



## **Economic Resilience and Revitalization Program Guide Sheet**

The purpose of this guide is to assist the community in the objectives of the program.

### **I. Programs Overview**

#### **Commercial Hardening and Financing**

- 1. Commercial Hardening and Financing (CH&F)-** program intent is to upgrade eligible commercial/private buildings and return them to business uses and ensure the ability for such facilities to operate during emergencies. Additionally, private ports may be eligible for project funding. CH&F will be comprised of three project activities:

- ✚ Commercial Resilience and Façade.
- ✚ Maritime Industrial Harbor Improvements.
- ✚ Communications Resilience.

### **II. Program Options**

#### **Commercial Resilience and Façade**

- 1.** The overall objective of the Commercial Resilience and Façade Renaissance provides funding to eligible commercial facilities to improve the aesthetics of exterior buildings. The program will enhance the visible appearance of commercial facilities downtown, high traffic, and historic areas.

**Applicants may use funds for the following activities outlined below:**

- ✚ Hardening exterior (weatherproofing).
- ✚ Replace exterior windows with storm windows doors and/or shutters if the building is designated as historic building. The replacement must be completed within the parameters of historic rules or regulations.
- ✚ Drainage and stormwater/surge management for commercial/industrial building entrances.
- ✚ Emergency Power (generators/solar energy for commercial facilities infrastructure).
- ✚ Safety and Mitigation improvements (including solar lighting, structure hardened security gates, network system).
- ✚ Roof Spouting replacement only.
- ✚ Physical mitigation and drainage improvements.

### Maritime Industrial Harbor Improvements

The Maritime Industrial Harbor Improvements provides funding to alternate port sites that should improve the delivery of life-saving operations and inflow of supplies needed to assist residents on each island. The program meets three CDBG-MIT community lifeline impact of Safety and Security, Communications, and Food, Water and Sheltering. Additionally, the improvement of alternate port sites may increase maritime capacity and growth of the marine and charter yacht industry.

- ✚ Boat ramps and improved shoreline entrances for evacuation/receiving supplies.
- ✚ Port and harbor improvements.
- ✚ Dock slippage reinforcement.

### Communications Resilience

Communications Resilience includes, emergency dispatch facilities and alert systems, Land, Mobile, and Radio (LMR) Networks. First Responders and Emergency Organizations may apply for funding under this program once project activity prevents or eliminates the loss of life or property.

#### **Eligible Entities:**

- ✚ **Private Nonprofits**-are usually, but not always, corporations, associations, agencies, or faith-based organizations with nonprofit status under the Internal Revenue Code.
- ✚ **Private For-Profit Entities**-may qualify as subrecipients when carrying out authorized economic development activities Non-profit Entities.
- ✚ **Governmental Agencies**-units of Government, including its autonomous and semi-autonomous instrumentalities.

### **III. Mitigation projects deemed eligible under this program:**

1. **Commercial Buildings:** Hotels, Marinas, Private Single or Multi-Tenant Retail/Office Building, Historic Buildings (Local Historic Guidelines), Excludes facilities for general conduct of government.
2. **Industrial Buildings:** Manufacturing, Cold Storage Facilities, Warehouses, Medical Storage, Food or Crop Production and Livestock Facilities.
3. **Maritime:** Marinas, Boat docking facilities.
4. **Communications:** LMR (Land, Mobile, Radio), Warning/ Alert Systems, Emergency Mitigation Initiatives

## **Small Business Mitigation**

1. **Small Business Mitigation (SBM)** the project activities under Small Business Mitigation are design to increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate down-time experience by businesses affected by natural/manmade disasters.

## **IV. Program Options**

### **1. Flood Protection Resistance**

Dry floodproofing and drainage improvements on non-residential structures is an allowable cost under this program. Interior or exterior office and workspace may undergo the following floodproofing measures.

- ✚ Sealed Windows and Doors for floodproofing.
- ✚ Drainage improvement to non-residential entrances walkway.

The drainage improvements permit for modification of potential flooding patterns and addresses safety issues of storm water runoff. The drainage improvements may improve customer walkways and building entrances.

### **2. Food, Water, Shelter and Emergency Power:**

The program offers stable access to emergency power (generator/solar energy) which will serve and to mitigate post natural/manmade disasters. Project activity for this program is also geared towards accelerated production of agriculture produce and small businesses housed in non-residential facilities with 50 percent Low-to-Moderate income (LMI) employees and serve an LMI population.

### **3. Communications Resilience:**

Communications Resilience includes payment-processing systems and usage of broadband infrastructure for post disaster commerce/trade.

## **V. Eligible Entities**

1. Small Businesses - private for-profit entities with a maximum of 75 employees as defined by the Small Business Administration.
2. Small Businesses engaged in farming operations that meet U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency criteria described at 7 CFR 1400.500

## VI. Ineligible Use of Funds:

- ✚ Funding is not authorized for buildings of general conduct of Government Services
- ✚ Activities that fail to meet a National Objective
- ✚ Enlargement of a dam or levee beyond original design
- ✚ Assistance to private utilities
- ✚ Forced mortgage payoff
- ✚ Emergency Response Services (ERS) funds may be used only to enhance the resilience of the facilities.

### The following Community Lifelines are required within ER&R programs:

- ✚ **Food, Water, Shelter:** Food, Hydration, Shelter, Agriculture.
- ✚ **Safety and Security:** Law Enforcement/Security, Fire Service, Search and Rescue, Government Service, Community Safety.
- ✚ **Communications:** Infrastructure, Responder Communications, Alerts Warnings and Messages, Finance, 911 and Dispatch.
- ✚ **Hazardous:** Facilities, HAZMAT, Pollutants, Contaminants

## VII. Definitions

1. **Action Plan** - A plan to guide the spending of a HUD CDBG-MIT grant award to address unmet. housing, economic, and infrastructure needs after a disaster.
2. **Applicant:** An eligible entity that makes a formal application to a federally funded program.
3. **Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT):** discretionary Financial Assistance from HUD to help to assist the Territory in building resilience for manmade and natural disasters, especially in low-income areas, funding is subject to availability of supplemental appropriations.
4. **Community Lifelines:** FEMA defines these lifelines as critical business, government and essential services that provide health, safety, and economic security within a community. Community lifelines in preparedness planning and recovery provide details on the critical functions and stakeholders that facilitate the most effective response and get services and infrastructure back online after a disaster.
5. **Eligible Activity:** Activities eligible to be assisted under the CDBG program. All CDBG-MIT grantees must: (1) use CDBG funds only for activities that fall under an authorized category of basic eligibility; (2) properly classify the activity; and (3) provide adequate documentation as required by the category it selects for each such activity.

6. **Eligible Applicant:** means any city or county governments, non-profit that applies for funds pursuant to applicant eligibility section. (See Also: Subrecipient).
7. **Environmental Review Record (ERR):** The document resulting from required environmental review which includes a description of activities, evaluation of environmental impact, documentation of compliance with applicable environmental regulations, and an environmental determination.
8. **Grantee:** HUD grantees receive funding from HUD to support HUD's mission to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD grantees include state and local governments, non-profit and for-profit organizations, public housing authorities, and tribal entities.
9. **Housing and Community Development Act of 1973 (HCDA) -** The HCDA created the CDBG Program by merging 7 categorical programs into a block of flexible community - development funds distributed each year by a formula that considers population and measures of distress including poverty, age of housing, housing overcrowding, and growth lag. Grantees now determine what activities they will fund as long as certain requirements are met, including that each activity is eligible and will meet one of the three broad national objectives of the program.
10. **Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI):** A household is of low-or moderate-income if the household income (including income derived from assets) is at or below 80 percent of an area's median income. All income is based on the Area Median Income limits set annually by HUD for each parish or metropolitan statistical area.
11. **Mitigation:** According to HUD, those activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters.
12. **Territorial Hazard Mitigation Plan (THMP):** is to identify strategies and actions that can be taken before a disaster strikes, and that can significantly reduce human suffering, damage to property, and the long-term economic impact of natural hazards. The HCDA created the CDBG Program by merging 7 categorical programs into a block of flexible community - development funds distributed each year by a formula that considers population and