at County Road 106 (Main Street), Rock Island, 29.52882, -96.57533	

Project Description: Subrecipient shall install generators with foundations; water lines; and complete associated appurtenances.

WCID 2 Water Improvements (Garwood)

Garwood Water Well I Generator	604 Townsend Street, Garwood, 29.44642, -96.39798
Garwood Backup Well Generator	1104 Lions Park Drive, Garwood, 29.439831, -96.398139

Project Description: Subrecipient shall install generators with foundations, and complete associated appurtenances.

Sheridan Water Supply Improvements (Sheridan)

PWS Generator	5514 W 1 st Street, Sheridan, 29.49300, -96.67288
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PWS Pressure Tank	5514 W 1 st Street, Sheridan, 29.49279, -96.67295
Project Description: Subrecipient shall install a generator; pressure storage tank, and complete associated appurtenances	

Sheridan Sewer Improvements (Sheridan)

Sheridan WWLS Generator	From intersection of West 2 nd Street and Avenue H eastward approximately 175', Sheridan, 29.48767, -96.67313
Sheridan WWTP Generator	5399 2 nd Street, Sheridan, 29.49538, -96.66665
Project Description: Subrecipient shall install generators with foundations, and complete associated appurtenances.	

WCID 2 Sewer Improvements (Garwood)

WWLS	From intersection of State Highway 71 and Lions Park Drive northward approximately 1,325', Garwood, 29.43993, -96.39782
WWTP Generator	1100 Mansfield Street, Garwood, 29.44723, -96.39157
WW RAS Pump	1100 Mansfield Street, Garwood, 29.44717, -96.39169
Project Description: Subrecipient shall install generators with foundations, sludge pump, and complete associated appurtenances.	

Glidden Water Supply Improvements (Glidden)

Glidden Waterline Alley	From Clayborne Street eastward to Farm to Market Road 2434 between Thelma Street and Henry Street, Glidden, 29.69784, -96.59289	800 LF
Glidden Well 2 Generator	305 Taylor Street, Glidden, 29.69675, -96.59693	
Glidden Well 3 Generator	137 Clayborne Street, Glidden, 29.70002, -96.59418	
Glidden PWS Tanks	200 Clayborne Street, Glidden. 29.69880, -96.59441	
Project Description: Subrecipient shall install generators with foundations; water lines; blast and recoat water supply tanks, and complete associated appurtenances.		

Barten Water Improvements (Columbus)

Columbus Barten WSC	1014 Barten Road, Columbus, 29.74109, -96.56333 <i>Per CAD: 1014 Barten Rd is a residence, on the east side of the WSC property. The public facility is located behind (west of) the residence on parcel 21387 per CAD.</i>
Project Description: Subrecipient shall install a water well; ground storage tank; pipe; electrical service, and complete associated appurtenances.	

Glidden Sewer Improvements – Norway Street (Glidden)

Norway Street	From Clayborne Street eastward to FM 2434, Glidden, 29.69888, -96.59288	775 LF
Project Description: Subrecipient shall replace sewer pipes, and complete associated appurtenances.		

Glidden Sewer Improvements – Shirley Oaks Drive (Glidden)

Shirley Oaks Drive	From Schulenberg Lane westward 110', Glidden, 29.69852, -96.57885	110 LF
Project Description: Subrecipient shall replace sewer pipes, and complete associated appurtenances.		

Funding Information

Grant Number	DRGR Activity	Grant Award
24-065-079-E734	MIT – Public Facilities and Improvements- Non-Covered Projects – LMI	\$4,712,021.36

	MIT – Public Facilities and Improvements- Non-Covered Projects – UNM	\$572,378.64
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Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$5,284,400.00

Non-HUD Funds: \$0

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$5,284,400.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The County has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to the County at the address above, or by email to michelle.lowrance@co.colorado.tx.us.

FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN AND WETLAND

This is to give notice that the County, under 24 CFR Part 58, has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity through the Texas General Land Office with Community Development Block Grant Mitigation funding (CDBG-MIT), Contract #24-065-079-E734. The proposed action in Rock Island is partially located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain and a Riverine Wetland. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using a FEMA 0.2 percent flood approach. The FFRMS site contained no data to report. Approximately <5.0-acres of project activities are in the FFRMS Floodplain (Zone A 100-Year Floodplain), on CR 106/Main Street and 11th Street. The work on CR 106 will cross Pin Oak Creek, a Riverine Wetland. Work at this crossing will be accomplished by the boring method, causing no disturbance or adverse effect on the wetland. No permit is required. There will be no adverse effects on the floodplain or wetland because the improvements will not cause change to the topography or to the floodplain and wetlands natural values. HUD's 8-Step decision-making process of §55.20 to comply with 24 CFR Part 55 was completed.

The County has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain and wetland:

- Rock Island: Replace the undersized 2" water line north of Hwy 90A to a 6" water line that serves less than ten customers. (Segment of CCN north of HWY 90A that runs to the west) To receive the maximum benefit of replacing the line, the 4" waterline under HWY 90A would need to be upgraded to a 6" water line, as well; therefore, this alternative was dismissed because the cost of replacing the water-line under the road would take the entire water improvement budget, and the beneficiaries are less than ten.
- WCID2 Standby Electric Generators: Use industrial versus commercial generators. Dismissed industrial generators due to cost and long lead times for production.
- WCID3 Sewer Improvements: Air lift or replacing the electric centrifugal pump. The air lift pump was eliminated because a blower would be required and significant piping modifications.
- Pipe Installation: Open cut sewer pipe installation versus replacement by pipe bursting. A combination of the two construction techniques was selected because pipe bursting is less disruptive and lower cost. The Schulenburg Lane at Shirley Oaks component must be open cut because the existing pipe is failing ductile iron pipe that cannot be burst.
- Taking no action would incur no costs for the improvements and would cause no construction-related environmental impact but would be unable to provide the county with the ability to communicate during emergency events, and the water and sewer improvements to restore systems and ensure reliability.

The County has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and wetland and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain and wetland development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and Executive Order 11990, are available for public inspection, review and copying as outlined in the paragraph of FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in a floodplain and wetland and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments/objections on the ERR to Colorado County. Written comments received by December 11, 2024 will be considered by the County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments must be prepared and submitted via email and shall be addressed to the County at michelle.lowrance@co.colorado.tx.us or by mail to: Colorado County, 400 Spring Street, Columbus, TX 78934-2456, Attn: County Judge's Office. (979) 733-0184. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing. Potential objectors should contact the County via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Colorado County certifies to the Texas General Land Office that Ty Prause, in his capacity as County Judge, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. GLO's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Colorado County to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

GLO will accept objections to its release of funds and Colorado County's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the County; (b) the County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by GLO (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Heather Lagrone, Texas General Land Office, Community Development and Revitalization, P.O. Box 12873, Austin, TX 78711-2873, or env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov. Potential objectors should contact the GLO at (512) 475-5000 to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Ty Prause, County Judge