

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

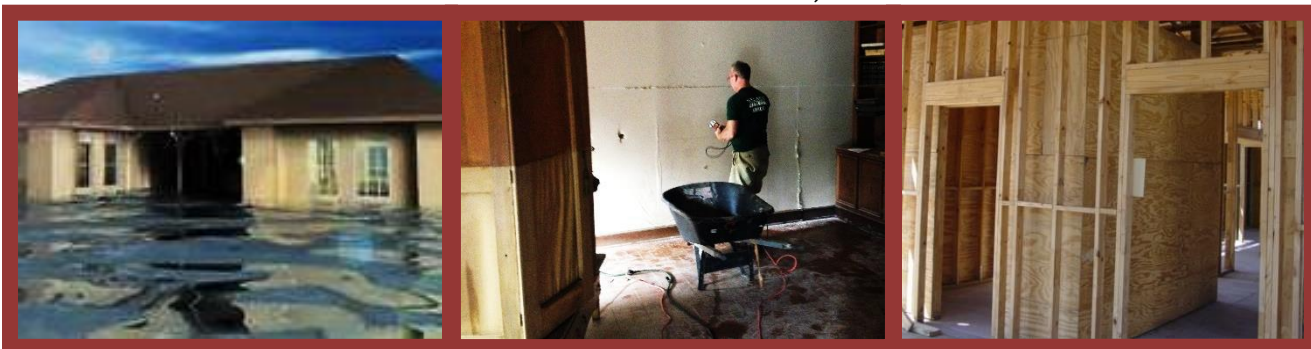
Allocations, Waivers, and Alternative Requirements for Grantees Receiving Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds in Response to Disasters Occurring in 2016

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. 23 (SUBSTANTIAL)
FOR THE UTILIZATION OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS
IN RESPONSE TO THE GREAT FLOODS OF 2016**

Public Comment Period: December 20, 2023 – January 2, 2024

Submitted to HUD: January 3, 2024

Approved by HUD: February 28, 2024

John Bel Edwards
Governor

Billy Nungesser
Lieutenant Governor

Jay Dardenne
Commissioner of Administration



A. Summary of Changes

The purpose of Action Plan Amendment 23 is to decrease the *Fast Gap B (Rental Affordability Preservation) Program* and *Multifamily Rental GAP Program* budgets and increase the *PRO Louisiana Workforce Development, Watershed Modeling and Planning*, and *Regional Capacity Building Grant* budgets.

This APA is considered substantial as the re-allocation of funds is more than \$5 million dollars and constitutes a change of 15 percent or greater of a program budget.

B. Total CDBG-DR Allocations

State of Louisiana Total CDBG-DR Allocations				
	Previous Allocation	Change	Revised Allocation	Percent Change
Total Allocation	1,708,407,000.00		1,708,407,000.00	
Restore Louisiana Homeowner Programs				
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%
Rental Housing, Housing Assistance and Homelessness Prevention Program				
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	18,015,518.00	(4,399,455.29)	13,616,062.71	-24%
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 Ardentale - Affordable Rental Housing	8,000,000.00	-	8,000,000.00	0%
Rural Repair and Rehabilitation Program	15,000,000.00	-	15,000,000.00	0%
OCD CDBG Homeownership (OCHO) Pilot Program	8,000,000.00	-	8,000,000.00	0%
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)	-	-100%
Restore Louisiana Economic Recovery and Revitalization Programs				
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%
Restore Louisiana Infrastructure and Public Services				
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	5,000,000.00	8,500,000.00	143%
Administration and Planning				
Watershed Modeling and Planning	21,600,800.00	10,440,641.29	32,041,441.29	48%
Regional Capacity Building Grant	3,200,000.00	4,000,000.00	7,200,000.00	125%
Administration and Planning	58,278,880.00	-	58,278,880.00	0%
Total	1,708,407,000.00	-	1,708,407,000.00	0%

C. Proposed Use of Funds

1. Multifamily Rental GAP Program

Eligible Activity	Rehabilitation, new construction, loan financing, HCDA Sections 105 (a)(4); 105(a) (8-9); 105(a) (15)
National Objective	Benefit to low-to-moderate income persons
Program Budget	\$18,015,518.00
Budget Change	(\$4,399,455.29)
Revised Program Budget	\$13,616,062.71
Geographic Eligibility	Qualifying Parishes in Flood AP
Administering Entity	State of Louisiana or its subrecipient(s)

Budget change summary: All awards within the Multifamily Rental GAP Program are fully obligated and the remaining funds are not needed. This program was created in Action Plan 1 and amended in APAs 1, 3, 7, 14, and 21.

2. Fast Gap B (Rental Affordability Preservation) Program

Eligible Activity	Acquisition of Real Property, HCDA Sections 105(a)(1) Clearance, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, and Construction of Buildings (Including Housing), HCDA Section 105(a)(4)
National Objective	Benefit to low-to-moderate income persons
Program Budget	\$15,041,186.00
Budget Change	(\$15,041,186.00)
Revised Program Budget	\$0
Geographic Eligibility	Qualifying Parishes in Flood AP
Administering Entity	State of Louisiana or its subrecipient(s)

Budget change summary: The Fast Gap B (Rental Affordability Preservation) Program is cancelled. The program is not feasible for implementation due to complexities of administration. This program was created in Action Plan Amendment 16 and amended in APA 20.

3. PRO Louisiana Workforce Development

Eligible Activity	Public Services, HCDA Section 105(a)(8) Economic Development Assistance to For-Profit Business, HCDA Section 105(a)(17) Assistance to Institutions of Higher Education, HCDA Section 105(a)(21)
National Objective	Benefit to low-to-moderate income persons
Program Budget	\$3,500,000.00
Budget Change	\$5,000,000.00
Revised Program Budget	\$8,500,000.00
Geographic Eligibility	FEMA IA declared parishes for Great Floods of 2016
Administering Entity	State of Louisiana or its subrecipient(s)

Budget change summary: The program targets high-demand Professional Resilience Occupations,

which benefits the residents of Louisiana by providing training resources to eligible entities. The additional funding will be used to continue bringing local resources to areas that are still recovering from disasters. Training will be expanded to include CDL (commercial driver’s license) training/certification in addition to heavy equipment operator training/certification. The addition of a CDL credential enables heavy equipment operators to move equipment from one location to another, improving their employment opportunities in working disaster recovery/mitigation projects. This program was created in Action Plan Amendment 16 and amended in APAs 17 and 19.

4. Watershed Modeling and Planning

Eligible Activity	Planning, HCDA Section 105 (a)(12)
National Objective	Benefit to low-to-moderate income persons
Program Budget	\$21,600,800.00
Budget Change	\$10,440,641.29
Revised Program Budget	\$32,041,441.29
Geographic Eligibility	Qualifying Parishes in Flood AP
Administering Entity	State of Louisiana or its subrecipient(s)

Budget change summary: The state created in APA 3 and later amended in APA 15, a program to develop watershed modeling and undertake significant planning efforts for the state and the regions impacted by the 2016 floods. This program and effort, which seeks to establish the lasting framework for a statewide floodplain management program has evolved into what is now formally known as the Louisiana Watershed Initiative. Considering the degree to which communities within a watershed are hydraulically and hydrologically connected, immediate and long-term recovery decisions regarding land use, policy, and infrastructure must be fully informed with comprehensive and useful data sets and plans. The additional funding will be used toward the planning, modeling, regional coordination efforts and assembly of additional data sets necessary for continuing to develop the Louisiana Watershed Initiative.

5. Regional Capacity Building Grant

Eligible Activity	Planning, HCDA Section 105 (a)(12)
National Objective	N/A
Program Budget	\$3,200,000.00
Budget Change	\$4,000,000.00
Revised Program Budget	\$7,200,000.00
Geographic Eligibility	Must align within one of the watersheds impacted during the 2016 Severe Storms and Flooding. Local governments not located in one of the 56 Presidentially-declared parishes are not eligible for funding under this program
Administering Entity	State of Louisiana or its subrecipient(s)

Budget change summary: The goal of the Regional Capacity Building Grant is to address existing local capability and capacity gaps associated with the ability to organize and coordinate activities around watershed boundaries. The program’s staff will engage in watershed-based floodplain management through efforts aimed at: coordinating and facilitating the formation of watershed-based coalitions; developing regional steering committees; providing education and technical assistance to municipalities and parishes within the watershed; and engaging with the state and

regional partners in the development and implementation of a comprehensive watershed planning process. This program was created in Action Plan Amendment 11.

D. Public Comments

Per the state's initial Action Plan, this Amendment is considered substantial as the reallocation of funds is more than \$5 million dollars and constitutes a change of 15 percent or greater of a program budget. The formal public comment period for the amendment begins December 20, 2023 and runs until January 2, 2024. 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;
- b. Emailing them to 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