



December 19, 2025

Mr. Jorge Ayala, Regional Director
U.S. Economic Development Administration Austin Regional Office
903 San Jacinto, Suite 206
Austin, TX 78701

Re: Memorial City Redevelopment Authority, Westview Detention Basin - FY25 Disaster Supplemental Support

I support the Memorial City Redevelopment Authority's (MCRA) application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Disaster Supplemental program for funding the Westview Detention Basin Project.

The Briar Branch watershed has repeatedly experienced severe flooding, including during Hurricane Ike, the 2015 and 2016 storms, and Hurricane Harvey. Over 177 structures were flooded in Harvey alone, and more than 118 properties are on FEMA's repetitive loss list. The proposed project will provide over 100 acre-feet of new regional detention, remove 117 structures from flooding conditions, and provide a flood reduction benefit for another 1,640 structures. These benefits will also reduce overland-flow ponding from Gessner Road into adjacent neighborhoods. In addition to the flood mitigation benefits, the project will provide an integrated facility for Houston's Office of Emergency Management, the Houston Fire Department, and the Houston Police Department, providing future resilience and hazard mitigation benefits.

The proposed project will modernize existing infrastructure and provide flood resilience, will benefit low to moderate income communities, will improve public safety through improved hazard mitigation and disaster preparedness, and will lead to economic development through flood incidence reduction, blight removal, and opportunities for catalytic redevelopment.

I encourage the EDA to approve and fund this effort to strengthen resiliency to natural disasters and provide economic benefit to the west Houston-region.

Thank you for your consideration,

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLIE ALCORN, AT-LARGE 5