

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS  
FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

**Date of Publication:** July 1, 2026

Starr County  
100 N. FM 3167  
Rio Grande City, TX 78582  
956-716-4800

**On or after** July 10, 2026 **the** County of Starr **will submit a request to the** Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) **for the release of** HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, to undertake the following project:

**Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title:** Homeowner Rehabilitation/Reconstruction/New Construction Assistance and Homebuyer Assistance, to include but not limited to RSP: 2024-0003: Contracts #1003549, #1003550, and #1003551.

**Purpose:** To provide low-income homeowners living in substandard conditions housing that is in decent and safe condition.

**Location:** Starr County, Texas, County – Wide

**Project/Program Description:** Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, and Homebuyer Assistance of 1-25 homes. The maximum amount of funding to be utilized for each activity is as follows: Rehabilitation - \$60,000, Reconstruction and Homebuyer Assistance - \$110,000.

**Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.**

**Level of Environmental Review Citation:** 24 CFR Part 58.5(a)(3)(i) and 24 CFR Part 58.5(a)(4)(i).

**Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:** Flood Insurance, Floodplain Management, Contamination and Toxic Substances, Explosive and Flammable Hazards, and Noise Abatement and Control.

**Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any):**

1. Floodplain –Will include an 8-step decision making processes which will outline mitigation through at a minimum base flood elevation based on both FEMA’s and the localities requirements (whichever is more stringent).
2. Contamination and Toxic Substances – properties will be evaluated using the CERCLA website and/or a visual observation inspection. Contaminated sites will require an ASTM Phase I report to decide if it is recommended to remediate the contaminated property and work with the appropriate state agency.
3. Explosive and Flammable Hazards will be evaluated using NEPAssist and if necessary, an Acceptable Separation Distance calculation will be conducted.
4. Noise – will include a HUD noise calculation with construction mitigation meeting at a minimum interior noise levels of 45 decibels.

**Estimated Project Cost:** HOME Award not exceed a maximum of \$60,000 per rehabilitation home and \$110,000 per reconstructed home or as program allows.

The HOME Reservation System distributes funds on a first-come; first-served basis. This will be a multi-year release for the years 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029 for HOME funding within this locality as funding becomes available.

**The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.5(a)(3)(i) and 24 CFR Part 58.5(a)(4)(i). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project 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 Starr County Federal & State Programs, 100 N. FM 3167, Rio Grande City, TX 78582 or email to [jpena@co.starr.tx.us](mailto:jpena@co.starr.tx.us)**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the County of Starr. All comments received by July 9, 2026; will be considered by the County of Starr prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

**The County of Starr certifies to TDHCA that Eloy Vera, 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. TDHCA's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the County of Starr to use HUD program funds.**

### **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

**TDHCA will accept objections to its release of fund and the County of Starr'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 of Starr; (b) the County of Starr 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 TDHCA; or (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 Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs at P.O Box 1394, Austin, Texas 78711. Potential objectors should contact TDHCA to verify the actual last day of the objection period.**

Eloy Vera, County Judge, **Certifying Officer**