

May 15, 2018

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor, State of Texas
1100 San Jacinto Boulevard
Austin, Texas

Dear Governor Abbott,

As local officials of jurisdictions affected by Hurricane Harvey in 2017, the budgets of our jurisdictions have been stretched engaging in direct response and recovery over the past fiscal year. However, if our efforts for recovery do not include disaster mitigation, then the money we have spent is just funding for future failure.

The FEMA 404 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program can assist us with those mitigation efforts, but there is a local match required. We write today to ask the State of Texas to utilize the Economic Stabilization Fund or other state funding source to participate fully, at 100 percent, in covering the local match.

Under the present declaration, FEMA will fund up to 75 percent of the cost of eligible mitigation measures taken by local governments. By providing for the remaining match, the State of Texas will be directly contributing to flood mitigation efforts.

Funding of the local share would allow the State of Texas to directly contribute to flood mitigation projects. By covering the local share, not only would the state directly save local taxpayer dollars, but would equitably fund projects across the impacted area.

The states of Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Virginia, Georgia and Colorado have provided for local matches in situations utilizing HMGP. We ask that the State of Texas make a similar effort in joining local jurisdictions as a partner in flood mitigation.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Tim Lapham
Austin County Judge



The Honorable Paul Pape
Bastrop County Judge



The Honorable Stephanie Moreno
Bee County Judge



The Honorable L.M. "Matt" Sebesta, Jr.
Brazoria County Judge



The Honorable Ken Schawe
Caldwell County Judge



The Honorable Michael J. Pfeifer
Calhoun County Judge



The Honorable Jimmy Sylvia
Chambers County Judge



The Honorable Ed Emmett
Harris County Judge



The Honorable Ty Prause
Colorado County Judge



The Honorable Dennis Simons
Jackson County Judge



The Honorable Mark Allen
Jasper County Judge



The Honorable Ed Janecka
Fayette County Judge



The Honorable Jeff Branick
Jefferson County Judge



The Honorable Robert E. Hebert
Fort Bend County Judge



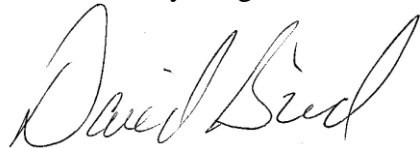
The Honorable Craig Doyal
Montgomery County Judge



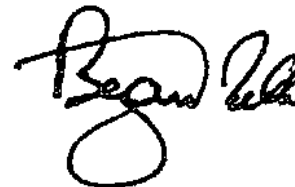
The Honorable P.T. "Pat" Calhoun
Goliad County Judge



The Honorable Dean T. Crooks
Orange County Judge



The Honorable David Bird
Gonzales County Judge



The Honorable Ben Zeller
Victoria County Judge



The Honorable Wayne McDaniel
Hardin County Judge

The Honorable Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon, III
Waller County Judge

The Honorable Phillip Spenrath
Wharton County Judge

The Honorable Connie B. Schroeder
Mayor of Bastrop

The Honorable Andrew S. Friedberg
Mayor of Bellaire

The Honorable Eric Scott
Mayor of Brookshire

The Honorable Sara Post Meyer
Mayor of Cuero

The Honorable Jimmy Kendrick
Mayor of Fulton

The Honorable Jim Yarbrough
Mayor of Galveston

The Honorable Trudia Preston
Mayor of Goliad

The Honorable Sylvester Turner
Mayor of Houston

The Honorable Merle Aaron
Mayor of Humble

The Honorable Andy Brauninger
Mayor of Huntsville

The Honorable Jim Pappas
Mayor of Hunters Creek Village

The Honorable Fred E. Williams
Mayor of Kountze

The Honorable Louis R. Rigby
Mayor of La Porte




The Honorable Joe Rinehart
Mayor of Lake Jackson



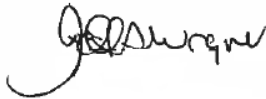
The Honorable Carl Pickett
Mayor of Liberty



The Honorable Don Surratt
Mayor of Lumberton



The Honorable Bert Miller
Mayor of Navasota



The Honorable Jeff Wagner
Mayor of Pasadena



The Honorable David Allen
Mayor of Prairie View



The Honorable Mandy Barrera
Mayor of Robstown



The Honorable Charles Wax
Mayor of Rockport



The Honorable Chris Parr
Mayor of Roman Forest



The Honorable Rick Thomisee
Mayor of Rose Hill Acres



The Honorable Earl Brown
Mayor of Shepherd



The Honorable Herbert Muckleroy
Mayor of Silsbee



The Honorable Louis Boudreaux
Mayor of Simonton



The Honorable Bruce Robinson
Mayor of Sour Lake



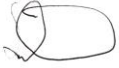
The Honorable Joe Soto
Mayor of South Houston



The Honorable Glenn Patterson
Mayor of Southside Place



The Honorable Tom S. Ramsey
Mayor of Spring Valley Village



The Honorable Joe Zimmerman
Mayor of Sugar Land



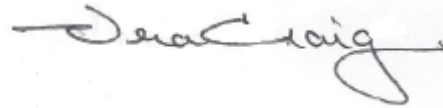
The Honorable Robert Viator, Jr.
Mayor of Vidor



The Honorable Susan Sample
Mayor of West University Place



Leonard Reed
Mayor of Willis



Vera Craig
Mayor of Woodbranch Village