

DISASTER RECOVERY INITIATIVE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Allocations, Waivers, and Alternative Requirements for Grantees Receiving Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds in Response to Disasters Occurring in 2016  
*The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017, The Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 and The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114-223, 114-254 and 115-31)*

Federal Register Docket No.

FR-5989-N-01, FR-6012-N-01 and FR-6039-N-01, FR-6136-N-01

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DISASTER RECOVERY UNIT



**STATE OF LOUISIANA  
ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 21 (SUBSTANTIAL)  
FOR THE UTILIZATION OF  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS  
IN RESPONSE TO THE GREAT FLOODS OF 2016**

Public Comment Period: May 10 – 23, 2023

Submitted to HUD: May 24, 2023

Approved by HUD: July 28, 2023

**John Bel Edwards**  
Governor

**Billy Nungesser**  
Lieutenant Governor

**Jay Dardenne**  
Commissioner of Administration



## **A. Summary of Changes**

The purpose of Action Plan Amendment 21 is an existing program name change for Rural Bond Bundle Program, along with changes to the program structure removing financing requirements using bonds and Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs), modify the design and budget of the OCD CDBG Homeownership (OCHO) Pilot Program, and reduce funds allocated to the Multifamily Rental GAP Program as it was undersubscribed.

This APA is considered substantial, as it changes the original scope and name of the Rural Bond Bundle Program to the Rural Repair and Rehabilitation Program. It also changes the scope of the OCHO Pilot program along with the re-allocation of funds which constitutes a change of 15 percent or great of a program budget.

## B. Total CDBG-DR Allocations

| State of Louisiana Total CDBG-DR Allocations                                  |                         |                |                         |                |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
|   | Previous Allocation     | Change         | Revised Allocation      | Percent Change |
| <b>Total Allocation</b>   | <b>1,708,407,000.00</b> |                | <b>1,708,407,000.00</b> |                |
| <b>Respire Louisiana Homeowner Programs</b>                                   |                         |                |                         |                |
| Homeowner Assistance Program  | 1,059,716,475.00        | -              | 1,059,716,475.00        | 0%             |
| RLHP Flood Insurance Assistance Program                                       | 1,000,000.00            | -              | 1,000,000.00            | 0%             |
| RLHP Interim Housing Assistance Program                                       | 6,000,000.00            | -              | 6,000,000.00            | 0%             |
| <b>Rental Housing, Housing Assistance and Homelessness Prevention Program</b> |                         |                |                         |                |
| Neighborhood Landlord Rental Program  | 36,085,427.26           | -              | 36,085,427.26           | 0%             |
| Neighborhood Landlord Program Phase II  | 5,708,850.00            | -              | 5,708,850.00            | 0%             |
| Neighborhood Landlord Program Phase III                                       | 8,624,456.92            | -              | 8,624,456.92            | 0%             |
| Multifamily Rental GAP Program  | 21,015,518.00           | (3,000,000.00) | 18,015,518.00           | -14%           |
| Piggyback Program   | 73,040,006.00           | -              | 73,040,006.00           | 0%             |
| Permanent Supportive Housing Program  | 5,000,000.00            | -              | 5,000,000.00            | 0%             |
| Rapid Rehousing Program   | 11,000,000.00           | -              | 11,000,000.00           | 0%             |
| Resilient and Mixed Income Piggyback Program                                  | 108,000,000.00          | -              | 108,000,000.00          | 0%             |
| Neighborhood Stabilization Housing Initiative                                 | -                       | -              | -                       |                |
| Soft Second Program   | 6,000,000.00            | -              | 6,000,000.00            | 0%             |
| Safe Haven Program  | 4,000,000.00            | -              | 4,000,000.00            | 0%             |
| Louisiana Military Dept - Affordable Rental Housing                           | 10,000,000.00           | -              | 10,000,000.00           | 0%             |
| Cypress at Ardendale - Affordable Rental Housing                              | 8,000,000.00            | -              | 8,000,000.00            | 100%           |
| <del>Rural Bond Bundle Program</del>  |                         |                |                         |                |
| Rural Repair and Rehabilitation Program                                       | 15,000,000.00           | -              | 15,000,000.00           | 0%             |
| OCD CDBG Homeownership (OCHO) Pilot Program                                   | 5,000,000.00            | 3,000,000.00   | 8,000,000.00            | 60%            |
| Middle-Market Loan Program (MMLP)   | 52,564,319.82           | -              | 52,564,319.82           | 0%             |
| Fast GAP A Program  | 5,292,296.00            | -              | 5,292,296.00            | 0%             |
| Fast Gap B (Rental Affordability Preservation) Program                        | 15,041,186.00           | -              | 15,041,186.00           | 0%             |
| <b>Restore Louisiana Economic Recovery and Revitalization Programs</b>        |                         |                |                         |                |
| Small Business Loan Program   | 39,306,474.00           | -              | 39,306,474.00           | 0%             |
| Small Business Technical Assistance Program                                   | -                       | -              | -                       | 0%             |
| Farm Recovery Program   | 19,741,171.00           | -              | 19,741,171.00           | 0%             |
| <b>Restore Louisiana Infrastructure and Public Services</b>                   |                         |                |                         |                |
| Infrastructure Program (PA Match)   | 105,000,000.00          | -              | 105,000,000.00          | 0%             |
| First Responders Public Services Program                                      | 1,691,140.00            | -              | 1,691,140.00            | 0%             |
| PRO Louisiana Workforce Development   | 3,500,000.00            | -              | 3,500,000.00            | 0%             |
| <b>Administration and Planning</b>  |                         |                |                         |                |
| Watershed Modeling and Planning   | 21,600,800.00           | -              | 21,600,800.00           | 0%             |
| Regional Capacity Building Grant  | 3,200,000.00            | -              | 3,200,000.00            | 0%             |
| Administration and Planning   | 58,278,880.00           | -              | 58,278,880.00           | 0%             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>1,708,407,000.00</b> | <b>-</b>       | <b>1,708,407,000.00</b> | <b>0%</b>      |

## C. Existing Program Description Modifications

### 1. Rural Repair and Rehabilitation Program

Summary of change: Through Action Plan Amendment 16, the state introduced the Rural Bond Bundle Program (RBBP), which leveraged CDBG-DR fund with bond financing and Low Income Housing Tax Credits to rehabilitate multi-family affordable housing properties in impacted areas previously financed through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) in need of repair or rehabilitation. As the initial response to the RBBP fund availability offering was limited, and the time constraints associated with the RBBP funding were inconsistent with the needs of other funding sources, through this amendment the state is modifying the means of distribution of funding for repair and rehabilitation of rural multifamily properties by removing the specification that bond funding and LIHTCs are a necessary source of project financing, or that properties are grouped (i.e. bundled) for award purposes, and renaming the program “Rural Repair and Rehabilitation.”

The state, in the program policies, may prioritize properties in need of repair or rehabilitation that have pre-existing USDA RD financing. The state may extend the program to other rural multifamily housing properties if the state determines that sufficient funds exist in the program or that project completion of a prioritized project cannot reasonably be anticipated, in the state’s estimation, within the time constraints needed for the CDBG-DR funding under this program.

### 2. OCD CDBG Homeownership (OCHO) Pilot Program

Summary of change: Action Plan Amendment (APA) No. 16 created and allocated funds to the OCD CDBG Homeownership (OCHO) Pilot Program. Under OCHO, LLT would transfer approximately 20 pad-ready lots in Audubon Estates to an eligible non-profit. The non-profit would receive CDBG-DR funding from OCD to cover 100% of home construction. The Grantee would then sell those homes to qualified Low to Moderate Income (LMI) home buyers.

The new approach will improve implementation efficiencies by separating the construction phase from the disposition of home. Utilizing resources already in place, OCD and LLT will manage construction of the affordable housing units using CDBG-DR funds. During the construction phase, OCD will select an eligible applicant to market and sell the homes to Low to Moderate Income (LMI) households. Through issuance of a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), the awarded applicant will be responsible for marketing and selling these newly constructed homes to qualified home buyers under the terms as allowed by the Program.

## D. Proposed Use of Funds

### 1. OCD CDBG Homeownership (OCHO) Pilot Program

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Eligible Activity      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearance, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, and Construction of Buildings (Including Housing), HCDA Section 105(a)(4)</li> <li>• New Housing Construction, as identified in Federal Register Docket No. FR-5989-N-01</li> <li>• Housing Services, HCDA Section 105(a)(24)</li> </ul> |
| National Objective     | Benefit to low- and moderate-income persons  |
| Program Budget         | \$5,000,000  |
| Budget Change          | \$3,000,000  |
| Revised Program Budget | \$8,000,000  |
| Geographic Eligibility | For this pilot program, geographic eligibility will be limited to  |

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
|                      | Pointe Coupee Parish                      |
| Administering Entity | State of Louisiana or its subrecipient(s) |

Budget change summary: The budget is being increased by 60% due to inflation of construction cost (i.e. materials and labor).

2. Multifamily Rental GAP Program

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Eligible Activity        | Rehabilitation, new construction, loan financing, code enforcement (HCDA Sec. 105(a)(4); 105(a)(8-9); 105(a)(14-15)) |
| National Objective       | Benefit to low- and moderate-income persons  |
| Previous Program Budget  | \$21,015,518.00  |
| Budget Change (Negative) | (\$3,000,000.00)   |
| Revised Program Budget   | \$18,015,518.00  |
| Geographic Eligibility   | Qualifying Parishes in Flood AP  |
| Administering Entity     | State of Louisiana   |

Budget change summary: The program has currently made 10 awards with 1 pending and 2 being deobligated . Funding is reduced by \$3M due to project reductions. This program was created in Action Plan 1 and amended in APAs 1, 3, 7, and 14.

**E. Public Comments**

Per the state’s initial Action Plan, this Amendment is considered substantial as it as it substantially amends program scope and beneficiaries. The formal public comment period for the amendment begins Wednesday, May 10 and runs until 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 23, 2023. Citizens and organizations can comment on this amendment via:

- a. The OCD-DRU website, [http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ocd-dru/Action\\_Plans.aspx](http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ocd-dru/Action_Plans.aspx);
- b. Emailing them to [ocd@la.gov](mailto:ocd@la.gov);
- c. Mailing them to Office of Community Development, P.O. Box 94095, 70804-9095, Attn: Janice Lovett; or
- d. Faxing them to the attention of Janice Lovett at (225) 219-9605.

The plan is available in Vietnamese and Spanish to reach the limited English proficiency citizens in the impacted areas. Citizens with disabilities or those who need other technical assistance can contact the OCD office for assistance via the methods listed above.

**Appendix**

**No comments received.**