# Amendment 8 (Non-Substantial)

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Non-Substantial Amendment 8, Approved by HUD 3/11/20									
Previous Page #	New Page #	Section	Change/Addition/Deletion						
82	83	General Action Plan Requirements	Revised the sentence, "Any building that has a total cost of repairs greater than 50 percent is considered substantially damaged and will require the entire home to be brought into code compliance" to clarify that any building that has a total cost of repairs greater than 50 percent is considered substantially damaged as determined by the local jurisdiction and is subject to code compliance requirements.						
85	N/A	General Action Plan	Removed statements explaining the process for applicants to appeal the quality of construction and rehabilitation work. Rebuild Florida Housing Repair and Replacement Program						
85	N/A	Requirements	applicants may file a complaint at any time via the Homeowner Complaint Form located on the DEO website. Applicants may also file a complaint or request information by contacting the Office of Disaster Recovery's Constituent Services Management staff by telephone, e-mail, or mail.						
	90-94	Projects and Activities	Removed table that displays June 28, 2018 Program Budget and October 9, 2018 Proposed Program Budget with the Amount Adjusted						
90			The Action Plan amendments displayed on the DEO website ( <u>www.floridajobs.org/cdbg-dr</u> ) documents the changes and adjustments made to the State of Florida Action Plan for Disaster Recovery and the CDBG-DR Program Budget						
			Added table that displays the Program Budget as of November 4, 2019 (Non-Substantial Amendment #7) and the March 6, 2020 Amended Program Budget (Non-Substantial Amendment #8) with the Amount Adjusted.						
			Added justification language to support amended Program Budget.						
91	91	Projects and Activities Program Budget	Changed Housing Repair Program (Total Budget is \$346,186,147)'s MID Budget Breakdown to \$276,948,917.60 (80%) and \$69,237,229.40 (20%) for accuracy.						
91	91	Projects and Activities Program Budget	Removed \$30,882,761 from the Voluntary Home Buyout Program and updated the Total Budget to \$44,117,239. Updated MID Budget Breakdown to \$35,293,791.20 (80%) and \$8,823,447.80 (20%).						

91	91	Projects and Activities Program Budget	Removed \$5,549,344.00 from the Workforce Recovery Training Program and updated the Total Budget to \$14,450,656. Updated MID Budget Breakdown to \$11,560,524.80 (80%) and \$2,890131.00 (20%).				
91	91	Projects and Activities Program Budget	Removed \$25,160,095 from the Business Recovery Grant Program and updated the Total Budget to \$40,839,905. Updated MID Budget Breakdown to \$32,671,924 (80%) and \$8,167,981 (20%). Changed the Business Recovery Grant Program's Estimated Number of Units from 250 to 157.				
92	92	Projects and Activities Program Budget	Updated total Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Program budget from \$85,819,653 to \$147,411,853, to include \$30,882,761 transfer from the Voluntary Home Buyout Program Budget, \$5,549,344 from the Workforce Recovery Training Program Budget, and \$25,160,095 from the Business Recovery Grant Program. Updated MID Budget Breakdown to \$117,929,482.40 (80%) to \$29,482,370.60 (20%).				
91-92	92	Projects and Activities	Removed the statement, "Florida will receive an additional \$634 million to support additional unmet need, including infrastructure and mitigation efforts through the CDBG-DR program. The additional funding for these programs will be allocated into the budget when the federal guidance is released." The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published federal guidance for CDBG-Mitigation on				
			August 23, 2019. Added clarifying language that mobile homes to be rehabilitated				
107	106	Projects and Activities	must be no more than five years old at the time of the damage assessment.				
N/A	106	Projects and Activities	Added information regarding mobile home unit relocations				
113	113	Projects and Activities	Updated Allocation of Activity to \$44,117,239 for the Voluntary Home Buyout Program				
115	N/A	Projects and Activities	Removed sentence, "Further, subrecipients will be required to demonstrate that successful graduates of this training are referred to businesses supported by or working on any CDBG- DR funded projects to meet their contracted Section 3 goals" to ensure that DEO does not inadvertently violate the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.				

115	116	Projects and Activities	Updated Allocation of Activity to \$14,450,656 for the Workforce Recovery Training Program
116	117	Projects and Activities	Changed the funds set aside for technical assistance portion of the Business Recovery Grant Program is changed from \$6,000,000 to \$3,500,000.
117	118	Projects and Activities	Updated Allocation of Activity to \$40,839,905 for the Business Recovery Grant Program.
119	N/A	Projects and Activities	Updated Allocation of Activity to \$147,411,853 for the Infrastructure Repair Program.
174	175	Appendix 11	Updated Projected Expenditures

DEO will establish methods of cost reasonableness by conducting research on the services sought and procured. DEO will consult industry accepted trade organizations, past programs, and other regional grantees for input on costs for services being procured.

DEO will define "demonstrable hardship" as exceptions to program policies for applicants who demonstrate undue hardship. Applicants in this situation will be reviewed on a case by case basis to determine whether assistance is required to alleviate such hardship. Demonstrable hardship may include, but is not limited to, excessive amounts of debt due to a natural disaster, disability, etc. With documentation, DEO may allow for persons with disabilities to exceed the \$150,000 cap on a case by case basis and if cost reasonable.

# 5. Elevation Standards

DEO will develop and implement resilient home construction standards, including design standards for all structures designed principally for residential use and located in the 100-year (or 1 percent annual chance) floodplain that receive assistance for new construction, repair of substantial damage or substantial improvement, as defined at 24 CFR 55.2(b)(10). DEO will require elevation of these structures such that the lowest floor, including the basement, is at least two feet above the base flood elevation which is the minimum height requirements set forth in the February 9, 2018, Federal Register Notice. DEO will comply with local building codes where higher elevation standards are required. DEO may elevate up to 3 feet above the base flood elevation for the subject property so that it qualifies for NFIP flood insurance premium discounts when it is cost reasonable for the state to do so and when it does not create other conflicts.

Mixed use structures with no dwelling units and no residents below two feet above the 1 percent annual floodplain must be elevated or flood proofed in accordance with FEMA flood-proofing standards at 44 CFR 60.3(c)(3)(ii) or successor standard, up to at least two feet above the 1 percent annual floodplain.

Property owners assisted through the recovery program will be required to acquire and maintain flood insurance if their properties are located in a FEMA designated floodplain. This requirement is mandated to protect safety of residents and their property and the investment of federal dollars. Florida will ensure adherence to Section 582 of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act regarding the responsibility to inform property owners receiving disaster assistance that triggers the flood insurance purchase requirement that they have a statutory responsibility to notify any transferee of the requirement to obtain and maintain flood insurance, and that the transferring owner may be liable if he or she fails to do so. Additional Florida State Building Code requirements may apply, in addition to local codes as applicable.

Nationally, the average cost to elevate a home is between \$30,000 and \$100,000. The average cost to elevate a home is dependent upon several factors including, but not limited to: the size of the home, the number of feet it must be elevated and the location of the home. Based on preliminary research, the average cost to elevate a home in Florida is anywhere between \$35,000 and \$115,000. However, the cost to elevate can be greater or less depending on the value of the home and the factors mentioned above. The cost to elevate a home should not exceed 49 percent of the home's pre-storm value. Any building that has a total cost of repairs greater than 50 percent is considered substantially damaged as determined by the local jurisdiction and is subject to code compliance requirements.

with the Robert T. Stafford Act, as amended, the state will implement policies and procedures to ensure no individual receives duplication of benefits for the same purpose and/or effect to recover from Hurricane Irma.

# 9. Protection of People and Property; Construction Methods

The housing assistance provided under DEO's disaster recovery program will be built with emphasis on high quality, durable, sustainable, and energy efficient construction methods and materials.

These include the following minimum standards:

- Construction standards will be based on the Florida Building Code and must meet or exceed applicable requirements.
- Construction will comply with the Green Building Standard for all new construction of residential buildings and for all replacement of substantially damaged residential buildings (i.e., where repair costs exceed 50 percent of replacement cost) under the Florida Green Building Coalition.
- For rehabilitation construction, the state will follow the Green Building Retrofit Checklist to the extent applicable to the rehabilitation work undertaken, including the use of mold resistant products when replacing surfaces such as drywall. When older or obsolete products are replaced as part of the rehabilitation work, rehabilitation is required to use ENERGY STAR-labeled, WaterSense-labeled, or Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP)-designated products and appliances, or other equivalent.

DEO will establish compliant standards for construction. Construction contractors will be qualified through an invitation to bid process. To ensure full and open competition, through an invitation to bid process, DEO will follow 24 CFR 570.489(g) at a minimum and all state procurement laws. Contractors will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12. U.S.C. 1700lu), and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 153. Contractors selected under DEO will ensure that low and very low-income persons- particularly directing opportunities to local residents and businesses that meet the qualifications of the project. Contractors will as notifying Section 3 residents about training opportunities. DEO will provide Contractors with helpful resources to maximize these efforts including, but not limited to, a Section 3 Business Registry, and examples of training and employment opportunities. Contractor procurement procedures will be monitored by DEO.

Contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, laborers and professionals have a right to enforce claims for payment of unpaid labor, materials, and/or services against the real property improved, according to Florida law (Chapter 713, Part I of the Florida Statutes). This claim is known as a construction lien and cannot be waived in advance pursuant to Florida law. If a legally enforceable construction lien against an applicants' primary residence results from any construction project under DEO's disaster recovery programs, the Department will provide for release and satisfaction of the resulting legally enforceable construction lien through bonding and/or repayment of the lien on behalf of the property owner.

DEO will require a warranty period post-construction for housing with all work being performed by the contractor guaranteed for a period of one year.

# 2. Program Budget

DEO is the lead agency and responsible entity for administering \$773,598,000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds allocated to the state for recovery. In accordance with the Federal Register, DEO's aggregate total for indirect costs, administrative and technical assistance expenditures will not exceed 5 percent of the total grant (\$38,679,900) plus program income. DEO will limit spending to a maximum of 20 percent of its total grant amount on a combination of planning, indirect and program administration costs. Planning costs subject to the 15 percent cap are those defined in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(12). State and local administration costs are capped at 5 percent in aggregate by federal regulations. The state will provide additional guidance to subrecipients regarding the amount of administrative funds available to them. Eligible project delivery costs are presumed included as a portion of the overall CDBG-DR grant funding allocation provided to each subrecipient. Subrecipients will be responsible for properly tracking and monitoring these expenses that may not be included as part of the overall grant award to each individual project or individual applicant as applicable.

Program Budget									
Program	Total Budget	MID Budget Breakdown		Min Set- Aside for Keys	Min Set-Aside for New MIDs	Estima- ted LMI Benefit	Maximum Award	Average award per unit	Estimat- ed # of Units**
		80%	20%	SING Budget		benefit		ant	Onits
		1	нооз	oning Budget					
Housing Repair Program	\$346,186,147	<mark>\$276,948,917.60</mark>	<mark>\$69,237,229.40</mark>	\$50,000,000	\$51,856,347	90%	\$150,000	\$45,000	7,150
Workforce Affordable Rental New Construction Program: Leveraging Other Sources of Financing	\$100,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$25,000,000	N/A	100%	\$8,000,000	\$60,000	1,670
Workforce Affordable Rental New Construction Program: Small Rental Developments	\$20,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$0	N/A	100%	\$5,000,000	\$125,000	160
Land Acquisition for Affordable Workforce Housing	\$20,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$10,000,000	N/A	100%	\$5,000,000	N/A	N/A
Voluntary Home Buyout Program	<mark>\$44,117,239</mark>	\$35,293,791.20	\$8,823,447.80	\$10,000,000	N/A	50%	\$5,000,000	\$225,000	300

The program budget outlined is as follows:

	ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION Budget								
Recovery Workforce Training	<mark>\$14,450,656</mark>	<mark>\$11,560,524.80</mark>	<mark>\$2,890,131.20</mark>	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Business Recovery Grant	<mark>\$40,839,905</mark>	<mark>\$32,671,924</mark>	<mark>\$8,167,981</mark>	N/A	N/A	100%	\$500,000	N/A	<mark>157</mark>
			INFRASTR	UCTURE Budg	et				
Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Program- Competitive Application Cycle	<mark>\$147,411,853</mark>	\$117,929,482.40	\$29,482,370.60	N/A	*these are included in the 80%	25 %	N/A	N/A	N/A
			STATE AND LOO	CAL ADMINIST	RATION				
Administration (5%)	\$38,679,900	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Planning	\$1,912,300	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	\$773,598,000	\$586,404,640	\$146,601,160	\$95,000,000	\$51,856,347				

Eighty percent of each program allocation listed below will be spent within HUD-identified most-impacted and distressed communities. Funding included as a minimum set-aside for Monroe County is a subset of the 80 percent that will be spent in most-impacted and distressed communities. The remaining 20 percent will be spent in state-identified most-impacted and distressed communities, which are listed in the table above.

\*The estimated number of units is calculated based upon the assumption that the award amount per unit will vary from the average estimated award to a maximum estimated award of \$150,000. The estimated number of units have been rounded in this project budget to allow for flexibility and any imprecision in our estimates. Once DEO receives more accurate data, the program budget will be updated to accurately reflect the true cost and units. These adjustments will be included in future action plan amendments. The unmet needs assessment demonstrated that the majority of unmet needs were housing related. Therefore, the largest allocation of funding will address the remaining unmet housing needs.

The program descriptions below will provide further detail on how each program will distribute funding and meet HUD National Objectives. DEO will implement program management, monitoring, and oversight standards necessary to ensure compliance with state and federal requirements.

Program Activity	November 4, <mark>2019</mark> Program <mark>Budget</mark>	March 6, 2020 Amended Program Budget	Amount Adjusted
Housing Repair and Replacement Program	<mark>\$ 346,186,147</mark>	<mark>\$ 346,186,147</mark>	
Workforce Affordable Rental New Construction Program: Leveraging Other Sources of Financing	<mark>\$ 100,000,000</mark>	\$ 100,000,000	-
Workforce Affordable Rental New Construction Program: Small Rental Developments	<mark>\$ 20,000,000</mark>	<mark>\$ 20,000,000</mark>	-
Land Acquisition for Affordable Workforce Housing	<mark>\$ 20,000,000</mark>	\$ 20,000,000	-
Voluntary Home Buyout Program	<mark>\$ 75,000,000</mark>	<mark>\$ 44,117,239</mark>	<mark>-\$30,882,761</mark>
Workforce Recovery Training	<mark>\$ 20,000,000</mark>	<mark>\$ 14,450,656</mark>	<mark>-\$ 5,549,344</mark>
Business Recovery Grant	<mark>\$ 66,000,000</mark>	<mark>\$ 40,839,905</mark>	<mark>-\$25,160,095</mark>
Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Programs	<mark>\$ 85,819,653</mark>	<mark>\$ 147,411,853</mark>	<mark>+\$61,592,200</mark>
Administration (5%)	<mark>\$ 38,679,900</mark>	<mark>\$ 38,679,900</mark>	-
Planning (5%)	<mark>\$ 1,912,300</mark>	<mark>\$ 1,912,300</mark>	-
Total	<mark>\$ 773,598,000</mark>	<mark>\$ 773,598,000</mark>	-

Non-Substantial Amendment, Revision Number 8 to the State of Florida Action Plan for Disaster Recovery – Hurricane Irma, submitted to HUD on March 6, 2020, re-allocated \$61,592,200 from the Voluntary Home Buyout (VHB), Workforce Recovery Training Program (WRTP), and the Business Recovery Grant Program (BRGP) to the Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Program is necessary to address unmet infrastructure needs following Hurricane Irma.

The Infrastructure Repair Program was launched with \$85,819,653 to fund infrastructure restoration and improvement projects in communities impacted by Hurricane Irma. Counties, municipalities, water management districts and water authorities located in the most impacted and distressed (MID) areas that experienced Hurricane Irma storm damage are eligible to apply for funding.

During the 90-day initial application period, the Infrastructure Repair Program received 42 applications totaling approximately \$175 million in CDBG-DR dollars requested. On January 30, 2020, the Infrastructure Repair Program awarded \$84.3 million to 21 communities. The Infrastructure Repair Program received applications for storm water projects, sewage projects, and water projects that directly impact housing and residents from the Hurricane Irma impacted communities. One entity that was unable to receive funding has drainage pipes that were clogged by excessive debris from Hurricane Irma as well as damage to sidewalks and fields located within 1.5 miles of 838 HUD-assisted multifamily apartment units.

Due to limited funding, the Infrastructure Repair Program's competitive application cycle restricted each Unit of

General Local Government (UGLG) to one application per entity. Consequently, DEO was not able to fund the replacement of one community's walk bridge that elementary school students need to travel across a canal to get to school because the County government submitted an application for another project. With additional CDBG-DR funding, the Infrastructure Repair Program will be able to fund additional projects to support housing, repair damages and create resiliency throughout the Hurricane Irma impacted areas.

The application cycles for the Voluntary Home Buyout (VHB) and Workforce Recovery Training Program (WRTP) were both undersubscribed. The VHB funded all 11 projects submitted for consideration at a total of \$44,117,238.92. The remaining \$30, 882,761 will be re-allocated to the Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Program to address unmet infrastructure needs following Hurricane Irma. The WRTP will be funding projects totaling \$14,450,656 of the \$20,000,000 previously allocated to the WRTP. The available \$5,549,344 will be reallocated to the Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Program.

After receiving feedback from multiple communities expressing a greater need for Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation assistance, the State of Florida wishes to re-allocate a total of \$25,160,095 from the Business Recovery Grant Program to the Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Program.

#### Mobile Homes and Manufactured Homes

Mobile homes or manufactured homes may be eligible for rehabilitation under this program. However, to be cost effective, the mobile home to be rehabilitated must be no more than five years old at the time of the damage assessment the repair costs necessary to rehabilitate the mobile/manufactured home must not exceed \$15,000 (hard and soft construction costs). Any mobile/manufactured home that is older than five years old at the time of the damage assessment or has an estimated repair cost greater than \$15,000 shall require the mobile/manufactured home to be replaced with another mobile/manufactured home. The home must meet HQS upon completion. If local zoning disallows replacement of a mobile home, then DEO will allow code compliant site built or modular units. Offsite replacements to more safe and secure environments will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Replacement is the demolition, removal and replacement of a damaged MHU with a new MHU in substantially the same footprint or at a new location, if the original damaged unit was on leased land and the MHU owner must relocate to a new property. Relocation of a new MHU will require additional environmental review.

Replacement Mobile Home Unit (MHU) relocations are limited to applicants whose damaged MHU is located on leased property. Relocation of a replacement MHU is restricted to the installation of a new unit which is outside of the floodway or Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA, or "floodplain") at an established mobile home park or other leased land with an existing pad and utility infrastructure. The program will require documentation that the established mobile home park or leased land has the requisite existing pad and utility requirements. An occupational license, sewage and utility hookups, or other permitting issued by the local jurisdiction may serve as verification documentation. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) must be completed on the original damaged site and the new site on which the new unit will be installed for applicants of MHUs who will be locating the new unit on a lot different from the location of the damaged unit.

#### Summary Eligibility Requirements

DEO housing repair program will serve primary resident homeowners and owners of rental property in HUD and state-identified most impacted and distressed counties. Property owners must prove Irma storm damage to qualify for repair, reconstruction or replacement assistance. The following additional eligibility criteria apply:

- A. Home was impacted by Irma (DR-4337). The property must have documented damage because of the declared disaster. Home repair needs will be documented by FEMA, SBA, and/or a privately contracted inspection.
- B. The state will prioritize homeowner applicants earning less than or equal to 80 percent AMI and rental property owners whose rental property serves LMI individuals. If this need is fulfilled, DEO may address applicants earning greater than 80 percent AMI.
- C. All applicants must own a single-family home, mobile/manufactured home, or rental property located within Brevard, Broward, Clay, Collier, Duval, Hillsborough, Lee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Polk, St. Lucie and Volusia counties; and 11 separate ZIP codes outside of these areas (32084 and 32145 in St. Johns County, 32091 in Bradford County, 32136 in Flagler County, 32771 in Seminole County, 33935 and 33440 in Hendry County, 33523 in Pasco County, 33825 and 33870 in Highlands County and 34266 in DeSoto County) prior to the Irma storm event. Note that 80% of funding must be spent in the HUD-designated MID counties and

incentives. DEO's policies will ensure that its resettlement incentives comply with applicable Civil Rights and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing requirements and that there is no discrimination against a protected class.

#### Allocation for Activity: \$44,117,239

**Eligible Applicants:** Counties and municipalities within those counties that received a declaration of both FEMA IA and PA after Hurricane Irma.

Eligibility Criteria: Buyout areas that result in a feasible project that will meet a LMA benefit.

Maximum Award: \$5,000,000

Responsible Entity for Administering: Units of General Local Government (UGLG)

Eligibility: 105(a)(1), 83 FR 5844-35 Housing incentives in disaster-affected communities

National Objective: Low- and moderate-income benefit

Proposed buyout areas will undergo a review of eligibility to ensure that the end use of the properties results in a project service area where at least 51 percent of the residents are LMI.

#### Creative compatible reuse of the property

DEO will create guidance and best practices for communities to consider on how property that is acquired through this program can be utilized for public benefit, that meet HUD requirements for permanent green space. This may include creative stormwater design, park space and other examples. Communities that participate in this program will be encouraged to have a plan for how this property will be used in the future to further reduce flood risk and/or serve as a recreational space for the public.

# Affordability Periods

Properties seeking assistance through the programs within the state of Florida's action plan may be required to adhere to affordability period requirements. The affordability requirements are:

- 1. Rehabilitation or reconstruction multifamily rental projects with five or more will require the assisted rental property to remain affordable for LMI tenants for a minimum of 15 years. The assistance to public Housing Authorities may fall under this category.
- 2. New construction multi-family rental projects with five or more units will require the assisted rental property to remain affordable for LMI tenants for a minimum of 20 years.
- 3. The affordability periods for single family rental units will be a minimum of 1 year, unless local governments have established higher affordability periods. Public Housing Authorities seeking rehabilitation or reconstruction of multifamily housing units must ensure that the assisted rental property remains affordable for LMI tenants for a minimum of 15 years (if eight or more units).

- Customized training; and
- On-the-Job Training (OJT).

DEO will select entities to deliver workforce training services through a competitive application cycle. DEO will seek proposals from eligible Local Workforce Development Boards, educational institutions, and technical centers, who will describe the services they can provide in the impacted communities. This program is not a direct grant program. No funds will be paid directly to individuals seeking job training.

The Section 3 program requires that recipients of CDBG-DR funding provide, to the greatest extent possible, training, employment, contracting and other economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons and to business concerns that provide economic opportunities to low-and very low-income persons. Subrecipients will be required to demonstrate efforts to recruit and target residents receiving public housing assistance and other low-and very-low- income persons.

#### Allocation for Activity: \$14,450,656

**Eligible Subrecipients**: Local Workforce Development Boards, educational institutions, and technical centers

#### Maximum Award: N/A

Responsible Entity for Administering: DEO, subrecipients

#### Eligibility: 105(a)(8)

National Objective: Low- and moderate-income benefit

#### Business Recovery Grant Program

Small businesses are the lifeblood of local economies throughout the state. The diverse small businesses across Florida all create jobs, and support their communities, whether retail shops, restaurants, construction firms or fisheries. When small businesses suffer from disaster, it can have far reaching impacts. Damage to structures, equipment and inventory, combined with negative impacts on the customer base may lead to significant revenue and job losses, with negative impacts throughout a business' employees and community. While many business owners have insurance for structures and some also carry insurance on building contents, events such as these can require these small business owners to apply for extended credit and loans, even exhaust their saving accounts to complete bare minimum repairs and replacements to ensure that they can keep the doors open. As shown in the unmet needs assessment, many small businesses across Florida, along with nonprofit organizations, were impacted by Hurricane Irma. To assist small businesses and non-profits fully recovering from the storm, DEO will create a Business Recovery Grant Program for eligible businesses and non-profits within the Hurricane Irma most impacted and distressed areas. DEO may select a subrecipient to administer this program who demonstrates the necessary experience supporting small businesses seeking federal funds and capacity to assist small businesses across the State of Florida. Subrecipient activities related to this program may include business grant application intake, application evaluation, disbursement of funds, and grant closing activities.

Grant funds must be used for CDBG-DR eligible uses only. **This program is not a compensation program and does not compensate for revenue losses**. Eligible uses of funds include, but are not limited to, equipment, furnishings, fixtures, inventory, mortgage payments, and lease space. Documentation of impacts from Hurricane Irma will be required. Grant funds may be used to meet a matching, cost sharing, or other contribution requirement for any other federal program when used to carry out an eligible CDBG-DR activity. Business Recovery Grant Program funds may be used to reimburse CDBG-DR eligible costs that were paid through loan proceeds from a subsidized loan program. Business Recovery Grant Program funds may also be used for payment of interest due on subsidized loans, provided the interest is attributable to activities that are CDBG-DR eligible. Grant funds may not be used to pay fees or the portion of interest attributable to activities that are CDBG-DR eligible.

Eligible businesses and non-profits that receive an award from the Business Recovery Grant Program may be required to maintain flood insurance to ensure that CDBG-DR assisted properties are protected from future disasters. NFIP compliant flood insurance will be required for any equipment purchased over \$5,000 for the life of the equipment or duration of the grant, if the business or non-profit is located inside the flood plain.

Businesses impacted by Hurricane Irma may have experienced not only damage to their physical structure, equipment and inventory, but may continue to be affected by changes in the post-disaster economy. Even with loans, grants and other disaster assistance, businesses in impacted areas may continue to struggle. Businesses may require assistance adapting their business model and increasing their resiliency to ensure that when disaster assistance runs out, they will not only survive, but thrive. Ensuring the success of small businesses is essential to maintaining the local economy and supporting the complete recovery of communities. To provide resources in support of disaster impacted businesses, \$3,500,000 in funds from the Business Recovery Grant Program will be utilized to implement a technical assistance program for small businesses and non-profits that have been impacted by Hurricane Irma. Priority will be given to businesses that have received a grant through the Business Recovery Grant Program.

This technical assistance program may include seminars, consultations, and other forms of assistance relating to:

- Business management;
- Accessing capital;
- Developing new business models;
- Information about changes in specific regional markets;
- Accounting and financial management assistance;
- Marketing and sales; and
- Business continuity and resiliency measures.

Technical assistance services will be provided in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole.

The \$3,500,000 in funds set aside for the technical assistance portion of the Business Recovery Grant Program will be used to contract with a provider or providers to deliver technical assistance services. Florida will seek proposals from service providers, who will describe the services they can provide to impacted businesses and non-profits. The contracted provider(s) will deliver technical assistance to eligible small businesses and non-profits. No technical assistance funds will be paid directly to businesses or non-profits seeking to receive technical assistance.

The Business Recovery Grant Program will promote job creation, job retention, and income advancement for low- and moderate-income individuals utilizing the low- and moderate-income benefit national

objective. At least 50 percent of Business Recovery Grant Program funds will be used to meet the lowand moderate-income benefit national objective. The Business Recovery Grant Program will meet a public benefit standard in the aggregate of one job created or retained per \$50,000 in assistance awarded; this requirement does not apply to technical assistance funds. All projects funded by the BRGP must meet an eligible national objective. The urgent need national objective will only be used if the project does not meet LMI requirements, but is needed to alleviate emergency conditions that pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community.

#### Allocation for Activity: \$40,839,905

**Eligible Applicants:** For-profit and non-profit small businesses, as defined by the SBA pursuant to 13 CFR Part 121 (*see https://www.sba.gov/document/support--table-size-standards*), with damages, losses, or other demonstrated impacts from Hurricane Irma.

**Eligibility Criteria:** Small businesses and non-profits must be located within the HUD- or state-identified most impacted and distressed area for Hurricane Irma and must have been in operation since at least September 10, 2017.

Minimum Grant Award to a Business / Non-Profit: \$25,000

Maximum Grant Award to a Business / Non-Profit: \$500,000

Responsible Entity for Administering: DEO, subrecipient

Eligibility: 105(a)(15), 105(a)(17), and 105(a)(8)

National Objective: Low- and moderate-income benefit or Urgent Need

## Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Activities

The State of Florida has made significant investments in mitigation over the past 25 years to ensure that infrastructure is able to withstand the impacts of wind and flood events. Hurricane Irma was a success story for the state in that infrastructure damage assessments were not as high as initially projected due to this major statewide investment. DEO will continue to strengthen the state's infrastructure by creating an Infrastructure Repair and Mitigation Program that allows communities to use CDBG-DR to leverage other funding sources such as the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), 406 Public Assistance (406 PA) Mitigation Program. Some communities are not able to fully utilize these other resources following a disaster because reserve cash funds are exhausted by disaster recovery efforts and they cannot meet local match requirements. Allowing local governments to leverage CDBG-DR funding as match will enable communities, especially smaller and rural local governments, to better utilize all resources available to them.

In the development of policies and procedures, cost benefit will be addressed. DEO acknowledges infrastructure activities may have unintended risks that could potentially effect communities. With this understanding, DEO will follow guidance provided in the Federal Register to avoid disproportionate impacts on vulnerable populations and environmental injustice. Additionally, DEO recognizes the importance of resiliency against future storms and will employ adaptable and reliable technologies to guard against premature obsolescence of infrastructure. DEO will describe the implementation of DEO will first consider LMI as the national objective for infrastructure projects. The urgent need national objective will only be used if the project is not LMI, but is needed to alleviate emergency conditions. When

using urgent need as a national objective, DEO will obtain justification from the local government or municipality to certify the urgency of the condition.

Applicants may pursue a range of eligible activities as allowed under CDBG-DR regulations for this appropriation, so long as they are in accordance with DEO threshold requirements and the requirements for the applicable activity as outlined in the Action Plan and Federal Register. Applicants will be required to meet HUD regulations, such as environmental, supplication of benefits, fair housing and others.

The state has adopted monitoring standards, including procedures to (i) ensure program requirements (including non-duplication of benefits) are met, and (ii) provide for continual quality assurance and adequate program oversight. These standards and procedures are included in the pre-award Implementation Plan as required by the Federal Register. Monitoring will be conducted by DEO who will be supported by an external vendor procured through competitive solicitation to ensure that program activities progress toward timely completion and to allow for the early identification of potential issues and problems, so they can be prevented or corrected.

Monitoring will also include environmental compliance under 24 CFR Part 58. DEO currently has staff that will oversee environmental compliance. Additionally, the current staff will be augmented by external vendors procured through competitive solicitation.

The DEO Disaster Recovery monitoring program includes desk monitoring and onsite monitoring with priority and frequency based on the results of a risk assessment of each subrecipient. The purpose of the risk assessment is to define the scope and focus of the monitoring efforts, including establishing a framework for determining the appropriate level of monitoring consistent with available resources. In addition, the risk assessment will be required each state fiscal year to guarantee continuous review of risks. DEO monitoring is based on criteria consistent with HUD guidance in assessing program risk. The risk assessment provides the basis for developing individual monitoring strategies and documents the decisions and recommendations regarding where to apply staff and travel resources for monitoring, training, and/or technical assistance.

The Florida Auditor General and staff will act as the state's independent auditor and conduct financial audits of the accounts and records of state agencies. Where applicable, accounting policies and procedures of DEO should mirror the requirements of the Office of Auditor General.

The State of Florida is dedicated to the prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse. DEO's Office of the Inspector General serves as DEO's internal auditor. Internal audit functions associated with Disaster Recovery funding may be supported by external vendors procured through competitive solicitation. All suspected cases of fraud will be taken seriously and complaints will be reported to DEO's Office of the Inspector General at <u>OIG@deo.myflorida.com or 1-855-456-0650</u>. If the Office of Inspector General has reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of criminal law, the Office will report expeditiously to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Allocation for Activity: \$ 147,411,853

Maximum Award: N/A

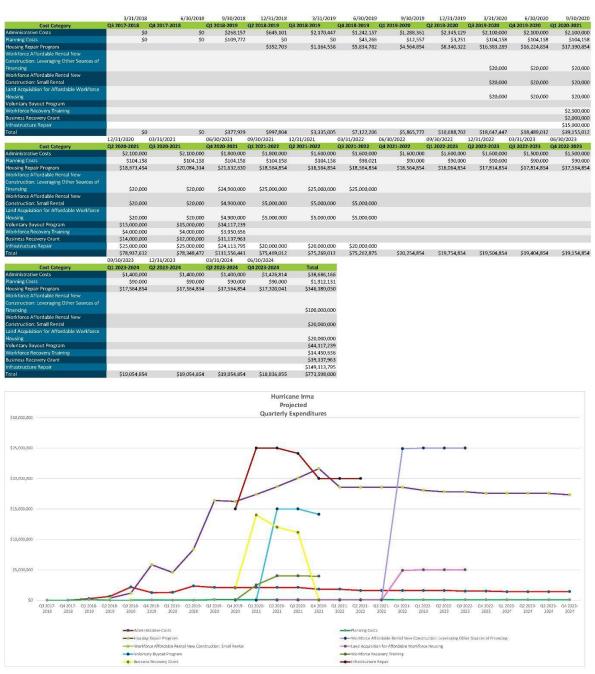
**Responsible Entity for Administering:** DEO

Eligibility: 105(a)(2)

National Objective: Low- and moderate-income benefit or Urgent Need

### Appendix 11: Projected Expenditures

DEO has developed a performance and expenditure schedule that includes projected performance of both expenditures and outcome measures for programs, project delivery and administration activities shown in the graph below



#### Hurricane Irma Projected Quarterly Expenditures