COMBINED NOTICE TO PUBLIC

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE ON INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date of Posting: August 21, 2025

City of Mercedes 400 S Ohio Ave, Mercedes, TX 78570 · (956) 565-3114

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS:

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Mercedes.

REQUEST OF RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about <u>September 09, 2025</u>, the City of Mercedes will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of federal funds under Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development of the Act of 1974, to undertake the following projects:

Project Title: City of Mercedes - South Mercedes Lateral Improvements Project - Detention Pond

2018 South Texas Flood Grant: 23-152-010-E182

Purpose: This project will be temporarily storing excess rainwater during heavy rainfall events to accommodate more volume

to the system. This project aims to enhance the city's resilience against extreme weather, protect public and private

properties, and promote sustainable water management.

Location: This project is located in an area approximately 960' east from the intersection of West Levy Road and Del Rio Road

26.129348, -97.926551

Project Description: The project consists of a 10.88 Acre detention pond adjacent to the existing South Mercedes Lateral drainage

system, a key drainage system that channels stormwater toward the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Floodway, located south of the City of Mercedes. The project will also include concrete rip rap slope protection at areas that are prone to scour and the adjustment of existing drains and utilities that get impacted by the

proposed system improvements.

Project Issues: An Environmental assessment was completed in compliance with 24 CFR Part 58.

Mitigation Measures/ Conditions/Permits Bird nest surveys will be conducted prior to ground disturbances, and a U.S. Army Core of Engineers will

require Nation Wide permits for the project.

(if any):

Estimated Project Cost:

Total estimated HUD funds: \$1,000,000.00 Total project cost (HUD and non-HUD funds): \$293,789.60

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Mercedes has determined that the projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) is what documents the environmental determinations for these projects and is on file at **The City of Mercedes located at 400 S Ohio Ave, Mercedes, TX 78570 and can be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. or by calling the City of Mercedes office at 956-565-3114. No further environmental reviews of said projects are proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of federal funds.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR by mail to the <u>City of Mercedes</u> at <u>400 S Ohio Ave</u>, <u>Mercedes</u>, <u>TX 78570 or via email to aperez@cityofmercedes.com</u>. All comments received by <u>September 09</u>, 2025 will be considered

by the Hidalgo County Urban County Program prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Mercedes certifies to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that **Alberto Perez**, in his capacity as **City Manager** consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Hidalgo County Urban County Program to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Mercedes certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) That the certification was not, in fact, executed by the certifying officer of the City of Mercedes; or (b) City of Mercedes has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR; or (c) The grant recipient or other participants in the development process has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Section 58.76 and shall be addressed to the HUD San Antonio Field Office at: CPDRROFSAN@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the HUD office via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Joel Rivera, Ph.D. UCP Director

Alberto Perez Mercedes City Manager