

**COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
and NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS  
and FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A  
FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN**

5/28/26

**Matagorda County, 2200 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 208, Bay City, TX 77414, (979) 479-7256**

This Notice shall satisfy the above-cited three separate but related procedural notification requirements to be undertaken by Matagorda County.

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or about 6/15/26, Matagorda County (County) will submit a request to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the release of Rural Development (RD) funding to undertake a project known as Matagorda County Sargent Community Center for the purpose of providing a facility that will serve as a community gathering space and a designated Point of Distribution (POD) for emergency response activities, including hurricane and other disaster responses and resilience operations.

**Project Location:** 20305 FM 457, Sargent, Matagorda County, TX. (28.861882, -95.665174)

**Description of the Proposed Project:** The 4-acre property is owned by Matagorda County according to the Matagorda County CAD for Property ID 16488. No land acquisition or easements are required. The proposed Community Center will consist of an approximately 8,157 square-foot metal building, which will include a multi-purpose service center, office space and library. The facility will serve as a community gathering space and a designated Point of Distribution (POD) for emergency response activities, including hurricane and other disaster responses and resilience operations.

There is a metal building used as a Library on the project site presently. This structure will be removed, and the existing paving and concrete slab will remain and will be incorporated into the new construction. Two septic tanks are proposed for the back side of the property, along with the associated sewer line.

**Funding Information:** USDA \$1,875,000.00

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The County has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Report. The Report 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 the County at the address above, or by email to [cmorones@co.matagorda.tx.us](mailto:cmorones@co.matagorda.tx.us).

**FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A  
FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD (FFRMS) DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN**

This is to give notice that the County has, under 24 CFR Part 58, conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C, Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the Freeboard Value Approach. According to the FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) FIRMette 48321C0500F, effective 1/15/2001, the project site is in Zone

AE, Coastal Floodplain (100-Year Floodplain), totaling approximately 4.0-acres. The beneficial values of the floodplain will not be adversely affected as best management practices will be utilized during construction. Project design will incorporate required elevation for building in the floodplain for this Critical Action activity. The 8-Step Process for Floodplain Management was completed.

The County has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain: Alternative: The entirety of the county owned parcel is in the floodplain; therefore, taking the structure out of the floodplain is not an option. No Action Alternative: Taking no action would incur no costs for the construction and would cause no construction-related environmental impact but would be unable to provide a community gathering space and a designated Point of Distribution (POD) for emergency response activities.

The County has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988 are available for public inspection, review and copying as outlined in the paragraph of FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in a floodplain and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments/objections on the Environmental Report to the County. Written comments received by 6/12/26 will be considered by the County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments shall be addressed to the County at [cmorones@co.matagorda.tx.us](mailto:cmorones@co.matagorda.tx.us) or by mail to: Matagorda County, 2200 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 208, Bay City, TX 77414, (979) 479-7256, Attn: County Judge's Office. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing. Potential objectors should contact the County via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

Matagorda County certifies to the Texas Department of Agriculture that Bobby Seiferman, 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. USDA's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Matagorda County to use Program funds.

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

The USDA will accept objections to its release of funds and the County'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; (b) the County 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 GLO (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 Howard Willoughby, State Environmental Coordinator, 101 S. Main St. Suite 102, Temple TX 76501 and [Howard.Willoughby@usda.gov](mailto:Howard.Willoughby@usda.gov) to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Bobby Seiferman, County Judge