Construction Begins!

More than 80 Harris County homes are under construction in the Homeowner Disaster Recovery Program.

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Harris County Homeowners See Progress to Their Home Firsthand

Tony and Betty Francis are watching their new house go up before their very eyes. Thanks to kind neighbors, the Francis’ are able to watch the construction from their trailer in their next door neighbor’s back yard, giving them a front row seat to the action.

Harris County Homeowner Disaster Recovery Program Gains Momentum

To date:
- 122 applicants have been approved to receive funding by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- 71 rehabilitation projects are currently under construction
- 16 reconstruction projects are under construction
- Over 250 homeowners are projected to see construction to their homes by the third quarter of the year

Is your application at a standstill?

Are you one of the more than 200 homeowners with incomplete applications in our system? One missing document may be all that is standing between you and the start of construction. Another common delay occurs when our Case Managers are unable to verify information you have previously submitted. Case Managers are working diligently to help applicants identify missing documents and move on to construction.

Thank you for your patience!

Give us a call at 1-877-332-8014 for information on your application.

It may be that one piece of information is missing from among the following documents:
- Earned Income (Salary and Wages)
- Retirement and Pension Income
- Alimony/Spousal Maintenance and Child Support
- Social Security
- Unemployment
- Net Income from Self Employment or a Business
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and other Public Assistance
- Proof of Ownership
- Savings/Checking Accounts
- Mortgages or Deeds of Trust Held by Applicant
- Proof of Insurance
- Receipts for Repairs
- Proof of Funds received from Homeowners
- Flood or Wind Insurance

For a full list of information required please visit www.HarrisRecovery.org.

Are you wondering what’s taking so long?

The process is a lengthy one, and it is important to understand the multiple steps involved — from the time you submit an application to the time construction begins on your home. Follow your progress using the updated At-a-Glance HDRP Process Chart on the following pages. Reference this chart whenever you have questions about what comes next or your current status.
**Application Process**

**APPLICATION PROCESS BEGINS**
Day 1–7 (7 days)

- Make sure you have all of your documents submitted to HDRP.
- Once they are all in, set up an appointment with your Case Manager.
- Review your application thoroughly with your Case Manager.
- Once your application has been approved, you should expect to receive a call to schedule your inspection.

**INSPECTOR SITE VISITS**
Day 8–21 (15 days)

- You should expect 2–3 visits from an inspector. Make sure you are available for each appointment.
- Once all visits are complete, the inspector will document all your damage and produce a list of work to be done to your home as well as any related costs. This list, called a scope of work, will be delivered to your Case Manager and provided to the contractors to review.

**CONTRACTOR SITE VISIT**
Day 22–52 (30 days)

- Once your Case Manager has received the list from the inspector, she will schedule an appointment for contractors to view your home in person.
- While on site, the Case Manager will review the scope of work with you. Be sure to carefully examine all the details concerning work to your home. This is your opportunity to ask questions.
- Contractors will tour your home to conduct a separate assessment and prepare an actual cost estimate of proposed repairs.

**CONTRACTORS BID**
Day 53–112 (60 days)

- Once complete, contractors will submit their bids to HDRP who will then select a contractor to complete the work.
- You will then meet with your Case Manager to give one final review of the Work Write-Up. During this meeting your Case Manager will calculate the amount of funding you will be granted to make repairs.

**AGREEMENTS EXECUTED**
Day 113–292 (90–180)

- Once you've approved the final work write-up, you will sign a contract agreeing to move forward with construction.
- Your signed contract and all related documents will be sent to the state (TDHCA) for approval. This takes approximately two weeks.
- Once state approval is received, HDRP will issue a ‘Notice to Proceed’ and construction will begin. During construction, you can expect periodic inspections to take place that will require you to approve authorization of payment for work completed.
- Once all construction activity is complete award calculations will be finalized and project will be closed out.
Wondering why you keep hearing the term “Duplication of Benefits” (DOB)?

DOB is an important term to understand. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery Funds may not be used for any costs for which other assistance was previously provided.*

If you have previously received disaster assistance from other sources, this will play a factor in the amount of assistance you receive through the HDRP program. All HDRP applicants are required to disclose the amount of funding received from other sources related to damage caused to their structure by Hurricane Ike.

Duplication of Benefits includes payments received by one or a combination of the following:

- Insurance Proceeds - Hazard, Wind, Flood (including NFIP)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Small Business Administration (SBA)
- Increased Cost of Compliance (funds for elevation or demolition)

It is very important to note that the HDRP Program cannot provide financial awards for rehabilitation or reconstruction if an applicant has already received federal funding for the same purpose.

*In accordance with Section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act, as amended.

Frequently Asked Questions Related to the Home Repair

Q: What are the contractor qualifications?
A: All contractors participating in the program have been verified as insured, meet the criteria to be a contractor in the state of Texas and are eligible to do business using federal funds.

Q: Is it the homeowner’s responsibility to have everything moved before the contractor comes to conduct repairs?
A: Yes, it is your sole responsibility to remove furniture and any household and personal items from your home prior to the start of construction. Your contractor will discuss whether this is necessary in advance of construction. Contractors will not assist in the moving process.

Q: What if another hurricane or tropical storm hits Harris County and my home has not yet been repaired? If my home sustains additional damage, will that affect my place in the program?
A: No, additional storm damage does not impact your current place in the program. Applications are processed in the order received and determined eligible for the program.

Additional NOTE: HDRP will only pay for damage sustained from Hurricane Ike. Any additional damage resulting from a different storm will not be covered under the current program.

For a complete list of questions and answers regarding the HDRP Program please visit www.HarrisRecovery.org.

Do you suspect you may be a victim of fraud?

For more information on the HDRP Fraud and Ethics hotline, please visit our website at www.HarrisRecovery.org or call your Case Manager at 877.332.8014.

If you believe you are a victim of fraud, we encourage you to alert the HDRP Fraud and Ethics hotline by calling 877.559.2144.

Visit www.HarrisRecovery.org or call your Case Manager at 877-332-8014 for updates.
**Helping Harris County Homeowners Rebuild & Recover**

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**Contact Us**

Housing Assistance Center

16602 Diana Lane, Houston, Texas 77062

Call Toll-Free: 1.877.332.8014

www.HarrisRecovery.org

Por favor, comuníquese con su administrador de casos si desea una copia de este boletín de noticias enviado a usted en español.

Xin vui lòng liên hệ với trường hợp của bạn Manager nếu bạn muốn một bản sao của bản tin này được gửi cho bạn ở Việt Nam.