

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The City of Cisco has received a Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) contract under the Community Development Fund from the Texas Department of Agriculture. In order to comply with the Civil Rights requirements of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act and the Fair Housing Law, the City of Cisco has established policies, plans and resolutions to ensure that equal opportunities are afforded to all persons and that no person shall be excluded or denied program benefits on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or age. Policies include the following:

- Equal Opportunity
- Section 3 Policy
- Affirmative Action
- Excessive Force Policy
- Section 504 Non Discrimination Policy
- Fair Housing Policy
- Limited English Proficiency Plan
- Citizen Participation Plan

A copy of the above mentioned plans, policies and resolutions are available at the City Hall in Cisco. Citizens may also request the procedures be mailed to them by calling Darwin Archer, City Manager, at (254) 442-2111.



FAIR HOUSING PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

To promote fair housing practices, the City of Cisco encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the National Fair Housing Law. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market. For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the Texas Workforce Commission at (888) 452-4778 or (512) 463-2642 TTY: (512) 371-7473.

NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY STATUS

The City of Cisco does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or employment in, its program or activities. Darwin Archer, City Manager, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8, dated June 2, 1988).

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES FOR THE TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

These complaint procedures comply with the requirements of the Texas Department of Agriculture's Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program and Local Government Requirements found in 24 CFR §570.486 (Code of Federal Regulations). Citizens can obtain a copy of these procedures at the City of Cisco, from Darwin Archer, City Manager, 500 Conrad Hilton Blvd., Cisco, Texas 76437 (Mailing Address), 254-442-2111 (Phone), during regular business hours (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday—except holidays).

Below are the formal complaint and grievance procedures regarding the services provided under the TxCDBG project.

1. A person who has a complaint or grievance about any services or activities with respect to the TxCDBG project, whether it is a proposed, ongoing, or completed TxCDBG project, may during regular business hours submit such complaint or grievance, in writing to the City Manager, at 500 Conrad Hilton Blvd., Cisco, Texas 76437 (Mailing Address) or may call 254-442-2111 (Phone).
2. A copy of the complaint or grievance shall be transmitted by the City Manager to the entity that is the subject of the complaint or grievance and to the City Attorney within five (5) working days after the date of the complaint or grievance was received.
3. The City Manager shall complete an investigation of the complaint or grievance, if practicable, and provide a timely written answer to person who made the complaint or grievance within ten (10) days.
4. If the investigation cannot be completed within ten (10) working days per 3 above, the person who made the grievance or complaint shall be notified, in writing, within fifteen (15) days where practicable after receipt of the original complaint or grievance and shall detail when the investigation should be completed.
5. If necessary, the grievance and a written copy of the subsequent investigation shall be forwarded to the TxCDBG for their further review and comment.
6. If appropriate, provide copies of grievance procedures and responses to grievances in both English and Spanish, or other appropriate language.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

When requested, the City shall provide technical assistance to groups that are representative of persons of low- and moderate-income in developing proposals for the use of TxCDBG funds. The City, based upon the specific needs of the community's residents at the time of the request, shall determine the level and type of assistance.

PUBLIC HEARING PROVISIONS

For each public hearing scheduled and conducted by the City, the following public hearing provisions shall be observed:

1. Public notice of all hearings must be published at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the scheduled hearing. The public notice must be published in a local newspaper. Each public notice must include the date, time, location, and topics to be considered at the public hearing. A published newspaper article can also be used to meet this requirement so long as it meets all content and timing requirements. Notices should also be prominently posted in public buildings and distributed to local Public Housing Authorities and other interested community groups.
2. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents are a part of the potential service area of the TxCDBG project, vital documents such as notices should be published in the predominant language of these non-English speaking citizens.
3. Each public hearing shall be held at a time and location convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries and will include accommodation for persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities must be able to attend the hearings and the City must make arrangements for individuals who require auxiliary aids or services if contacted at least two days prior to the hearing.
4. A public hearing held prior to the submission of a TxCDBG application must be held after 5:00 PM on a weekday or at a convenient time on a Saturday or Sunday.
5. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate in a public hearing, an interpreter should be present to accommodate the needs of the non-English speaking residents.

The City shall comply with the following citizen participation requirements for the preparation and submission of an application for a TxCDBG project:

1. At a minimum, the City shall hold at least one (1) public hearing to prior to submitting the application to the Texas Department of Agriculture.
2. The City shall retain documentation of the hearing notice(s), a listing of persons attending the hearing(s), minutes of the hearing(s), and any other records concerning the proposed use of funds for three (3) years from closeout of the grant to the state. Such records shall be made available to the public in accordance with Chapter 552, Texas Government Code.
3. The public hearing shall include a discussion with citizens as outlined in the applicable TxCDBG application manual to include, but is not limited to, the development of housing and community development needs, the amount of funding available, all eligible activities under the TxCDBG program, and the use of past TxCDBG contract funds, if applicable. Citizens, with particular emphasis on persons of low- and moderate-income who are residents of slum and blight areas, shall be encouraged to submit their views and proposals regarding community development and housing needs. Citizens shall be made aware of the location where they may submit their views and proposals should they be unable to attend the public hearing.
4. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate in a public hearing, an interpreter should be present to accommodate the needs of the non-English speaking residents.

The City must comply with the following citizen participation requirements in the event that the City receives funds from the TxCDBG program:

1. The City shall also hold a public hearing concerning any substantial change, as determined by TxCDBG, proposed to be made in the use of TxCDBG funds from one eligible activity to another again using the preceding notice requirements.
2. Upon completion of the TxCDBG project, the City shall hold a public hearing and review its program performance including the actual use of the TxCDBG funds.
3. When a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate in a public hearing, for either a public hearing concerning substantial change to the TxCDBG project or for the closeout of the TxCDBG project, publish notice in both English and Spanish, or other appropriate language and provide an interpreter at the hearing to accommodate the needs of the non-English speaking residents.
4. The City shall retain documentation of the TxCDBG project, including hearing notice(s), a listing of persons attending the hearing(s), minutes of the hearing(s), and any other records concerning the actual use of funds for a period of three (3) years from closeout of the grant to the state. Such records shall be made available to the public in accordance with Chapter 552, Texas Government Code.