

## PY2018 Annual Action Plan Highlights

The Annual Action Plan (AAP) is the annual update to the amended six-year Consolidated Plan, which sets forth Harris County's long-term community development goals and strategies. Program Year 2018 (PY2018) is the sixth and final year of the Amended PY2013-PY2018 Consolidated Plan for Harris County. The AAP process has been specifically created to assist in mapping one-year actions for community development and making good use of available federal, state, and local resources.

Harris County will receive \$18,761,593 for use towards community development activities during Program Year 2018, which begins March 1, 2018 and ends February 28, 2019. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) determines this allocation amount based on Harris County's Service Area population, poverty, housing overcrowding and age of housing. Based on this formula funding, for PY2018 the total estimated HUD Entitlement funding will be comprised of \$13,385,550 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, \$1,104,804 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds, and \$4,271,239 in HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds plus an estimated \$29,900 in program income for an estimated total of \$18,791,493 in available funding.

### Harris County Entitlement Funds, PY2013 - PY2018

Program Year	CDBG	HOME	ESG	TOTAL
2013	\$11,799,679	\$2,699,905	\$758,773	\$15,258,357
2014	\$11,844,232	\$2,899,993	\$958,591	\$15,702,816
2015	\$11,932,841	\$2,717,525	\$1,055,755	\$15,706,121
2016	\$12,268,605	\$2,953,244	\$1,074,194	\$16,296,043
2017	\$12,362,968	\$2,979,686	\$1,104,511	\$16,477,065
2018	\$13,385,550	\$4,271,239	\$1,104,804	\$18,761,593

As part of the Request for Proposals (RFP) and award process, thirty-five (35) projects utilizing \$10,615,648 in CDBG, HOME and ESG funds were conditionally awarded based upon the actual PY2018 annual allocation from HUD. An additional \$3,183,492 of CDBG, HOME and ESG funding will fund Harris County administrative costs. The projects in this action plan address the Amended PY2013-2018 Harris County Consolidated Plan's priority need areas of housing, homelessness, public facilities, infrastructure, public services and other activities.

The following matrix reflects Harris County's funding allocations, including anticipated program income, by Consolidated Plan Need area:

Consolidated Plan Need Area	Number of Projects	Amount Allocated
Housing	4	\$2,257,500
Homelessness	11	\$1,781,942
Infrastructure	7	\$4,440,929
Public Facilities	1	\$1,005,000
Public Services	12	\$1,160,177
<b>Total Allocations</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>\$10,645,548</b>
Unprogrammed Funds		\$4,962,453
Administration		\$3,183,492
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>\$18,791,493</b>

Although additional applications were evaluated during the PY2018 competitive RFP process, selected projects were conservatively chosen due to limited available funding. Thus, viable projects that are able to expend funds are pending release of HUD contracts. During PY2018 Harris County anticipates adding one HOME funded affordable housing project and may add unsolicited projects utilizing the procedures in its Consolidated Plan/Action Plan Amendments Policy. These projects may address unmet needs related to impacts from Hurricane Harvey flooding.

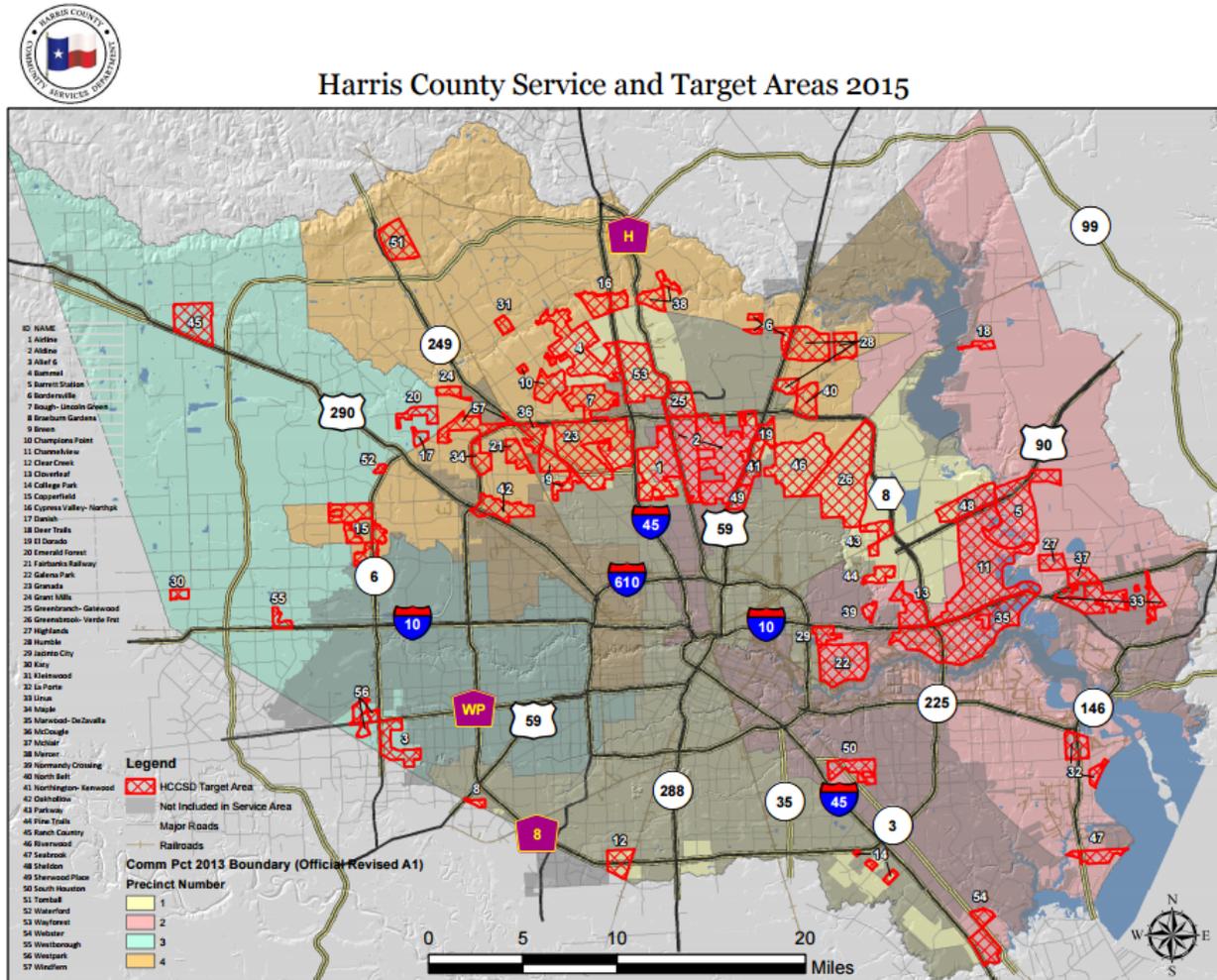
Harris County believes its comprehensive and community-based approach to solving the complex socio-economic ailments within the County is the most effective way to stimulate private reinvestment in the County's most underserved areas. The PY2018 Annual Action Plan (AAP) is the County's blueprint for facilitating change within lower-income communities and ultimately improving the quality of life in Harris County.

PY2018 Measurement of Outcomes	Estimated Persons/Units
Direct Homeownership	33
Single-Family Home Rehabilitation	50
Homeless served/Homeless Prevention	9,668
Services to Youth (including services for abused/neglected children)	1,389
Services to Seniors	702
Transportation Services	8,491
Services to Abused/Neglected Children	175
Health Services	350
Public Facilities to be Completed	1
Infrastructure Projects to be Completed	7

# Service Area

The majority of Harris County HUD resources are utilized within Harris County's Service Area (*Map 1*), which includes unincorporated Harris County and twelve smaller cities within the County which have signed cooperative agreements with Harris County. The cities of Baytown, Houston, Missouri City, Pearland, League City, and Pasadena are entitlement communities that utilize their own community development resources and, therefore, are not within the Harris County service area.

Map 1: Harris County Service and Target Areas



Note: Service Area includes 12 Cooperative Cities: Deer Park, Galena Park, Humble, Jacinto City, Katy, La Porte, Morgan's Point, Seabrook, Shoreacres, South Houston, Tomball, and Webster

On a limited basis, Harris County HUD funds may be used outside of the designated service area for projects and programs that serve homeless families and individuals.

## Income Targeting

Resources available through the County are almost exclusively dedicated toward improving the living conditions for low-income individuals. Low-income is defined as earning less than 80 percent of the median family income (MFI). The MFI for the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, Texas, HUD Metro FMR Area (a portion of the larger Metropolitan Statistical Area) is \$71,500 for a family of four. *Table 1* denotes MFI limits for FY2017.

Table 1: FY 2017 Median Family Income (MFI) Limits\*

Income Levels*	% of MFI	Amount
Extremely Low Income	30%	\$24,600
Very-Low Income	50%	\$34,750
Low Income	80%	\$57,200

\*Based on a family of four

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,

<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2017/2017summary.odn>

## Hurricane Harvey

The PY2018 RFP process began before the devastation of Hurricane Harvey impacted Harris County. All projects were evaluated to determine their capacity to proceed. Unprogrammed funds may be used to fund projects that address unmet needs related to Hurricane Harvey as the recovery process continues.

## Importance of the Annual Action Plan

The AAP is a public awareness and strategy development document required by HUD for any jurisdiction receiving entitlement grant funds allocated to participating jurisdictions based upon a formula of population and poverty characteristics. In fact, the AAP is only one part of an extensive community development process designed to plan long- and short-term solutions for improving the lives of low-income individuals. This process has been specifically developed to assist in creating strategies for community development and making proper use of available resources.

The large majority of resources discussed within the AAP are derived from federal tax dollars. This alone warrants a need to use funds and other resources in a prudent manner. The AAP serves as a report to HUD and the general public of the anticipated manner in which resources made available through tax dollars will be utilized and provides an additional forum for community input into the community development process.

Further, the AAP provides a means by which HUD can ensure proper and efficient use of resources. By requiring the AAP, HUD not only has an opportunity to review for

appropriate use of funds, but also has a benchmark document by which Harris County's performance can be evaluated.

The AAP includes a discussion of available resources, an explanation of the allocation process, a summary and brief analysis of proposed allocations, and strategies for monitoring appropriate use of those resources. Each topic is further divided and discussed as necessary to make the process understandable to members of the general public.

## **Public Comment and Approval**

On January 9, 2018, the PY2018 AAP was presented and approved the Harris County Commissioners Court. Prior to approval, the AAP was published for the minimum 30-day public review period as required by HUD on November 15, 2017 in the Houston Chronicle, on November 26, 2017 in La Voz, and a Public Hearing held at 10:00 am on November 30, 2017, at HCCSD's Office located at 8410 Lantern Point Drive, Houston, Texas 77054. Public comments were accepted through January 9, 2018, at which time the public was afforded an opportunity to provide comments as a part of the Commissioners Court meeting to be held in the Courtroom of the Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, on the ninth floor of the Harris County Administration Building, 1001 Preston Avenue, Houston, Texas.

Upon release of Harris County's actual funding allocation amounts from HUD, Harris County followed the steps in its Consolidated Plan/Action Plan Amendments Policy and the language in the PY2018 AAP public notice on November 15, 2017, to account for the additional PY2018 funding awarded to the county. As the amounts were below the 25 percent cap for minor amendments, a minor amendment to allocate additional funding to CDBG, HOME and ESG administration projects and unprogrammed funding was approved on the June 12, 2018, Commissioners Court agenda.