

HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE (HMA) GRANTS

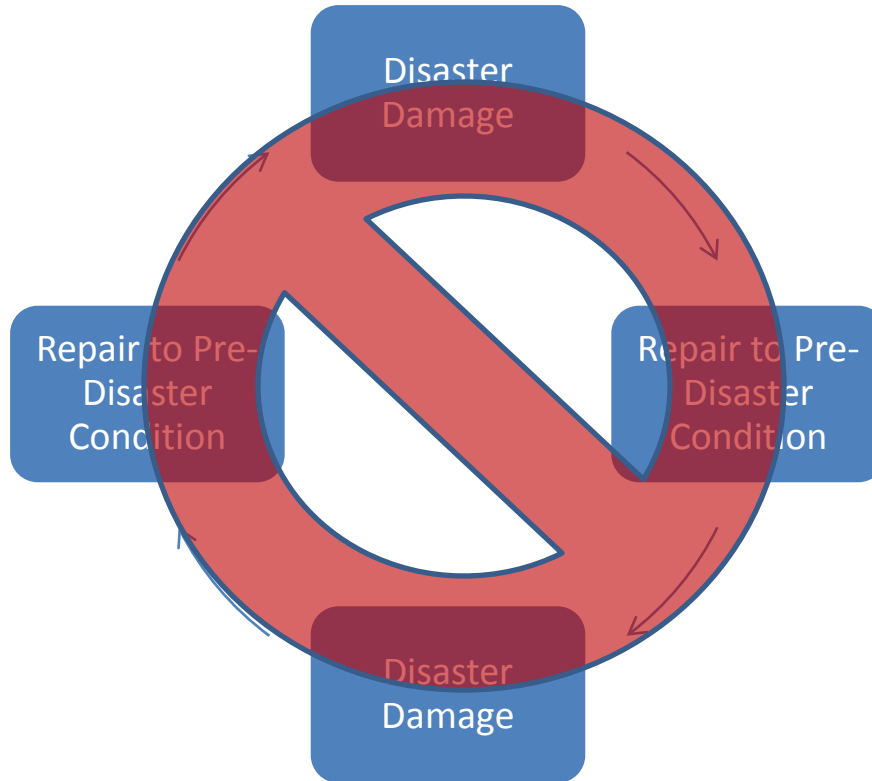


Intent of Mitigation Grant Programs

- Opportunity to protect individuals & property, and infrastructure from natural hazards while also reducing reliance on Federal disaster funds.
- HMA programs provide pre-disaster mitigation grant funds on an annual basis. Post-disaster HMGP too...
- Statutory origins of programs differ, but share common goal of reducing loss of life and property damage due to natural hazards...
- When in doubt – reference the FEMA program guidance;
- Don't get hung-up on different programs, focus on developing a good scope, budget & schedule...



Mitigation breaks the cycle...



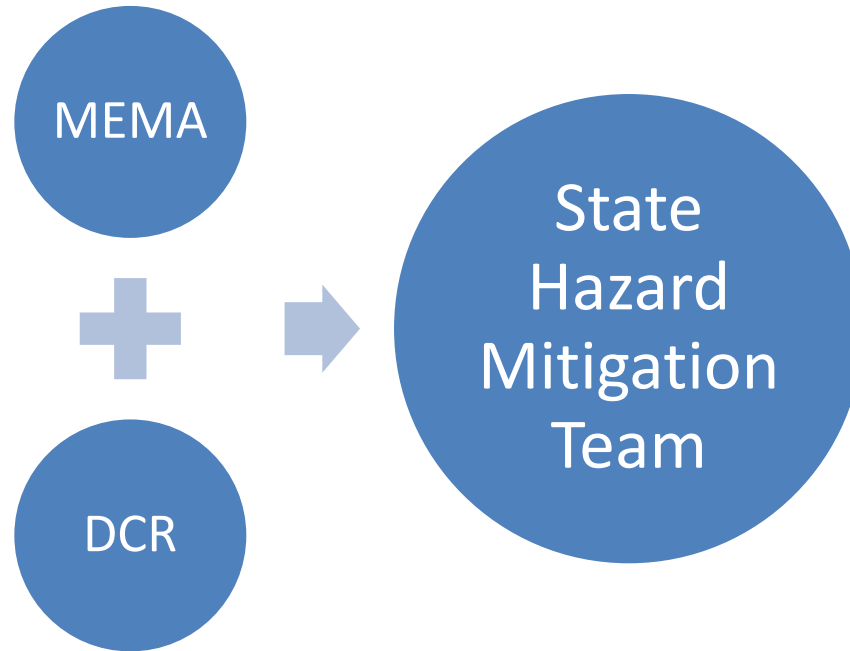
Natural Hazard Mitigation results in long-term, cost-effective, and environmentally sound reduction of hazard vulnerability...



Is it long-term hazard mitigation?

- With implementation of the project, is there an increased level of protection from hazards?
 - Has the risk from the hazard been reduced?
- Build better, stronger, smarter – don't simply restore to pre-disaster condition;
- Avoid the 3-R's...**Repair, Reconstruct & Rehabilitate;**
- Different from “preparedness” – e.g. sandbagging (temporary/response) vs. floodwall (long-term);
- Does the solution (proposed project) address the source of problem (too much water – too fast) and not just a symptom (erosion)?





State Hazard Mitigation Team

- ❖ MA Emergency Mgt. Agency
 - ❖ Administrative Capabilities
 - ❖ Financial Mgt. of Disaster Funds
 - ❖ Coordination w/ local EMD's
- ❖ Dept. of Conservation & Recreation
 - ❖ Engineering Expertise
 - ❖ Technical Assistance
 - ❖ Flood Mapping & Insurance



FEMA-funded Mitigation Grant Programs

- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)**
 - Only available after a major/Presidential disaster declaration event;
 - Generally available statewide in MA (not nationally competitive)
 - All-hazard mitigation *planning* and *projects* (flood, seismic, wind, etc.);
 - Word Document Application – available on MEMA website
- **Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)**
 - Nationally competitive, annual program;
 - All-hazard mitigation *planning* and *projects* (flood, seismic, wind, etc.);
 - Online Application – eGrants
- **Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)**
 - Projects that reduce or eliminate damage to structures insured under the *National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)*;
 - Online Application – eGrants
- **Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL)**
 - Only FEMA-identified Severe Rep Loss structures are eligible to be mitigated (+/- 175 individual properties in Massachusetts);
 - Homeowners and businesses are notified directly by FEMA if they are an “SRL” property;
 - Online Application – eGrants

So who can apply?

- Eligible applicants include:
 - State & local governments;
 - Individual property owners and/or businesses are not eligible to apply directly to MEMA/FEMA, but local community may apply on their behalf.
 - Indian tribes or tribal organizations;
 - Certain Private Non-Profits (PNP's)

Entity	HMGP	PDM	FMA	RFC	SRL
State agencies	√	√	√	√	√
Indian Tribal governments	√	√	√	√	√
Local governments/communities	√	√	√	√	√
Private non-profit organizations (PNPs)	√				



Prerequisites & related requirements

- All FEMA HMA grant programs require State/Local FEMA-approved 'Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan'
 - HMGP grants must have FEMA-approved plan at time of grant award (months after application submission)
 - Pre-disaster grant programs (PDM, FMA, SRL) require approved plan at time of application
- Proposed projects must be cost-effective (Benefit-Cost Ratio greater than 1.0) – must use FEMA BCA Tool to document;
- MEMA is conduit for applications and funding to/from FEMA;
- If awarded a grant, all FEMA HMA programs are managed on a 'reimbursement' basis...





Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

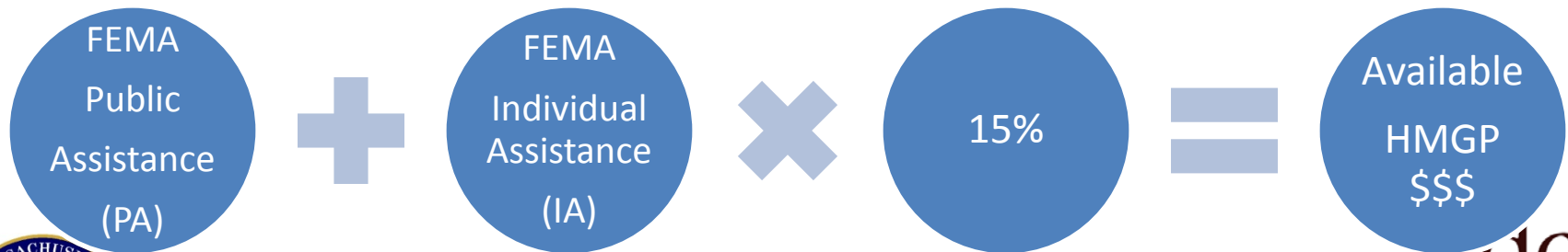
- Provides funds for hazard mitigation plans & projects after a disaster (not an annual allocation);
- Available for ‘all-hazard’ mitigation **projects** (flood, wind, seismic, etc.) and **planning**;
- Available Statewide – not just in ‘federally declared counties’;
- Authorized by Section 404 of Stafford Act





Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- Provides States with up to 15% of total disaster assistance grants provided by FEMA
 - Jan. 2011 Snow = \$3.8M+ in HMGP (application closed)
 - June 2011 Tornadoes = Approx \$7M+, (application closed)
 - Aug. 2011 TS Irene = Approx. \$5.4M+, (application closed)
 - Oct. 2011 Snow = Approx. \$8M in HMGP, final HMGP TBD...





3 Types of HMGP activities

- **Planning** (up to 7% of total HMGP available)
 - Can include develop of ‘new’ HM plan, or comprehensive update to existing plan
- **Projects**
 - Actual construction/implementation of mitigation projects
 - Majority of HMGP funds used to fund projects
- **‘5% Initiative’** (up to 5% of total HMGP available)
 - “Non-traditional” mitigation activities
- All (3) of these activities use the same HMGP application form/format...





Types of activities

- **Planning**

- Mitigation plans are the foundation for effective risk reduction; FEMA requires “plans” before “projects”.
- Eligible mitigation planning activities may only include:
 - Development of a new mitigation plan; or
 - Comprehensive review and update of an existing FEMA-approved HM plan
- Final deliverable = locally-adopted, FEMA-approved HM plan that complies with 44CFR Part 201;
- No standalone feasibility, drainage, engineering studies;
- Primary grant focus on natural hazards, may also include manmade hazards;
- No BCA required for planning applications;
- FEMA plan approval generally good for 5-years;
- Refer to FEMA HMA Guidance Part IV Section H.1.2 – *Hazard Mitigation Planning Scope of Work* for description of requirement (also see handout for add'l mitigation planning resources)





Types of activities (continued)

- **Projects**

- Must be consistent w/ FEMA-approved HM plan;
- Proposed projects must be documented to be cost-effective (Benefit-Cost Ratio greater than 1.0) using FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) Tool/software.
- Must solve problem independently (no phased projects);
- Cannot duplicate benefits from other Federal sources (FHWA, ACOE, EPA, NRCS...)





Types of activities (continued)

- **5% Initiative (HMGP Only)** – non-traditional activities difficult to evaluate w/ standard BCA
 - 5% Activities must:
 - Comply with all applicable HMGP eligibility requirements
 - Be consistent with goals of State & local HM plans
 - Submitted w/ narrative describing how future damages will be reduced/prevented by activity
 - Activities may include:
 - Public awareness/education about HM, generators, hazard ID & mapping, systems for warning citizens of impending hazards... (see FEMA HMA Guidance Part VIII Section A.10)



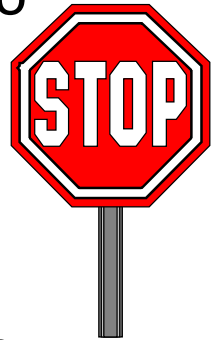
Eligible Mitigation Project Activities

- Property Acquisition & Demolition -> open space
- Structure Elevation
- Dry Floodproofing (non-residential structures only)
- Minor Localized Flood Reduction Projects (stormwater management upgrades, upsizing culverts, etc.)
- Structural & Non-Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings (seismic, wind, building envelope...)
- Infrastructure Retrofit
 - (Protect existing utility systems, roads, bridges...)
- Soil/slope Stabilization
- Wildfire Mitigation
- Safe Room Construction



What Projects are **Ineligible**?

- Maintenance and/or repair projects (avoid the 3 R's);
- Completed projects or projects that are in-progress;
- Major flood control projects such as construction, demolition or repair of dams, dikes, levees, seawalls, etc.;
- Design, feasibility, and/or drainage studies not integral to project;
- Phased or partial projects;
- Flood studies or flood mapping;
- Response or communication equipment;
- Projects that address, without an increase in the level of protection, operation, deferred or future maintenance of existing structures, facilities or infrastructure (e.g. dredging, debris removal, replacement of obsolete systems, etc.)



(Note: please see FEMA HMA program guidance for more details Part III.D.2)

Future HM Grant Opportunities

- Anticipate FEMA Mitigation Grant Guidance issued approx. June 2012...application period 'opens'...
- Formal MEMA/DCR mitigation grant briefings and 1-on1 technical assistance June thru October 2012...
- Typical Applications = 75% FEMA share, 25% non-federal (local) match required;
 - 'In-kind' services allowable as 'soft' match;
- Approx. \$8M post-disaster HMGP Available for "Halloween 2011 Snowstorm" ...
- Anticipated application deadline for all mitigation grant programs = November 2012
- Stay tuned for additional details & grant notifications...!
 - Monitor MEMA website at: www.mass.gov/mema



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