Pennsylvania 2020 Plan Implementation and Grants Development Workshop

Potential Local Project Triage Worksheet

Acquisition/Demolition, Mitigation/Reconstruction, and Elevation Projects

This worksheet is designed to help local officials better understand the potential eligibility of a potential local project to receive grant funding through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs.

Once you have identified a project and are considering funding sources, such as grants from FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) or Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) programs, your first step should be determining eligibility. This worksheet presents a series of statements designed to help you assess your project's eligibility and identify areas where additional work may be required. If you agree with a statement below, please check the associated box. Boxes left unchecked may indicate that additional research, information, and/or work could be required. You may need to address this before moving forward with the application.

The General Statements apply to ALL types of projects you may be pursuing. There are additional specific statements for Acquisition/Demolition, Mitigation/Reconstruction, Elevation, Structural/Wet and Dry Floodproofing, Generator, and Acquisition/Relocation projects and usually require more information.

Please note that within this document, the term "property" refers to the land designated by a parcel, while "structure" refers to the building(s) on the property.

Project Name:	
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Please note, for any potential project to be eligible:

- The community must be in good standing with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- The community must have a current Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) with action item specified

General Statements to Help Assess Project Eligibility

STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
The property owner is a U.S. citizen.		
If residential, the structure is a primary residence, and the property owner has proof of this.		
The property owner has a clear title (no liens, leases, or mineral rights surface/sub-surface).		
This property is in the floodplain or floodway.		

STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
This property is not in a historic district (State and/or federally designated).		
This structure is less than 50 years old.		
There are no State/federally endangered or special species/wildflowers/trees on the property.		
There are no hazardous material possibilities on the property.		
The property owner understands that HMA is a voluntary program.		
The property owner has a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policy, and it is up to date.		
A non-NFIP policy is in effect, if there is not an NFIP policy.		
FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) funds have been received for the property.		
Other disaster recovery sources have been offered and/or accepted for the property.		
The property owner has receipts on the use of any funds that were received (from NFIP, non-NFIP insurance, IA or donations).		
The property owner has access to NFIP or a private insurer Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) funds.		
The property owner has tried to access NFIP ICC funds prior to this attempt.		
The structure was deemed Substantially Damaged by a Floodplain Manager (FPM).		
The community has a Cumulative Substantial Damage or modification clause/amendment in effect.		
The structure has been damaged by previous flood events.		
The structure is identified by FEMA as a Repetitive Loss or Severe Repetitive Loss property.		
The property owner has not withdrawn from any federally funded grant programs before.		
No renters are involved with this property.		
No adjacent lots are involved with this property.		

STATEMENTS	√	NOTES
The municipality or individual would be able to contribute if cost share is needed to assist in a required match.		
The property is served by municipal water and sewer infrastructure.		
Acquisition/Demolition Projects		
STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
The structure was deemed Substantially Damaged or Substantially Improved by an FPM.		
There is a cumulative Substantial Damage clause.		
The property owner has communicated a tentative timeline to the municipality.		
The property has been deemed eligible for acquisition.		
A demolition permit that complies with local requirements can be been acquired.		
The homeowner has confirmed their understanding that HMA is a voluntary program.		
A demolition date has been set.		
There is an estimated cost for acquisition/demolition.		
There is a plan for what will be done with the land once the structure is removed from the property.		
The community is aware of the 3-year monitoring requirement.		
There is a plan for maintenance by the municipality.		
Mitigation/Reconstruction Projects		
STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
The structure can be relocated to higher ground out of the floodplain on the current parcel.		
The structure must be relocated, and there are no deed		

restrictions on the land identified for relocation.

STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
The property owner has considered manufactured homes to rebuild under the FEMA cap, if necessary.		
The property owner has communicated a tentative timeline for creating the foundation and/or for delivery of the manufactured home.		
The property owner is aware that not all reconstruction costs, wants, or needs are eligible for funding.		
The property owner is aware that they must maintain NFIP insurance in perpetuity once the structure has been rebuilt.		

Elevation Projects

STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
The existing foundation type has been identified (i.e. crawlspace, basement, slab-on-grade or piers).		
There is no wood degradation from previous floods.		
The property owner has received quotes for elevating the structure.		
The property owner has communicated a tentative timeline to the municipality prior to the grant application period or design work from engineer or architect.		
The municipal engineer knows how to conduct a FEMA Benefit Cost Analysis.		
The structure has an Elevation Certificate stamped/certified by an engineer or surveyor.		
The structure is not identified as NFIP Non-Compliant or under follow-up from a State or FEMA Community Assistance Visit (CAV).		
Location of utilities (utility room build, closet, raised) are accounted for in the proposed elevation.		
The property is not involved in an estate or resale.		
The property's NFIP policy was kept in effect after the application was submitted.		
The property owner would consider an acquisition/demolition if the property is in a floodway.		
The property owner is aware that not all elevation costs, wants, or needs are eligible for funding.		
The property owner is aware that they must maintain NFIP insurance in perpetuity once the structure has been elevated.		

Structural/Wet and Dry Floodproofing Projects

STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
The land/structure proposed for mitigation action is owned by an Eligible Applicant Agent.		
The proposed mitigation action provides a long-term solution.		
The project engineer has a certified and stamped "no risk" letter.		
A hydrologic and hydraulic study has been completed.		
The required cost share/match has been obtained and committed to.		
At the project's completion, the project will comply with ASCE-7, ASCE-24, and 2015 IBC or higher.		
An Insurance Services Office (ISO) Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule has been completed for the municipality.		
If mitigation property is needed, wetlands and/or woodland areas have been identified for the required (other) mitigation.		
Permitting authorities have been contacted regarding project intentions.		

Generator Projects

STATEMENTS	√	NOTES
It has been confirmed whether the generator will be a mobile or fixed asset.		
If the generator is a fixed asset, the facility owner is an Eligible Applicant.		
If it is a fixed asset, has the facility has been entered into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Emergency Facility Power Assessment Tool (EFHAT) Program?		
The facility owner is aware that funding through HMA may not be eligible for non-profits.		
The facility owner has contacted the Federal and/or State Surplus system.		

STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
This activity has been identified in the county's Hazard Mitigation Plan and Mitigation Action Section.		
The facility that needs back-up power has been identified in the Emergency Operations Plan as a Critical Facility or Critical Business Activity/Function.		
The facility has been prioritized on the local power plan.		
The FEMA Generator Questionnaire has been completed by a qualified engineer.		
A plan for required maintenance training and testing of the obtained generator has been confirmed.		
If a mobile generator is being requested, there is a temperature-controlled facility for storage.		
The required cost share/match has been obtained and committed to.		

Acquisition/Relocation Projects

STATEMENTS	√	NOTES
Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) show project location (both original and relocated sites).		
Amount and depth of ground disturbance associated with project (grading; digging for buried lines; new, temporary, permanent access roads; staging areas) have been identified.		
All contaminated materials located on-site (asbestos, lead- based paint, underground storage tanks, chemical storage containers) have been identified.		
Project includes a description of the relocation process, how it was selected, and why.		
The proposed level of protection of the relocated structure is included in the SOW.		
The list of construction equipment that will be used for the project is included in the SOW.		
The description of demolition and construction activities and all debris/infrastructure/utility removal activities is included in the SOW.		
SOW includes a map showing the type and location of any vegetation that will be affected (e.g., removed, cut, pruned, replanted).		

STATEMENTS	✓	NOTES
SOW includes a description of debris or other materials that will be removed and hauled off-site, and information on where it will be disposed, in accordance with local and state requirements.		
SOW includes type and source of fill that will be imported to the project area from an off-site source (e.g.: existing borrow pit).		
There is demonstration of cost-effectiveness through FEMA-approved methodology, including pre-calculated benefits or Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA).		
If BCA performed, documentation of the flood risk is included.		
If BCA is performed, documentation of the Building Replacement Value is included.		
Copies of any previous correspondence, coordination, or consultation with federal, state, and local resource agencies are documented and included.		
Description and documentation of any public outreach that has occurred (e.g., public notices, public meetings, public comment periods, etc.)		
Description of site history is provided, including copies of documents of any studies, investigations, or enforcement actions related to the site.		
Any known federally or state listed threatened/endangered species or their critical habitat within the project area are described and documented.		

RESOURCES

For additional information on HMA project eligibility, please refer to the following resources:

Publication	Link
FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Job Aid No.	https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-
1.1: Acquisition and Relocation	09/fema_acquisition_demolition_job_aid_08-21-17.pdf
FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Job Aid No.	https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-
1.3: Elevation	09/fema_elevation_job_aid_08-21-17.pdf
FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance:	https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster	07/fy15 HMA Guidance.pdf
Mitigation Program, and Flood Mitigation	
Assistance Program	
HMA EHP at-a Glance Guide: Project Planning with	https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-
Considerations for EHP Compliance	06/fema ehp ataglance final 051313.pdf

FEMA Homeowner's Guide to the Hazard Mitigation	https://s29422.pcdn.co/wp-
Grant Program Brochure	content/uploads/2018/12/Homeowners-Guide-to-the-Hazard-
	Mitigation-Grant-Program.pdf
FEMA Frequently Asked Questions: Property	https://www.pema.pa.gov/Mitigation/Grants-
Acquisitions for Open Space	Projects/Documents/FEMA-Property-Acquisitions-Open-
	Space-FAQ.pdf