

October 3, 2016

Dear Colleagues:

The State of Iowa will receive FEMA disaster funding under the *Hazard Mitigation Grant Program* (HMGP) as part of Presidential disaster declaration DR-4281-IA (August 23-27, 2016) as a result of severe storms, straight-line winds and flooding that occurred in our State this summer.

### **Project Types**

The State is making available HMGP funds for those eligible hazard mitigation project types that will reduce or eliminate losses from future natural disasters, including but not limited to:

- Construction of tornado safe rooms (Multi-functional community or school safe room projects are highly encouraged)
- Acquisition, structural relocation or elevation of buildings located in a special flood hazard area
- Structural and non-structural retrofitting of existing public buildings, facilities, or utilities to protect against wind, ice, or flood hazards
- Minor structural hazard control or protection projects such as storm water management (e.g., culverts, floodgates, retention basins)
- Localized flood control projects, such as floodwall systems, that are designed specifically to protect critical facilities and do not constitute a section of a larger flood control system
- Development of multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plans and plan updates

**Due to the size and type of disaster property acquisition projects will be prioritized over other project types.**

### **Eligible Applicant**

Potentially eligible applicants include:

- State agencies and local governments
- Federally recognized Indian tribal governments, including State-recognized Indian tribes, and authorized tribal organizations
- Private nonprofit (PNP) organizations or institutions that operate a PNP facility as defined in the 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 206.221(e).

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires a FEMA approved local hazard mitigation plan prior to FEMA awarding HMGP project funds. **Funding will be limited to sub-applicants with an approved local hazard mitigation plan at time of award.**

Applicants with proposed projects located in a FEMA-identified Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) are eligible for funding only if the jurisdiction in which the project is located is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). There is no NFIP participation requirement for projects located outside of the SFHA.

### **Funding & Cost Share: Est. Funding \$960,000**

This is a cost share grant program which means that awarded grants will typically be funded as follows:

- Federal (FEMA) share of total eligible costs – 75% maximum
- Non Federal share of total eligible costs – 25%
  - State of Iowa – 10% (typical )
  - Local – 15%

Iowa Code 455B.262A [effective 6-30-2011]; State participation in funding financial assistance (10% State cost share) for a flood related disaster requires participation in the NFIP for a city or county with an effective FEMA published flood insurance map that identifies a SFHA. To determine NFIP participation please visit: <http://www.fema.gov/cis/IA.html>.

### **Notice of Interest (NOI) & Application Process**

Applicants must complete the appropriate (project specific) NOI form located in the MB3 grants management system. The NOI forms can be found using the following link: <http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/grants/HMA.html>. **NOI's will be accepted on a continuous basis or until otherwise notified.**

The State hazard mitigation staff will review NOIs using basic eligibility criteria for HMGP projects outlined in 44 CFR 206.434 (c), project type and level of interest in relation to acceptance of a greater local cost share. Invitations to complete a full HMGP project application will be sent to qualifying sub-applicants for both new NOI's and previously submitted NOI's where limited funding was available. Invitation letters will identify a State Mitigation Project Officer who will work directly with the applicant. This Project Officer will contact the applicant to discuss the proposed project, the application requirements, and be available to provide technical assistance during the application development process if needed.

For additional information or questions, feel free to contact a lead State Mitigation Project Officer:

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We ask that the County Emergency Management Coordinators, Councils of Government, and Planning Commissions forward this information to the communities in their service area to achieve the widest distribution possible.

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