



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**COMMISSIONER SID MILLER**

**Texas Community Development Block Grant Program**

*2022 FAST Application Overview*



# *FAST* Fund Basics

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- **What is the *FAST* Fund?**
  - Reimbursement grant
  - Built infrastructure not eligible
  - Source of funds is deobligated funding
  - Estimated \$7-8 million available
- **Grant maximum: \$750,000**
- **Grant minimum: \$50,000**
- **Match: \$7,500**
- **Due Date: July 29, 2022 at 11:59pm CST**
  - Staff available until 5:00pm CST
- **Applications initiated, signed and submitted in TDA-GO**



# Eligible Applicants

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- **Eligible Applicants:** Non-entitlement cities and counties
- **Service Providers:**
  - Volunteer Fire Departments
  - Fire Departments
  - Emergency Service Districts
  - Hospital Districts
  - Hospitals
  - Private 3<sup>rd</sup> party emergency service providers



# Eligible Activities

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- **Eligible Activities:**
  - Fire trucks (most types)
  - Ambulances
  - Other specialized emergency vehicles (with TDA approval prior to application submission)
  - Vehicle extrication equipment (saws, cutters, rams)
  - SCBAs
  - Thermal imaging cameras
  - Fire protection gear (bunker gear, helmets, boots)
  - Power stretchers and stretcher mounting systems
  - Cardiac monitors
  - Transport ventilators



# Ineligible Activities

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- **Ineligible Activities:**

- Vehicles used primarily for law enforcement
- Command vehicles, rescue boats or water/aircraft
- Don't meet a specific public safety or emergency rescue requirement
- Used primarily for the general conduct of government
- Items such as generators, ladders, tools, or equipment sets
- Supplies (e.g., restocking equipment, disposable items and refills)
- Vehicle components
- Previously owned, used, remounted, recertified, or refurbished equipment or vehicles
- Self-administered conversions of vehicle(s)



# Eligibility - Special Considerations

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- **Warranties are eligible**
- **No vehicle/Equipment quantity limit**
- **Manufacturer/seller training can be eligible**
- **Applicants and Service Providers are responsible for meeting federal, state and local standards or requirements**
- **TDA reserves the right to:**
  - Limit the number or projects recommended for award
  - Offer partial awards for equipment only
  - Decline the proposed vehicle(s) or equipment if they do not meet reasonable standards, as determined by TDA.



# NPO & Service Area Eligibility

- Each TxCDBG project must meet at least one of three HUD National Program Objectives (NPO)
- **FAST NPO = Low-to-Moderate income (LMI) Area Benefit (LMA)**
- **Primary Service Area LMA requirements:**
  - Must be primarily residential; **AND**
  - Must Benefit at least 51.00% LMI persons (not 50.99%)
- **Primary Service Area:** geographic area where the proposed project's beneficiaries reside
  - Excludes mutual aid areas (*Shall not prevent the Applicant/Service Provider from providing mutual aid*)



# NPO & Service Area Eligibility

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- **Two types of Service Areas:**
  - Community Wide
  - Targeted
- **Service Area Evaluation**
  - Primarily residential or non-residential uses?
    - Airports, seaports, manufacturing facilities and military bases not eligible stand-alone service areas
  - 51.00% LMI?
    - Determine the income status of the households (aka beneficiaries) in the service area
    - TxCDBG low-to-moderate income: at or below 80% of AMFI
    - Provide beneficiary documentation with application





# *FAST* Beneficiaries

- **Two ways to document beneficiaries:**
  1. HUD's Low-Moderate Income Summary Data (aka LMISD)
    - Anticipated 2022 LMISD release during *FAST* application period
    - Applicants must use **most recent** LMISD
  2. Income surveys (as per TxCDBG methodology)
    - Use for service areas not “reasonably delineated” by census geographies
    - Anticipated 2022 Income Limits release during *FAST* application period.
      - » Survey complete prior to TDA posting 2022 questionnaires = no action
      - » Survey started after TDA posts 2022 questionnaires = must use 2022 questionnaires
      - » Survey in progress when TDA posts 2022 questionnaires = 2021 questionnaires allowed until day of posting but must use 2022 version after



# FAST Beneficiaries

- **Geographic area is partially overlain by a service area**
  - Examples: service area = half a city or a portion of a county
  - Applicants must determine % of block group population located within service area (calculated at block level)
  - Documentation of calculations must be submitted with application or risk disqualification
  - See TxCDBG NPO guide for methodology
- **Other forms of documenting beneficiaries are ineligible**
  - LMISD/Surveys must adhere to TxCDBG issued guidance
  - Failure to heed guidance = Application Disqualification (DQ)
  - See resources posted on the TDA website for more details
- **OPPORTUNITY!** upcoming in-person Beneficiary Workshop (May 5, 2022)

May 5, 2022	Beneficiary Workshop (use 5/6 registration link below)	3:00 PM	Holiday Inn Downtown Marina 707 Shoreline Blvd. Corpus Christi, Texas
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# Administration

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- **Administrative costs cannot exceed the lesser of \$45,000 or 16% of TxCDBG 030 funds**
- **Pre-agreement Costs:**
  - Limited to administrative costs necessary to complete environmental review and competitive procurement of vehicle(s)/equipment within 90 days of award
  - Pre-agreement period begins with application due date and ends on *FAST* contract start date



# Budget Justification

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- **FAST 2022 Budget Justification:**
  - Vehicle/equipment quotes not being requested for budget justification
  - Applicants/Service Providers to complete, sign and submit *Service Provider Statement (TDA-GO)*
    - Statement documents needs, estimated budget, service areas and existing vehicles/equipment
    - Goal is to provide flexibility by documenting sufficient justification for project approval/award without finalizing exact scope during application phase
- **Service Provider Statement is not intended to be used as a means of submitting “placeholder information”. Should be based on reality**



# Post-Award Requirements

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- **90-day items**
  - Environmental Review
    - Submitted via TDA-GO
  - Procurement
    - Applicant or Service provider may procure
      - Must comply with competitive procurement requirements
    - Procurement options:
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Purchasing Cooperatives
      - Traditional sealed bids process
      - Small purchase
- **Vehicle/Equipment detail: TDA-GO**
  - Only accessible to *FAST* Grant Awardees



# Post-Award Considerations

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- **Eighteen (18) month contract term**
- **Five (5) year compliance period**
  - Annual Report submitted through TDA-GO
- **Interlocal required between Applicants and unaffiliated service providers**
  - Details in the Grant Agreement
  - Not necessary with application



# Scoring

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- **Median Household Income**
- **Previous Funding**
- **Applicant Population**
- **Project Priorities**
- **Past Performance**
- **Tiebreaker**

# QUESTIONS?

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