Public Assistance Applicant Briefing

Hurricane "SANDY"
DR-4086-NJ

State Coordinating Officer
Lt Jeff Mottley

Disaster Information

Declaration Date

October 30th, 2012

Incident Period

10-26-2012 - On-Going

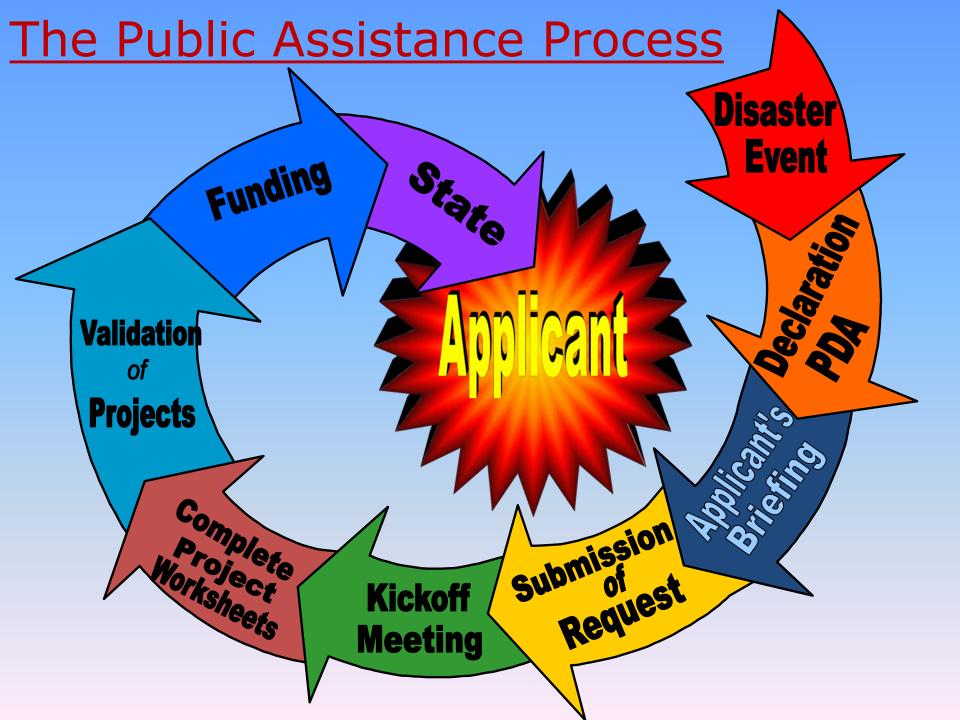
Public Assistance

Supplemental financial assistance to State and local governments and certain private non-profit organizations for response and recovery activities required as a result of a declared disaster.

Funding is cost shared at a federal share of no less than 75% of eligible costs.

The P.A. Program is a Partnership

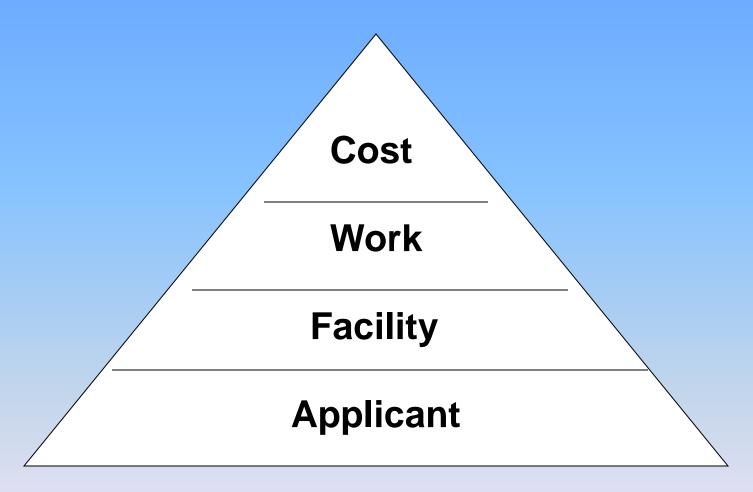
- FEMA manages the program, provides technical assistance, approves grants;
- State educates applicants, works with FEMA to manage the program, implements and monitors grants awarded;
- Local identifies damage, provides documentation, manages funded projects.



P.A. Program Staff

- <u>Public Assistance Officer (PAO)</u> responsible for the entire P.A. Program.
- Public Assistance Coordinator (PAC) —works with applicant to ensure projects are developed and processed efficiently.
- **Project Officer (PO)** assists FEMA with the applicants concerns.

Building Blocks of Eligibility



Applicants (Terminology)

 Grantee – a State or Tribal Government that is responsible for administering P.A. grants.

• **Sub-grantee** – an eligible applicant that receives P.A. funding.

Eligible Applicants

- State Agencies
- Counties
- Cities / Towns / Villages
- Other State Political Subdivisions
- Native American Tribes or Tribal Organizations
- Certain Private Non-Profit Organizations

Facility Eligibility Requirements

- Must be damaged as a result of a declared event.
- Located within an area declared by the President.
- The legal responsibility of an eligible Applicant. In active use at the time of the disaster.
- Not under the authority of another federal agency.

Eligible Work

Must:

- Be disaster related
- Be located in the designated disaster area
- Be the applicant's responsibility

Types of Work

Emergency Work

- A. Debris Removal
- **B.** Emergency Protective Measures

Permanent Work

- C. Roads and Bridge Work
- D. Water Control Facilities
- E. Public Buildings / Equipment
- F. Public Utilities
- G. Other (Parks, Recreation, etc.)



Category A – Debris Removal

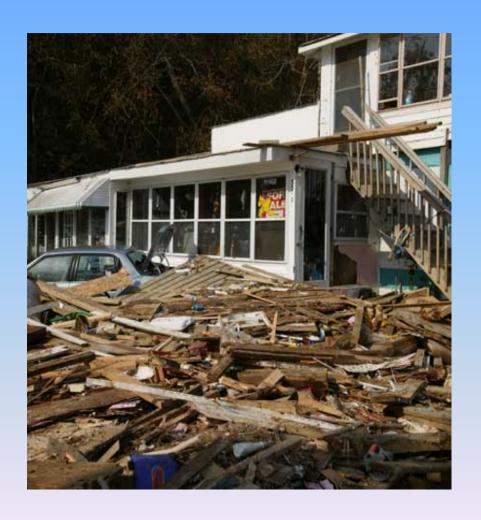
- Clearance, removal, and/or disposal of items such as trees, building components, etc.
- Must eliminate immediate threat to lives, health and safety, and improved public and private property.
- Must insure the economic recovery of the community.



Private Property Debris Removal

Generally, the responsibility of the property owner.

However, if debris is so widespread that it threatens the public health, safety, or economic recovery of the community, removal from private property may be eligible.



Private Property Debris Removal

- 1. Letter to the NJOEM requesting Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR)
 - Demonstrate legal responsibility to remove debris
 - Demonstrate that PPDR is in "general public's" best interest
 - Indemnification of State/FEMA from any claims resulting from PPDR
- 2. NJOEM will evaluate request and forward to the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO)
- 3. FCO will then determine eligibility of the PPDR

Category B – Emergency Protective Measures

- Actions taken by Applicants before, during, and after a disaster to save lives, protect public health and safety, and prevent damage to improved property. Includes:
 - Search and rescue
 - Warning devices (such as barricades)
 - EOC activation

Permanent Work

- Must repair, restore or replace disaster-damaged facilities in accordance with applicable codes and standards
- Must restore facilities to pre-disaster design, capacity and function
- Must be required as a result of a declared disaster
- May include cost effective hazard mitigation measures.

Category C- Road Systems

ROADS

- -Road Surface
- -Bases
- -Shoulders
- -Ditches



BRIDGES

- -Decking
- -Abutments
- -Wing Walls
- -Approaches



DRAINAGE STRUCTURES

- -Culverts
- -Cross Drains



Category D- Water Control Facilities

Facilities built for the following purposes:

- Pumping
- Drainage
- Irrigation



Category E- Buildings/Equipment

BUILDINGS

- Codes/Standards
- Equipment
- Vehicles
- Supplies



DEDUCT INSURANCE AND SALVAGE

Category F- Utilities

Repair or Replace to pre-disaster design or function:

- Public Power generation and distribution centers
- Public Water and Sewer Treatment plants
- Public Telecommunication systems



Category G- Parks/Recreational/Other

- Playgrounds
- Swimming Pools
- Ballparks
- Other public facilities not listed in other categories

Eligible Costs

Must:

- Be reasonable to accomplish the eligible work
- Comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations
- Include deductions of insurance proceeds, salvage value, and purchase discounts.

Eligible Direct Costs

- Salaries, wages and fringe benefits for emergency work (Cat. A&B), only overtime is eligible for Force Account Labor
 - FACT SHEET 9580.215 Hurricane Sandy: Debris Removal Force Account Labor Costs allows 30 consecutive calendar days of straight-time for debris removal. The applicant can pick the 30-consecutive calendar day period.
- Materials
- Applicant owned equipment
- Contract costs

Types of Projects

- Small Projects
- Large Projects
- Alternate Projects
- Improved Projects

Small Projects

- Cost is less than \$67,500.
- Funding is based on work completed (if available) or initial cost estimate.
- Federal cost share is paid upon project approval.
- When the cost of work is less than \$1,000, that work is not eligible.

Large Projects

- Cost is at or above \$67,500
- Initially approved based on estimated costs.
- Funding is based on documented actual costs.
- Federal cost share is paid as work is accomplished.

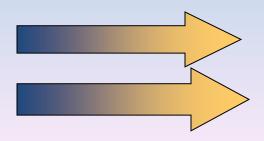
Note: Any costs above what is approved on the PW must be authorized by the State.

All large projects are subject to a final State/FEMA review.

Alternate Projects

- Approval by FEMA must be obtained prior to construction.
- A request for the Alternate Project must be made <u>within 12 months</u> of the Kickoff Meeting.

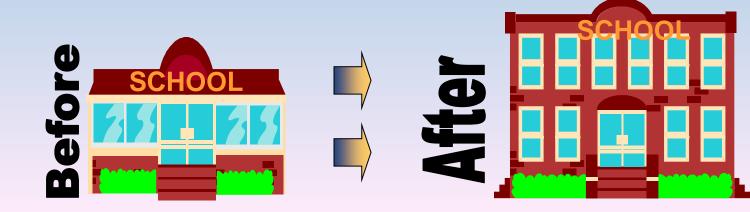






Improved Projects

- May require an environmental and historical assessment by FEMA
- Sub-grantee is responsible for the cost of the improvements. Federal funds are limited to the cost of restoration.



Project Completion Deadlines

Time limits for all projects begin the date of the disaster declaration

Emergency work – 6 months

Permanent work – 18 months

Project Completion Extensions

- Emergency work------Up to 6 months
- Permanent work------Up to 30 months

The Regional Director may increase these time extensions on a case-by-case basis.

 The State will be requesting a eight (8) year period of work for this event.

Special Considerations

Issues other than program eligibility that could affect the scope of work and funding of a project.

Special Considerations

Hazard Mitigation

Environmental Requirements

Historic Preservation & Cultural Resources

Special Flood Hazard Areas

Insurance Requirements

Insurance

- Actual or anticipated insurance proceeds will be deducted from the eligible project costs for facilities that are insured.
- All applicants are required to obtain and maintain insurance coverage on all insurable facilities, as a condition of Public Assistance funding.
- 3. For flood damaged facilities located within a Special Flood Hazard Area that are not covered by flood insurance, FEDERAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE REDUCED BY THE MAXIMUM FLOOD INSURANCE PROCEEDS THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN PAYABLE HAD THE FACILITY BEEN INSURED.

Obtaining A Public Assistance Program Grant

Steps to Getting Assistance

- Applicant must submit a <u>Request for Public</u>
 <u>Assistance</u> (RPA) within <u>30 days</u> of the
 designation of a declared disaster area
- Applicant must attend a <u>kick-off meeting</u> with their assigned PAC and submit <u>damage</u> <u>description to FEMA within 60 days of this</u> <u>meeting</u>.

Request for Public Assistance (RPA)

- Applicant's official notification to FEMA of intent to apply for P.A.
- Identifies the Applicant (including name and address), and the Primary and Secondary contacts for the Applicant.

Use lpppau@gw.njsp.org to submit your RPA within 30 days of the disaster declaration for your county.

Kick-off Meeting

 Scheduled usually within one week of FEMA's approval of an applicant's RPA

 Provides an opportunity for the Public Assistance Coordinator (PAC) and the State Liaison to meet with the applicant to determine disaster-related damage, eligibility, and documentation requirements.

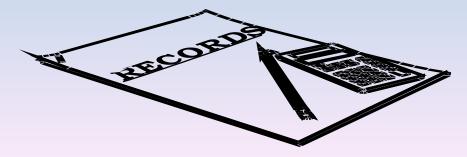
Project Worksheet (PW)

 Form used to document the scope of work and cost estimate for a project.

 Supplies FEMA with the information necessary to approve the scope of work and fund the project.

Record Keeping

- Applicants are required to maintain complete and accurate documentation, <u>by project</u>, for all disaster-related costs.
- Documentation must be maintained a <u>minimum of three years</u> after project closeout.



Appeals

Any determination related to Federal assistance may be appealed.

The appeal must be submitted in writing to the State (Grantee) within **60 days** of receipt of notice of the action being appealed.

- State has 60 days from receipt of appeal letter to forward it to FEMA
- FEMA has 90 days to render a decision.

Two levels of appeal are available: 1) to the **Regional Director** and 2) to the **Executive Associate Director**.

Public Assistance Summary

- The Public Assistance Program assists in the restoration of community infrastructure.
- It is a supplemental cost reimbursement program with specific eligibility requirements.
- The FEMA share of eligible costs will be awarded to the State for disbursement to the applicant.

NEED INFORMATION?

This presentation and any other documentation related to this event will be available at the NJOEM website:

http://www.ready.nj.gov

Public Assistance: lpppau@gw.njsp.org

SFC Mario Sinatra: lpp5320@gw.njsp.org

A/Sgt. Lee Carvalho: lpp6494@gw.njsp.org

A/Sgt. Marc Pellegrino: lpp6522@gw.njsp.org

Questions ???

Environmental Protection

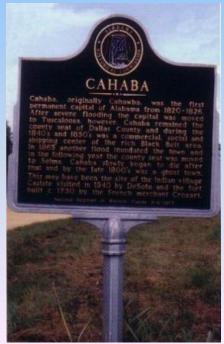
- Ensures that all practical means are used to protect, restore, and enhance the environment.
- Work initiated prior to the completion of the FEMA Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) Review could jeopardize funding.



Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources

 Property eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places requires special consideration under the National Historic Preservation Act.





Floodplain Management

 Any project within or affecting the floodplain must be reviewed to ensure that it meets the requirements of the Executive Orders on Floodplain Management and the Protection of Wetlands.



MITIGATION

Hazard Mitigation

- Cost effective measures that reduce or eliminate the potential for damages to a facility from a future event.
- For a hazard mitigation proposal to be eligible under P.A., the measure must apply only to the damaged elements of the eligible facility.
- Pre-approved mitigation activities are listed in FEMA DAP 9526.1 Appendix A

Hazard Mitigation

