The City of Houston (City), applied to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery (DR) Program for Hurricane Ike Round 2, Phase 2. The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) determined the method of distribution for the Round 2 funds awarded in the 13-county H-GAC area. The City, through its Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD) is scheduled to receive $107,348,346 in its General Housing Allocation, $7,270,468 in Affordable Rental Single Family Rental, and $7,304,160 in Affordable Rental (Other) Multifamily Allocation, for a total of $121,922,974. In addition, H-GAC also awarded $30,292,591 to the City for the Subsidized Housing Allocation, which the City will use in collaboration with the Houston Housing Authority (HHA). The total amount of the City’s Housing portion of the application to GLO is $152,215,565.

By analyzing storm damage and areas across the City that have high minority and / or high poverty concentrations, HCDD, along with several community groups, determined there should be four Neighborhoods of Opportunity to concentrate CDBG DR program funds for Hurricane Ike Round 2, Phase 2 funds. These areas, the methods used to determine them, and rules for expenditures will be presented in a public hearing on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the former Council Chambers at City Hall Annex (900 Bagby, Houston, TX 77002 Public Level). Input from this hearing will inform program delivery and fair housing choice issues.

The Needs Assessment will be posted on the HCDD website at http://www.houstontx.gov/housing/. The public is invited to provide input and comments on this proposal at the meeting. The public may provide written comments through Wednesday, March 13, 2013 to Andrea Jones, HCDD, 601 Sawyer Street, Houston, TX 77007. For additional information, contact HCDD at 713-868-8300. To request special arrangements (interpreter, sign language, captioning, or other) for the hearing, contact HCDD at 713-868-8300 no later than Friday, March 8, 2013.