

**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 AND WETLAND**

8/22/25

**Karnes County, 101 N. Panna Maria Avenue, Suite 101, Karnes City, TX 78118-3210
(830) 780-3732**

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

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about 9/9/25 Karnes County (County) will submit a request to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) for the release of Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding appropriated under the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-123), as amended, to undertake a project known as Flood and Drainage Improvements to reduce the frequency of roadway overtopping, improve emergency response access, and reduce potential for property damage and loss of life during flood events, under GLO Contract #24-065-115-E928.

Project Locations: Karnes County, TX

- County Road 184, approximately 760' north of intersection of County Road 184 and County Road 189, 28.83305, -97.97103, Karnes City, 1 Public Facility;
- County Road 127, approximately 2,046' southeast of intersection of County Road 127 and County Road 134, 28.77958, -97.72972, Choate, 1 Public Facility.

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

- CR 184: Subrecipient shall remove bridge and culverts; grade channel; install culverts, headwalls, aprons and erosion controls; relocate utilities; remove and replace road and complete associated appurtenances.
- CR 127: Subrecipient shall acquire land, remove and replace existing culverts with a bridge structure; grade channel; install headwalls and aprons; reconstruct street; and complete associated appurtenances.

Funding Information for Grant Number 24-065-115-E928:

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$2,197,900.00 (\$1,096,993.50 LMI / \$1,100,906.50 UNM)

Total Non-HUD Funds: \$0.00

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$2,197,900.00

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 Review Record (ERR). The ERR 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 michelle.salais@co.karnes.tx.us.

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

This is to give notice that the County has, under 24 CFR Part 58, conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C, Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activities are funded under the TX General Land Office Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Program. The project locations are stated under REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS. According to the Freeboard Value Approach, the project sites are

located in a riverine Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain, totaling approximately 0.20-acres on CR 127 and approximately 0.25-acres on CR 184. Both locations will cross a USFWS Riverine Wetland, totaling approximately less than ¼ acre at each site. Work will be approached under the limits and conditions of USACE Nationwide Permit 14, *Linear Transportation Projects*. HUD's 8-Step decision-making process of §55.20 to comply with 24 CFR Part 55 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 and wetland:

- County Road 207 was in the original proposed project scope; but was recommended for removal from the project because it is not situated in a floodplain and the existing culvert system is sufficient.
- For CR 127, a 100-foot span bridge with no channel excavation was considered but not chosen because it would cause adverse impacts to the 1% AEP floodplain.
- No Action Alternative [24 CFR 58.40(e)]: Taking no action would incur no costs for the improvements and would cause no construction-related environmental impact but would be unable to reduce the frequency of roadway overtopping, improve emergency response access, and reduce potential for property damage and loss of life during flood events.

The County has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and wetland and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain and wetland development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and Executive Order 11990 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 wetland, 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 and wetlands 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 and wetlands, 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 ERR to Karnes County. Written comments received by 9/8/25 will be considered by the County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments must be addressed to the County at michelle.salais@co.karnes.tx.us or by mail to: Karnes County, 101 N. Panna Maria Avenue, Suite 101, Karnes City, TX 78118-3210, Attn: County Judge's Office. (830) 780-3732. 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

Karnes County certifies to the Texas General Land Office that Wade J. Hedtke, 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. GLO's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Karnes County to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

GLO will accept objections to its release of funds and Karnes 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 Heather Lagrone, Texas General Land Office, Community Development and Revitalization, P.O. Box 12873, Austin, TX 78711-2873, or env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov. Potential objectors should contact the GLO at (512) 475-5000 to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Wade J. Hedtke, County Judge