

PUBLIC NOTICE:

SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE FY2024 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR ESG-RUSH FORT BEND COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 2025

INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND:

Fort Bend County was impacted by Hurricane Beryl, a Presidentially declared disaster (DR-4798-TX) on July 9, 2024. In response, on August 28, 2024, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the availability of Emergency Solutions Grants - Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (ESG-RUSH) funding in the amount of \$104,420.00 for Fort Bend County. ESG-RUSH provides rapid assistance to individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness due to federally declared disasters and addresses needs not fully met by other federal disaster relief programs.

USE OF ESG-RUSH FUNDS:

Fort Bend County, through its Community Development Department (CDD), is amending its FY2024 Annual Action Plan, which serves as the County's application for ESG-RUSH grant funds. Funds will be used for Emergency Shelter Renovations to address disaster-related impacts on shelters serving homeless individuals and families.

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS - RAPID UNSHELTERED SURVIVOR HOUSING (ESG-RUSH)	FUNDING AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Shelter Renovation & Rehabilitation	\$96,588.50	92.5%
Administration	\$7,831.50	7.5%
TOTAL	\$104,420	100.00%

PLANNED PROJECT SCOPE & BENEFICIARIES:

- ESG-RUSH funds will be used in compliance with 24 CFR Part 576 and HUD's ESG-RUSH specific waivers and guidance.
- Funds will support emergency shelter renovations, including infrastructure repairs, safety upgrades, and ADA-compliant modifications to enhance shelter access.
- The renovation project is expected to increase bed capacity, improve habitability, and ensure compliance with health and safety standards.
- This funding will primarily assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness due to Hurricane Beryl's impact in Fort Bend County.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & TRANSPARENCY:

To expedite the allocation of ESG-RUSH funds, HUD waived consultation and citizen participation requirements for this funding. However, Fort Bend County encourages public input and welcomes community engagement on this substantial amendment. Interested parties may request more information or share comments by contacting the Fort Bend County Community Development Department (CDD) at: CommunityDevelopment@fortbendcountytexas.gov

For special accommodations, including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance or language assistance services, please contact: CommunityDevelopment@fortbendcountytexas.gov

AVISO PÚBLICO:

**ENMIENDA SUSTANCIAL AL PLAN DE ACCIÓN ANUAL FY2024 PARA ESG-RUSH
DEPARTAMENTO DE DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND
FECHA: 12 DE FEBRERO DE 2025**

INTRODUCCIÓN Y ANTECEDENTES:

El Condado de Fort Bend fue afectado por el Huracán Beryl, un desastre declarado por el Presidente (DR-4798-TX) el 9 de julio de 2024. En respuesta, el 28 de agosto de 2024, el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de EE. UU. (HUD) anunció la disponibilidad de fondos de Subvenciones de Soluciones de Emergencia - Vivienda Rápida para Sobrevivientes Sin Refugio (ESG-RUSH) por un monto de \$104,420.00 para el Condado de Fort Bend.

ESG-RUSH proporciona asistencia rápida a personas y familias que experimentan la falta de vivienda o están en riesgo de quedarse sin hogar debido a desastres declarados a nivel federal y cubre necesidades no totalmente satisfechas por otros programas federales de ayuda en casos de desastre.

USO DE LOS FONDOS ESG-RUSH:

El Condado de Fort Bend, a través de su Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario (CDD), está enmendando su Plan de Acción Anual FY2024, que servirá como la solicitud del condado para los fondos de la subvención ESG-RUSH.

Los fondos se utilizarán para la renovación de refugios de emergencia, abordando los impactos del desastre en los refugios que prestan servicio a personas y familias sin hogar.

SUBVENCIONES DE SOLUCIONES DE EMERGENCIA - VIVIENDA RÁPIDA PARA SOBREVIVIENTES SIN REFUGIO (ESG-RUSH)

CATEGORÍA	MONTO ASIGNADO	PORCENTAJE
Renovación y rehabilitación de refugios	\$96,588.50	92.5%
Administración	\$7,831.50	7.5%
TOTAL	\$104,420.00	100.00%

ALCANCE DEL PROYECTO Y BENEFICIARIOS:

- Los fondos de ESG-RUSH se utilizarán en cumplimiento con 24 CFR Parte 576 y las dispensas y directrices específicas de ESG-RUSH de HUD.
- Los fondos respaldarán la renovación de refugios de emergencia, incluyendo reparaciones de infraestructura, mejoras de seguridad y modificaciones compatibles con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA) para mejorar el acceso a los refugios.
- Se espera que el proyecto de renovación aumente la capacidad de camas, mejore la habitabilidad y garantice el cumplimiento de los estándares de salud y seguridad.
- Esta financiación beneficiará principalmente a personas y familias sin hogar debido al impacto del Huracán Beryl en el Condado de Fort Bend.

PARTICIPACIÓN PÚBLICA Y TRANSPARENCIA:

Para acelerar la asignación de los fondos ESG-RUSH, HUD ha eximido los requisitos de consulta y participación ciudadana para esta financiación. Sin embargo, el Condado de Fort Bend fomenta la participación pública y da la bienvenida a la participación comunitaria en esta enmienda sustancial.

Las partes interesadas pueden solicitar más información o enviar comentarios contactando al Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario del Condado de Fort Bend (CDD) en:

CommunityDevelopment@fortbendcountytx.gov

Para solicitudes de adaptaciones especiales, incluyendo cumplimiento con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA) o servicios de asistencia lingüística, por favor comuníquese con: CommunityDevelopment@fortbendcountytx.gov

SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE FY2024 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR ESG-RUSH GRANT FUNDS SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Fort Bend County has been allocated \$104,420.00 under the Emergency Solutions Grants - Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (ESG-RUSH) program by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This funding is designated to assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness due to the impacts of Hurricane Beryl, a Presidentially declared disaster (DR-4798-TX) on July 9, 2024.

To accept these funds, Fort Bend County must undertake a substantial amendment to its FY2024 Annual Action Plan (AAP). This amendment process involves several key steps:

1. Publish the Substantial Amendment in English and Spanish on the Community Development Department's website to ensure accessibility and transparency.
2. Amendment of the Annual Action Plan: The County will revise its FY2024 AAP to incorporate the ESG-RUSH funds, detailing the intended use of the grant in alignment with HUD guidelines.
3. Submission to HUD for Approval: Following the amendment, the updated AAP must be submitted to HUD for review and approval, ensuring compliance with federal regulations and program requirements.
4. Acceptance of the Grant through Commissioners Court: Upon HUD's approval, the Commissioners Court will formally accept the ESG-RUSH grant, authorizing the allocation and expenditure of the funds as outlined in the amended AAP.

According to the Federal Register Notice published on July 18, 2024, recipients of ESG-RUSH funds are required to amend their consolidated plans to reflect the allocation and intended use of these funds. The notice specifies that the substantial amendment must be completed and submitted to HUD in accordance with the requirements under 24 CFR 91.505 ([federalregister.gov](https://www.federalregister.gov))

Additionally, to expedite the allocation of ESG-RUSH funds and rapidly provide homeless assistance, HUD has waived certain consultation and citizen participation requirements for this funding. However, Fort Bend County encourages public input and welcomes community engagement on this substantial amendment. Interested parties may request more information or share comments by contacting the Fort Bend County Community Development Department (CDD) at: CommunityDevelopment@fortbendcountytexas.gov.

By following these procedures, Fort Bend County aims to efficiently deploy ESG-RUSH funds to support emergency shelter renovations and services, addressing the urgent needs of those affected by Hurricane Beryl.

AP-05 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - 24 CFR 91.200(C), 91.220(B)

Fort Bend County was impacted by Hurricane Beryl, a Presidentially declared disaster (DR-4798-TX) on July 9, 2024. In response, on August 28, 2024, HUD allocated \$104,420 in Emergency Solutions Grants - Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (ESG-RUSH) funding to Fort Bend County to address homelessness and emergency shelter needs.

ESG-RUSH Allocation:

- Emergency Shelter Renovations: \$96,588.50 (92.5%)
- Program Administration: \$7,831.50 (7.5%)
- Total Allocation: \$104,420

To expedite funding distribution, HUD waived consultation and citizen participation requirements for the first round of ESG-RUSH funds. Fort Bend County has posted budget details on its website and encourages public engagement and input regarding this substantial amendment.

AP-12 PARTICIPATION – 91.105, 91.200(C) PUBLIC NOTICE PROCESS

HUD waived standard consultation and citizen participation requirements for ESG-RUSH funding to allow for rapid deployment of resources. However, Fort Bend County has posted budget details on its website and welcomes community engagement. For more information or public comments, contact: CommunityDevelopment@fortbendcountytexas.gov

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AP-15 EXPECTED RESOURCES – 91.220(C)(1,2)

On August 28, 2024, HUD allocated \$104,420 in ESG-RUSH funding to Fort Bend County, one of the areas impacted by Hurricane Beryl. 100% of these funds will be used for Emergency Shelter Renovations and Program Administration to address disaster-related impacts on shelters serving homeless individuals and families.

Matching Requirements: No match is required for ESG-RUSH funding.

AP-20 ANNUAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

DH 3.1: Decent Housing Objectives

Objective: Provide for the rehabilitation and/or reconstruction of at least one new homeless shelter using ESG-RUSH funds.

- ESG-RUSH Allocation: \$104,420
- Eligible Activities Include:
 - Emergency shelter operations
 - Rapid re-housing rental assistance
 - Homeless prevention activities
 - Outreach services
 - Other services for homeless individuals and at-risk populations

AP-35 PROJECTS – 91.220(D)

ESG-RUSH funds will support emergency shelter renovations to increase capacity and improve habitability for individuals experiencing homelessness due to Hurricane Beryl.

ESG-RUSH Fund Allocation:

- Shelter Renovation & Rehabilitation: \$96,588.50
- Program Administration: \$7,831.50

Estimated Impact:

- 40-80 individuals served annually through improved shelter capacity.
- Completion Date: Program Year 2025, with full fund expenditure by June 30, 2026.

AP-65 HOMELESS AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS ACTIVITIES - 91.200(I)

Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing Needs

Fort Bend County continues to support social service agencies providing emergency shelter and transitional housing to homeless individuals and families.

ESG-RUSH Funding for Shelter Needs:

- \$96,588.50 for shelter renovations, ensuring facilities remain safe, accessible, and habitable.
- Enhancements will improve ADA compliance, capacity expansion, and health and safety features.

Helping Homeless Persons Transition to Permanent Housing

Fort Bend County is coordinating with the local CoC and housing providers to ensure:

- Shortened time spent in homelessness through shelter improvements and case management.
- Increased access to affordable housing via partnerships with landlords and support programs.
- Preventing returns to homelessness by integrating rental assistance, employment support, and wraparound services.

Justification for Shelter Renovation

Hurricane Beryl caused significant damage, resulting in increased shelter needs for displaced individuals.

Key Impacts:

- Casualties: 9 deaths, including 4 heat-related fatalities.
- Power Outages: 52,000 families without electricity.
- Emergency Shelters Opened: Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, Attack Poverty Center in Rosenberg.

Expected Outcome Measures from ESG-RUSH Distribution

1. Increased Shelter Capacity & Utilization
 - More shelter beds added or renovated.

- Higher occupancy rates post-renovation.
- 2. Improved Shelter Safety & Habitability
 - Compliance with HUD Habitability & ADA Standards.
 - Facility upgrades completed (HVAC, roofing, accessibility improvements).
- 3. Transition to Permanent Housing
 - Faster rehousing of homeless individuals.
 - Reduction in return-to-homelessness rates.
- 4. Efficient Fund Utilization
 - 100% of funds spent within HUD's 24-month timeline.
- 5. Strengthened Disaster Response
 - Improved coordination between ESG recipients, CoC, and emergency response agencies.

By implementing these measures, Fort Bend County will enhance its shelter system, support homeless individuals, and increase housing stability post-disaster.