



PRESS RELEASE

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HARRIS COUNTY ISSUES RFQ TO CONTRACTORS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE HOMEOWNER DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM

Over 50 Contractors Interested to Date in Providing Home Rehab and Construction to Harris County Homeowners

January 14, 2010 (HOUSTON) – The Harris County Homeowner Disaster Recovery Program (HDRP) has issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from contractors who wish to participate in the program. Through this request, HDRP seeks to pre-qualify responsible contractors who can provide home rehabilitation and home reconstruction services to Harris County homeowners whose homes were damaged during 2008's Hurricane Ike.

"Though we continue to accept applications from eligible Harris County homeowners, we are ready to move onto the next phase of the program," said Daphne Lemelle, Community Development Director with the Harris County Community Services Department. "Our goal is to begin to rehab or reconstruct the homes of our eligible applicants later this year and in order to proceed; we require a solid roster of contractors to pull from. This RFQ is very important to the overall success of our program."

HDRP will invite pre-qualified contractors to bid on construction contracts that include rehabilitating and reconstructing homes based on the applications received, verified and accepted. The goal of each construction package will be to bundle a group of homes with a construction value of \$3 to \$4 million, though some packages may come in slightly over or under this dollar amount.

More than 50 contractors and subcontractors have already expressed interest by attending a project information meeting on January 5th.

"We urge contractors to submit a pre-qualification package to participate in this important program," continued Lemelle. "Furthermore, we want to stress that grant dollars are still available to Harris County homeowners and it is not too late to apply to the program."

All contractor RFQ submittals must be received on or before 3:00 p.m., January 22, 2010; addressed to HDRP Program Manager, Housing Assistance Center, 16602 Diana Lane, Houston, Texas, 77062.

For more information about the HDRP program, to submit a pre-qualification package, or to apply online, contractors and homeowners are encouraged to visit www.HarrisRecovery.org.



About Harris County Community Services Department

The Harris County Community Services Department administers more than \$50 million annually in federal, state and local grant funds for Harris County in carrying out U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Transit Administration, and other programs in housing, community development, social services and transit services. In addition to grant funds, the Department administers the County's economic development and tax abatement programs. The Department's mission is to promote economic growth; revitalize blighted and underdeveloped areas; and create decent housing and a suitable living environment for low-income individuals, persons with disabilities and the homeless.

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