

i. Signs and Barricades

The Signs and Barricades program is a crucial component of a comprehensive, long-term recovery strategy to improve advanced warning to residents to reduce or eliminate the number of lives lost. This activity includes increasing the number of signs and barricades for low water crossings. This program will be administered by the City of San Marcos through the Engineering Department.

Allocation Amount: \$60,000

Eligible Mitigation Activity

This program is an eligible mitigation activity under the infrastructure criteria, as defined in the CDBG-MIT requirements, and will improve the warning system(s) in San Marcos.

Eligible Activities

Activities allowed under CDBG-MIT; HCDA Section 105(a)(1-5), 105(a)(7-9), and 105(a)(11), include but are not limited to:

- Acquisition or disposition of real property.
- Infrastructure improvements (such as water and sewer facilities, streets, provision of generators, removal of debris, bridges, etc.), including flood control and drainage repair and improvements through the construction or rehabilitation of stormwater management system.
- Natural or green infrastructure.
- Clearance, demolition, rehabilitation of publicly or privately-owned buildings, and code enforcement.
- Removal of materials and architectural barriers.
- Public service (such as job training and employment services, healthcare, child care, and crime prevention within the 15 percent cap).
- Buyouts or acquisition with or without relocation assistance, down payment assistance, housing assistance, demolition or other activities designed to relocate families outside of floodplains.

Ineligible Activities

- Emergency response services.
- CDBG-MIT funds may not be used to enlarge a dam or levee beyond the original footprint of the structure that existed prior to the disaster event. However, CDBG-MIT funds can be used for levees and dams if used to:
 - Register and maintain entries regarding such structures with the USACE National Levee Database or National Inventory of Dams;
 - Ensure that the structure is admitted in the USACE PL 84-99 Rehabilitation Program (Rehabilitation Assistance for Non-Federal Flood Control Projects);
 - Ensure the structure is accredited under the FEMA NFIP;

- Maintain file documentation demonstrating a risk assessment prior to funding the flood control structure and documentation that the investment includes risk reduction measures.
- Funds may not be used to assist a privately-owned utility for any purpose.
- Buildings and facilities used for the general conduct of government (e.g., city halls, courthouses, and emergency operation centers).
- By law, (codified in the HCD Act as a note to 105(a)), the amount of CDBG–MIT funds that may be contributed to a USACE project is \$250,000 or less.

National Objective

This program will meet the CDBG-MIT requirements for the National Objective of urgent need mitigation for the following reasons:

- The entire city limits of the City of San Marcos are included in the designation as the most impacted and distressed area. Therefore all projects done within the city limits meet this requirement.
- The use of signs and barricades in additional locations throughout the city will result in a measurable and verifiable reduction in the risk of loss of life and property by preventing people from entering low-lying areas in times of possible flooding, and by notifying them of the possible risk involved.

Geographic Eligibility

At least fifty-percent of the funds spent on projects under this program will be spent on projects located within the City of San Marcos, with others potentially spent on projects outside of the city limits, but on ones that will benefit San Marcos' residents. More information about the location of specific projects will be available once these projects are selected for implementation.

Selection Criteria

Through its Capital Improvements Program (CIP), the City of San Marcos Engineering Department has a current list of unfunded projects. An analysis will be conducted to select projects that will have the greatest benefit on the health, safety, and overall welfare of residents. After the selection of potential projects, the City Council will approve the selection to be funded with CDBG-MIT funds. Projects will be prioritized using the criteria below.

For CDBG-MIT funding, priority will be given to projects that:

- Benefit primarily LMI communities;
- Can be completed in a timely manner;
- Coordinate with other local and/or regional warning system efforts to ensure consistency; and
- Meet or further the goals identified within the City's comprehensive plan.

Maximum Award Amount

No person, household or business will receive direct benefits through this program; therefore, no maximum award amount has been set. If this Action Plan is amended to include activities that provide funding to direct beneficiaries, the City will set a maximum award amount for each such activity, and will adopt a policy for when and how exceptions might be considered.

Project

With Amendment No. 1, the purchase of signs, barricades, and similar devices is planned as a project for the \$60,000 in this category of the CDBG-MIT funding. These items will be used during storms and other events to warn the public of risks ahead and to set up evacuation routes if needed.

Timeline

This purchase is expected to be completed by Summer, 2023. See Appendix D for projected timeline of expenditures.