



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
SITUATION REPORT
September 13, 2017, 2:00 PM EDT

Hurricane Harvey (Category 4) – Gulf of Mexico

Overview. Beginning as early as August 17, 2017, the National Hurricane Center reported the development of a low-pressure area east of Lesser Antilles that was expected to become the eighth named tropical storm in the Atlantic Ocean this season. Harvey continued to intensify into a major Category 4 Hurricane just before making landfall near Rockport, Texas, on August 24, 2017. Harvey produced major to record flooding due to the heavy rains along several basins in south central and southeast Texas, including San Bernard, Colorado, Navidad, and Guadalupe. Catastrophic flooding resulted from rainfall amounts of more than 50 inches in the Houston metro area. In addition, several tornadoes were reported in the Houston area.

Situation. Response and recovery efforts continue throughout the Gulf Coast of Texas and Louisiana.

Declaration Activity

Texas:

Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4332-DR-TX effective August 25, 2017

- Amendment No. 5, effective September 4, adds seven additional counties (Austin, Bastrop, DeWitt, Gonzales, Karnes, Lavaca, and Lee) for Individual Assistance and assistance for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B), including direct federal assistance, under the Public Assistance Program, bringing the total number of counties under disaster declaration to 43.
- Amendment No. 4, effective September 2, authorizes 90% federal cost share for debris removal, including Direct Federal Assistance, and a 100% federal cost share for emergency protective measures, including Direct Federal Assistance, for 30 days from the start of the incident period, and then a 90% federal cost share thereafter.
- Amendment No. 2, effective August 30, includes 11 additional counties approved and added for Individual Assistance (Category A and B.)
- Amendment No. 1, effective August 27, includes 19 counties.
- The Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) is Kevin L. Hannes.
- The Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator (FDRC) is Mike Byrne.

Counties: Aransas, Austin, Bastrop, Bee, Bexar, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Colorado, Dallas, DeWitt, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Hardin, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Karnes, Kleberg, Lavaca, Lee, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Polk, Refugio, Sabine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Tarrant, Travis, Tyler, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Wharton

Louisiana:

Emergency Declaration FEMA-3382-EM-LA effective August 27, 2017

- There are 12 total number of parishes under disaster declaration.
- The FCO is William J. Doran II.

Parishes: Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, Natchitoches, Rapides, Sabine, Vermilion, Vernon

PRIORITIES FOR HUD

- **Protect the health and safety of HUD employees.** HUD regional offices are closely monitoring the storm and guidance provided by state and local officials to protect the health and safety of HUD personnel. HUD offices will make decisions on office closures based on local information. Office of Field Policy and Management (FPM) is tracking and reporting office closures.
 - FPM Customer Relationship Management (CRM) disaster module is being implemented across 30+ staff at Fort Worth office in order to handle customer service calls. Training is provided on a rolling basis each week as new staff work with the system, including teams deployed to work in shelters and Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs.)
- **Assess potential impacts to HUD programs and clients:**

Healthcare Section 232/242	Number of Properties in the Impacted (PDD) Area	Number of Beds in the Impacted (PDD) Area
Texas	40	4,704

Multifamily Housing	Number of Properties in the Impacted (PDD) Area	Total Number of Units in the Impacted (PDD) Area	Number of Assisted Units in the Impacted (PDD) Area
Texas	454	50,818	20,971

Public and Indian Housing	Number of Housing Authorities in the Impacted (PDD) Area	Total Number of Properties in the Impacted (PDD) Area	Total Number of Units/Households in the Impacted (PDD) Area
Texas	42	773	199,494

all numbers current as of 7 Sept; updated weekly due to complexity of reporting fluid numbers

- **Provide staffing support to the Joint Field Office (JFO) Austin, TX**
- **Coordination of long-term recovery efforts**

Actions Taken

- HUD activated Disaster Management Group (DMG) which is comprised of senior leadership and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs.) HUD continues deployment efforts; HUD is currently embedded at FEMA's National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) in Washington, DC and JFO Austin, TX.
- The OLHCHH continues to provide social media messaging related to disaster recovery and added disaster-related content for its lead regulations hotline (202-402-7698).
- PIH is continuing to review and assist HHA with administrative flexibilities so they can support impacted families with available funds. Region IV confirmed with FEMA Mass Care

the repopulation efforts taking place in the Dallas Shelter. Survivors from Beaumont TX area are returning to the community, via buses provided by FEMA/State.

- State and city of Dallas are working to close the Dallas shelter.
- Currently 22 HUD staff are working under MAs in Texas or remotely.
- A dedicated phone up and running in the Region IV JFO.
- Shelter repopulation efforts continue to push forward through local communities and ARC. HUD staff at the JFO met with the ARC JFO representative.
- There are 11 total Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) in Region IV.

Next Steps

- Tomorrow, 14 Sept, a nationwide Disaster Deployment Training will be taught at 11:30EST from Fort Worth and Headquarters in order to prepare deployed and deploying staff as well as volunteers yet to be assigned or anyone interested in volunteering. To view the webcast remotely or to view in the archives after training is complete, visit <http://webcast.hud.gov>.
- FPM Customer Relationship Management (CRM) disaster module will be implemented across 30+ staff at Ft. Worth office handling customer service calls. Initial training was completed on Sept 1. Additional training will be provided to Fort Worth and deployed staff over the next two weeks.
- Per PD&R, data for FEMA IA applicants, awards, and PDAs will be also provided as that information becomes available.
- Internally, HUD is beginning to work on the necessary Federal Register notice that will govern the use of the funds from law HR 601 (referenced above).
- A Region IV HUD staff member is assigned to join the FEMA/State team tomorrow, 14 Sept.
- By Oct 1, HUD will have over 40 staff on the ground in Region VI working in close coordination with FEMA and other partners as part of inter-agency response and recovery efforts. There are 13 inbound staff this week, and 11 inbound next week. The staffing total for HUD by 1 Oct in Region IV is projected at 40 on-site and remote staff.
- There is a big push from the State EM; Governor; FEMA FCO to speed up the process of opening DRCs; HUD staff anticipate the number of DRCs to increase greatly this week.
- HUD JFO team plan to staff approximately 7 of the highest volume DRCs over next two weeks.

Issues/Challenges

- The Fair Housing Discrimination Hotline has been getting calls from the public about a group using a scam that shows them calling from 1-800-669-9777 (HUD's Discrimination Hotline). HUD has received over 30 calls from the public at this time. The scam tells the person to send \$300 to them and that HUD will send them back \$9000. FHEO is working to inform the public that there is no such program, and with the FTC and FCC to report this fraud and see if the phone number can be blocked.
- HUD learned that FEMA may have asked Houston Housing Authority (HHA) to serve up to 700 new (non-HUD assisted) persons currently in shelters. HHA is not in a position with their current HCV funds, or other available HUD funds, to serve this many new families in their voucher program. HHA was in a substantial shortfall/financially oversubscribed position for their voucher program before the storm. PIH requests that these kind of requests go first to PIH's leadership, as it may be better handled through an IAA with FEMA and HUD. . Contact at HQ is Deputy Assistant Secretary Milan Ozdinec, milan.m.ozdinec@hud.gov or 202-402-2019.
- It is important to note that unlike the continental US, address geocoding in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands is a major challenge for PD&R who is only able to locate a small portion of total addresses at the street level in PR and absolutely 0% of the addresses at the

street level in the USVI. Thus the lowest level of precision that we can achieve in our mapping and reporting efforts is at the county or county equivalent. In the USVI that equates to the “island level.”

AVAILABLE HUD DISASTER ASSISTANCE

- **Assist the State of Texas and local governments in re-allocating existing federal resources toward disaster relief.** HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs give the state and local communities the flexibility to redirect millions of dollars in annual formula funding to address critical needs, including housing and services for disaster victims. HUD is currently contacting State and local officials to explore streamlining the Department's CDBG and HOME programs to expedite the repair and replacement of damaged housing.
- **Grant immediate foreclosure relief.** HUD has granting a 90-day moratorium on foreclosures and forbearance on foreclosures of Federal Housing Administration (FHA)-insured home mortgages. There are approximately 200,000 FHA-insured homeowners living in these impacted counties.
- **Make mortgage insurance available.** HUD's Section 203(h) program provides FHA insurance to disaster victims who have lost their homes and are facing the daunting task of rebuilding or buying another home. Borrowers from participating FHA-approved lenders may be eligible for 100 percent financing.
- **Make insurance available for both mortgages and home rehabilitation.** HUD's Section 203(k) loan program enables those who have lost their homes to finance the purchase or refinance of a house along with its repair through a single mortgage. It also allows homeowners who have damaged houses to finance the rehabilitation of their existing single-family home.
- **Offer Section 108 loan guarantee assistance.** HUD will offer state and local governments federally guaranteed loans for housing rehabilitation, economic development and repair of public infrastructure.
- **Provide information on housing providers and HUD programs.** HUD will share information with FEMA and the state on housing providers that may have available units in the impacted counties. This includes Public Housing Agencies and Multi-Family owners. HUD will also connect FEMA and the state to SMEs to provide information on HUD programs and providers.

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