WEBINAR

Don’t Fall Behind: World-Class Asset Management for Smarter Public Works

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POST-EVENT RESOURCES

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Feeling overwhelmed? WithersRavenel and Brightly are here to help! For assistance understanding your community’s options and next steps, contact Mary Glasscock at 919-238-0462 or mglasscock@withersravenel.com.
LESSONS LEARNED

• Quantifying storm-induced, human-caused and other disaster event impacts to your facilities are critical to future funding application narratives.

• The local ("initial") damage assessments define and document the magnitude of damage caused by a disaster and impact decisions made for supplemental infrastructure for years to come.

• Brief narratives about environmental, climate, and emergency services and citizen accessibility, health or well-being speak volumes to FEMA and future funders.

• Asset inventories take damage assessments to a point. Strategic Asset Management Plans that include storm and population modeling justify—in advance—priority facilities that require upgrades or replacement for future disaster events.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND DISASTER RECOVERY

List of the Most Common Local Issues:

- Deferred maintenance
- Single access route into/out of critical facilities
- Lack of facility ownership (property deed or lease) documentation
- Lack of or difficult to find maintenance records
- Insufficient insurance, particularly NFIP or weather- or incident-specific insurance
- Little or no citizen confidence in governance
- Economic decline or limited economic development plans and opportunities
- No single source of truth: post-disaster damage assessments collected and submitted separately within a municipality using fax or email or by calling in to multiple sources
- Information provided more descriptive than quantitative
- SCADA systems vulnerable to Internet outages
- No technology used to improve timeliness and for initial/locally-led damage assessment

FEMA provides Digital Damage Survey templates and Street Sheets to help with the collection of damage information.
FEMA’S HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAMS

Public Assistance (406) Mitigation
- Post-Disaster
- Public Assistance
- Damaged Facility
- Damage-Related

Hazard Mitigation Grant (404) Program
- Post-Disaster
- Disaster Dependent
- Multi-Hazard

Flood Mitigation Assistance
- Annual
- Hazard Mitigation Assistance
- Competitive
- Flood-Related

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
- Annual
- Hazard Mitigation Assistance
- Competitive
- Multi-Hazard
FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA) AND THE 406 MITIGATION MEASURES

Eligibility

Since there is no funding cap for Public Assistance (PA), this is a prime opportunity to take advantage of available disaster funding to cover the bulk of public infrastructure mitigation costs while conducting repairs.

406 Mitigation Funding (project mitigation cost adder) is available for any eligible applicant within any county for which a presidential major disaster has been declared who has a PA project written to repair damages back to pre-disaster condition.

PA Mitigation is only available for eligible PA permanent work projects (Categories C-G) and any eligible PA permanent work project may include mitigation. PA grants as non-competitive and are directly related to specific damages caused by disaster events. 406 Mitigation funding is intended to remove future disasters of a similar type from damaging the facility in the future.
The mitigation measures must be cost-effective, by meeting one of the following criteria:

- The cost of the mitigation measure does not exceed 15% of the total eligible repair cost of the facility or facilities for which the mitigation measure applies (do not need to complete a BCA).

- The cost of the mitigation measure does not exceed 100% of the total eligible repair cost of the facility or facilities for which the mitigation measure applies AND is specifically listed in Appendix J: Cost-Effective Mitigation Measures of the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide V4 (do not need to complete a BCA).

- The recipient or applicant demonstrates through an acceptable benefit-cost analysis (BCA) methodology that the measure is cost effective. This can be determined at the local level by an engineer hired to do the cost-to-benefit ratio or FEMA can do this using their software.

EXAMPLES OF FEMA-FUNDED 406 MITIGATION TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROJECTS POST-DISASTER


POST-EVENT RESOURCES
FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (INFRASTRUCTURE) WORK

Emergency Work
- Category A – Debris Removal
- Category B – Emergency Protective Measures

Permanent Work
- Category C – Roads/Bridges
- Category D – Water Control Facilities
- Category E – Buildings/Equipment
- Category F – Utilities
- Category G – Parks, Recreational, and Other Facilities
FEMA-REQUIRED INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PA PROJECTS

Stafford Act, as amended through Public Law 117-328, Enacted December 29, 2022 and published March 2023 and is also discussed in 44 CFR § 206.48 (a)(3):
FEMA reduces the estimated cost of Public Assistance based on the actual or required insurance coverage for PA-eligible work.

When estimating the amount of anticipated assistance during damage assessments, FEMA must reduce PA program costs for restoring a facility by actual or anticipated insurance proceeds. The reduction is based on the amount of insurance that is in place or was required following a previous disaster.

If the facility is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), estimated costs are reduced in accordance FEMA’s insurance regulations including when the facility is uninsured or under insured.

Tips Regarding Insurance Documentation

• Assembling available insurance policy and settlement information before a disaster can dramatically reduce the time required to complete damage assessments.

• Upload insurance policies to FEMA Grants Portal under your Profile.
FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA) AND 406 MITIGATION “ADDER”

If Cost Effective and Reasonable

Examples of HMGP and PA Mitigation:
The following project examples illustrate how an applicant or subapplicant can use both HMGP and PA mitigation to maximize the protection of a facility or facilities from future damage:

- A school damaged by wind can be repaired and mitigated with shutters or impact-protective glazing using PA assistance and enhanced with an HMGP-assisted safe room.

- Damaged portions of a building in a seismic risk zone damaged by flooding can be repaired and mitigated with dry flood-proofing and seismic upgrades using PA Mitigation. On a case-by-case basis, PA Mitigation funding may also be available for the undamaged portions of the facility. If the undamaged portions of the facility are not eligible for PA Mitigation, HMGP funds may be used to protect those undamaged portions of the building from flood and seismic hazards.

- While a road damaged by a landslide is being repaired and mitigated using PA, HMGP assistance can be used to bury undamaged aboveground power lines running along the road.

For additional examples, see page 154 in the most recent FEMA Public Assistance and Policy Guide, effective June 1, 2020.
Under Section 406 of the Stafford Act, FEMA has the authority to provide funding for cost-effective hazard mitigation measures for disaster-damaged facilities. FEMA refers to PA-funded hazard mitigation as PA Mitigation. To be eligible for PA Mitigation, the mitigation measures must reduce future damage to the facility, as well as be cost-effective, technically feasible and compliant with EHP requirements. Generally, PA-eligible mitigation measures are intended to protect the damaged portion(s) of the facility. If the applicant proposes mitigation measures that are distinct and separate from the damaged portion(s) of the facility, FEMA evaluates the proposal and determines eligibility on a case-by-case basis. FEMA considers how the mitigation measure protects the damaged portion(s) of the facility and whether the mitigation measure is reasonable based on the extent of the damage.

Applicants may use both PA Mitigation and HMGP assistance to implement mitigation measures at the same facility but not for the same work. Applicants cannot use assistance from one of these mitigation programs to meet the non-federal cost share of work funded under the other mitigation program. A combination of PA and HMGP assistance may be appropriate where PA Mitigation is used to provide protection to portions of a facility that were damaged by a declared disaster and HMGP assistance is used to protect undamaged portions of the facility or a nearby, undamaged facility.

The FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program and Policy Guide (updated March 23, 2023), including 406 (Public Assistance Disaster-Specific Mitigation); 404 Mitigation (the second FEMA funding allocated to states based on a percentage of total damage costs derived from FEMA PA)
PUBLIC FACILITIES

Inventory of assets, including furniture, computer equipment, supplies, vehicles, and stored inventories to consider during damage assessments

You do not need to assess any federal or state-owned property.

FEMA’S MOST RECENT DAMAGE ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE AND AVAILABLE DATA CAPTURE TOOLS

Software Download
- FEMA’s ArcGIS for Damage Assessments

General Assessment Guidance
- Guidance: Local Damage Assessment
- Guidance: Damage Assessment for Public Works

Damage Assessment Guidance for Each Category of Work
- FEMA PA Initial Damage Assessments
- FEMA PA Preliminary Damage Assessments
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

Strategic Asset Inventory Management Planning for Resiliency for Local Governments, Public Utility Authorities, Sovereign Tribal Nations, and U.S. Territories

IIJA Grants (Local, Regional or State Opportunities)
BIL Comprehensive Grant Search
NOAA Competitive Grants & Climate Challenges Opportunities
AARP Community Challenge Grants & Microgrants for Governmental Entities and Nonprofits
EDA Public Works Program
EDA CEDS Grant

See pages 24–30. CEDS are “whole community” comprehensive, often regional, and are sometimes managed by your regional council of government.

EDA Research and Technical Assistance Grant
EDA Planning Grant
EPA Smart Growth Grant Funding
EPA Multipurpose Grants (Climate Resiliency)
EPA WIFIA Loan
CDFA Financing Resources
Public Private Partnerships (“PPP” or “P3”) Municipal (U.S.) Green Bonds Playbook
FEMA Flood & Fire Mitigation Grants
[COMING SOON] FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
HUD CDBG for Infrastructure
USDA for Community Facilities Grant and Loan Programs
All EDA Grant Opportunities
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

Strategic Asset Inventory Management Planning for Resiliency for Local Governments, Public Utility Authorities, Sovereign Tribal Nations, and U.S. Territories

- FEMA Cybersecurity Grant Program
- FEMA STORM (Revolving Loan Fund)
- National Fish & Wildlife Grants and Past Projects Map
- U.S. Treasury Stimulus Funds (as remain available)
- [COMING SOON] DOT Innovative Finance Grant
- [COMING SOON] DOT Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Grants
- USDA Rural Communities Grants & Loans
- US Wildfire Federation Environmental Justice
- Gov-to-Gov Technical Grant
- US Wildfire Federation Climate & Environmental Block Grant
- Federal Infrastructure Bank
- Open Space Institute Conservation Grants
- Kresge Foundation Grant Opportunities (varying depending upon priorities)
FUNDING RESOURCES & INFORMATION SUPPORTING GRANT APPLICATIONS

FEMA National Mitigation Investment Strategy Recommendations

Recommendation 1.3 – Use Common Measures to Aid Decision-Making for Mitigation Investment:

“Communities want information to help identify the most cost-effective way to improve resilience to natural hazards, and to create an understanding of how to make the best use of funding for mitigation projects. Common measures help answer these and many other questions. Common measures include the metrics, indices, and other tools behind risk ratings for infrastructure and buildings, community bond ratings, and more. Common measures help organizations compare opportunities, justify investments, and measure success. In mitigation, there are measures that help define and quantify how mitigation improves resilience. Mitigation criteria and performance measurement tools help determine if and to what extent mitigation efforts succeed. By developing and applying these criteria and tools, communities may enhance quality of life, overall health, and public safety. Commonly accepted mitigation metrics will help project managers, policy makers, and elected officials make decisions for mitigation projects (See Recommendation However, the Federal Government and nonfederal partners do not always consistently share or use mitigation measures. To improve this situation, the Federal Government and nonfederal partners can: Pilot new tools and refine existing ones. To demonstrate the value of carrying out mitigation projects, the Federal Government and nonfederal partners should pilot new common measures and tools and refine existing ones. (See FEMA BRIC for grant funding opportunities)”
FUNDING RESOURCES & INFORMATION

SUPPORTING GRANT APPLICATIONS

Climate Resiliency Objectives (ClimRR) with FEMA as Lead Federal Partner

ClimRR is a collaboration between the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), AT&T and Argonne National Laboratory. An interactive resource, it draws on several data sets to give state, local and territorial planners and emergency managers access to localized data about future climate risks. The goals of ClimRR (a successful PP Partnership) are to:

• Provide free and equitable access to leading, peer-reviewed climate datasets to support analysis and data-driven planning for future climate risks.

• Empower non-technical individuals, organizations, planners and decision-makers at state, local, tribal, and territorial governments to gain awareness of future climate conditions and to conduct climate risk-informed analyses to support decision-making and adaptation efforts.

• Enable technical audiences to access to data and apply results to examine infrastructure design criteria, development plans, and other technical analyses that would benefit from the use of robust data for future climate conditions.

• Contextualize how climate risks factor into equity considerations and barriers to community and infrastructure disaster resilience.

• Provide near-nationwide assessments of the variables affecting future climate conditions and their potential impacts.
FUNDING RESOURCES & INFORMATION
SUPPORTING GRANT APPLICATIONS

EDA Tech Hubs

“EDA is committed to expanding the geography of innovation to include small and rural communities. EDA expects to designate at least 20 Tech Hubs under the Phase 1 NOFO, with at least one-third significantly benefiting small and rural communities. Additionally, no fewer than one-third of Strategy Development grants awarded under this NOFO will significantly benefit small and rural communities. ... A “small and rural community” is a noncore area, a micropolitan area, or a small metropolitan statistical area with a population of no more than 250,000.”

The Urban Institute with the Kresge Foundation

Federal Infrastructure Bank

About Public/Private Partnerships