

PRESENTATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT- DISASTER RECOVERY

Hurricane Michael Webinar

Presented by: Caroline Pryor

Slide #0: INTRODUCTION SLIDE

Caroline: Hello everyone. Welcome to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's (DEO) Hurricane Michael webinar. My name is Caroline Pryor, and I'm on the Office of Disaster Recovery (ODR) team at DEO. Today's presentation will provide an overview of the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG – DR) process, the recent federal register, the State's Action Plan and input from the community. Thank you to everyone who has joined us today. As a point of information, today's slides have already been posted on our webpage and the transcript will be available online shortly after today's presentation. Let's get started.

SLIDE #1: AGENDA

Caroline: Today's presentation will provide information on and an overview of Florida's Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG – DR) program. We will begin with a brief overview of the CDBG-DR timeline, communities currently eligible for the funding, discuss the development of State Action Plan and provide time to answer questions you may have. Following the explanation of those guidelines, I will discuss the process to develop the federally required State Action Plan, its main components and the types of projects that align with the program. Our goals for today's presentation are to provide you with more information on the CDBG-DR program, our State Action Plan development and our next steps in this process. Let's begin with a brief background on our department.

SLIDE #2: OFFICE OF DISASTER RECOVERY

Caroline: DEO is the primary state partner of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). We administer many HUD grant programs which include Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). The Office of Disaster Recovery is a branch within DEO that oversees CDBG-Disaster Recovery funding for hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, and Irma. Currently, DEO has over \$812 million in funding to help Florida's long-term recovery from the impacts of Hurricane Irma. The majority of this funding is being used to assist families with rebuilding damaged homes. Rebuild Florida is a DEO program created to help Florida's long-term recovery efforts from recent hurricanes. The state of Florida is committed to helping homeowners, small businesses and communities affected by these storms. DEO just received the necessary guidance from the federal government to begin the process to access \$735 million in funds for Disaster Recovery for Hurricane Michael. Let's take a look at our register timeline.

SLIDE #3: HURRICANE MICHAEL FUNDING TIMELINE

Caroline: As all of you know, Hurricane Michael made landfall in the Florida panhandle as a category five storm in October 2018. In the Spring of 2019, HUD announced that Florida would receive \$448 million in long-term recovery funding for Hurricane Michael. Several months later, in December 2019, HUD issued a second notice that Florida would receive an allocation for \$287 million, bringing the total Florida allocation for Hurricane Michael disaster recovery funding to over \$735 million. On January 27, 2020, the Federal Register was published, which you can access on our website at RebuildFlorida.gov. The state of Florida's State Action Plan is due to

HUD no later than June 1, 2020. The action plan must be approved by HUD in order to receive the committed funding. Let's discuss the communities eligible for these funds.

SLIDE #4: MOST IMPACTED AND DISTRESSED (MID) AREAS

Caroline: This slide depicts the HUD designated Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) areas. The following counties are HUD-designated Most Impacted and Distressed areas:

- o Bay
- o Calhoun
- o Gulf
- o Jackson
- o Liberty
- o Franklin
- o Gadsden
- o Wakulla
- o Washington

As part of our State Action Plan development, we are still in the process of determining our State-designated MIDs. As mandated by HUD, HUD-designated MIDs must receive at least 80% of the total allocation of funding and state-designated MIDs must receive at least 20% of the remaining funding allocation. The State Action plan will set the strategy to maximize the reach of these funds.

SLIDE #5: CDBG-DISASTER RECOVER STATE ACTION PLAN

Caroline: Since the Federal Register for Hurricane Michael published on January 27, 2020, we are in the midst of developing our State Action Plan which will serve as a guide to administer the long-term recovery funding for Hurricane Michael. As a requirement of HUD, DEO will publish a draft version of the State Action Plan on our website and will conduct a 30-day public comment period where we will welcome feedback and suggestions from our state and local partners as well as from citizens. We encourage all of you and your communities to take advantage of the opportunity to provide us with your feedback. We are also ensuring that those with Limited English Proficiency have an opportunity to provide public comment as well with translated action plans. Every comment will be considered in the Action Plan and published on the program website, which includes any amendments made in response to the public comment period. DEO must submit the Action Plan to HUD for review by June 1, 2020. After our submission of the Plan, HUD has 45 days to approve the State Action Plan. During that 45-day window while HUD is reviewing the State Action Plan, we are going to go ahead and design our programs and produce our guidelines that way as soon as HUD gives us the go ahead on our Action Plan and supplies us with a grant agreement we are able to move forward. Let's look ahead to see where we go from here.

SLIDE #6: HURRICANE MICHAEL PROGRAM CYCLE

Caroline: Like the chart from the previous slide, this graphic depicts the Hurricane Michael program cycle. We are currently in the first phase of the cycle as we develop our State Action Plan. Since the Federal Register for Hurricane Michael was only published a few weeks ago, we are still developing our State Action Plan which will serve as a guide to administer the long-term recovery funds for Hurricane Michael. While HUD is reviewing our Action Plan, we will move into

phase 2 where we will design the programs and produce our guidelines, that way we are ready to begin launching programs as soon as possible. We are also required to have a funding agreement with HUD. Until the funding agreement is signed by the State and HUD, we are not able to move any money. Please be aware it may take time after the Action Plan is approved. DEO will work with communities to provide technical assistance as they develop their applications. The application cycle for our infrastructure program will likely be between 60-90 days. After we receive applications, we will score them and conduct site visits. Then we will award funding. After receiving the award and a subrecipient agreement is signed, we can move into implementation. Please note that this scenario is an example for our infrastructure program. Here's how you can remain in touch with the Hurricane Michael disaster recovery program.

SLIDE #7: LEARN MORE

Caroline: If you would like to learn more or stay up to date with where we are in the process, all pertinent information can be found on the Rebuild Florida Website at www.RebuildFlorida.gov and you can also send an email with any questions you might have to our Outreach manager, Trip Farmer. His email is John.Farmer@deo.myflorida.com. This concludes the presentation portion of our webinar. ODR staff Joseph Oglesby, who is the Bureau Chief of Business and Economic Recovery and Andy Janecek who is the Bureau Chief of Business Operations will be able to help answer any questions you may have regarding today's presentation. And with that, let's jump into questions.