



CITY OF HOUSTON

Sylvester Turner

Mayor

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December 17, 2017

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor
State of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Dear Governor Abbott,

The City of Houston is aggressively working with members of our Federal and State delegations to make sure we take advantage of all funding availabilities related to the recovery from Hurricane Harvey (DR-4332-TX). With the delayed action on the 3rd Supplemental disaster relief bill before Congress in Washington, our focus now turns to the state.

Members of my administration, led by Chief Recovery Officer Marvin Odum met with Rebuild Texas Commissioner John Sharp on October 6, 2017, and proposed the possibility of the State of Texas starting a revolving loan program for areas impacted by a natural disaster to utilize for immediate assistance. The proposed revolving loan would act by fronting an entity funds for local governments to use on operations and needed projects. Beneficiaries of this revolving loan will then pay back what they borrowed from the state as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) distributes their public assistance funds.

An example of this proposed revolving loan is the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) State Revolving Fund which assists entities with funds to construct water related projects at low interest rates. The City of Houston is currently engaged with TWDB on a zero percent interest loan in the amount of \$46 million, which will allow the city to front funds to the Harris County Flood Control District for Project Brays that will be fully reimbursed by the Army Corps of Engineers at the completion of the projects.

In order to expedite the rebuilding process on the scale and scope that our community expects, the City of Houston would request a \$200 million line of credit from the State of Texas. My office eagerly awaits a meeting with you regarding proposed revolving loan program.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sylvester Turner".

Sylvester Turner
Mayor