

HARRIS COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER

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March 23, 2021

Honorable County Judge
& Commissioners

SUBJECT: Transmittal by the Office of the County Engineer, the Harris County Flood Control District, the Harris County Toll Road Authority, the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Harris County Community Services Department, and Harris County Public Health to provide an update on the status of the Infrastructure Resilience Team (IRT) Phase I Progress Report of the Harris County Flood Resilience Plan as outlined by the IRT Court Letter of September 15th of 2020, which is ready for Community Flood Resilience Task Force (CFRTF) input and review.

Dear Court Members:

The Office of the County Engineer, the Harris County Flood Control District, the Harris County Toll Road Authority, the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Harris County Community Services Department, and Harris County Public Health would like to provide an update on the status of the IRT's Phase I report of the Harris County Flood Resilience Plan, as initially outlined by the IRT Court Letter dated September 15, 2020.

IRT Representatives. All IRT member departments have representation in the IRT and have either hired or provided an interim staff member to serve and support the IRT. Thus far, five new hires and four onboardings have been completed.

IRT Operations and Reporting Standards. The IRT has worked collaboratively to outline operational processes and procedures to foster interdepartmental collaboration and build an online platform for internal communications and information sharing. The IRT also worked collaboratively to develop reporting standards and built an interdepartmental Resilience Actions Inventory based on dashboards that summarize information about departmental actions in ways that relate to the different dimensions and conceptualizations of resilience that are applicable to the County's portfolio.

Community Engagement Plan, Work Plan, and budgets for Phase II. Drafts of the Community Engagement Plan, Work Plan, and associated budgets for Phase II have been prepared. An initial, preliminary budget has also been developed, which will be revised and brought forth to Court in the next few months once the Community Flood Resilience Task Force (CFRTF) provides input on the scope of work and phased plan tasks that would need to proceed and go through a procurement process during Phase II.

The IRT is ready to engage with the CFRTF to further refine content and finalize the approach and budget needs for the subsequent two phases of the Harris County Flood Resilience Plan.

Sincerely,


John R. Blount, P.E.
County Engineer

JRB/pl/vht

cc: Russell A. Poppe, P.E., Harris County Flood Control District
Roberto Treviño, Harris County Toll Roll Authority
Adrienne Holloway, Ph.D., Harris County Community Services Department
Mark Sloan, Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Gwen Sims, Med, RD, LD, Harris County Public Health