



**RICHLAND COUNTY BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2016  
2:00 PM  
4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair	Torrey Rush
Member	Erich Miarka
Member	Malcolm Gordge
Member	Carol Roberts
Member	Bernice Scott
Member	Elaine DuBose
Member	Geraldene Robinson
Member	Rachel Larratt
Member	Sammy Wade
Member	John Grego
Member	Jennifer Moore
Member	Mark Hugley

**OTHERS PRESENT** – Dalhi Myers, Mike King, Beverly Harris, Michelle Onley, Valeria Jackson, Warren Harley, Jamelle Ellis, Synithia Williams, Quinton Epps, Ismail Ozbek, Liz McDonald, Donny Phipps and Heather Brown

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m.

**ACTION PLAN REVIEW**

**Blue Ribbon Committee Recommendations: CDBG-DR Allocation by %**

- 5% - Administration
- 15% - Resiliency Planning
- 8% - Economic Development
- 13% - Public Infrastructure
- 59% - Housing

**Single Family Housing Rehabilitation**

- Program Purpose: Repair and rehabilitation of single family housing units damaged by the October 2015 severe storms and flooding
- Eligible structures: single unit, single family, stick-built dwelling units, mobile home units (replacement), and modular housing units (replacement)

- Assistance type: Rehabilitation Grant
- Program budget: \$10,161,000
- Performance Goals: 143 homes
  - 85% of the homes in the floodplain that were damaged were single family
  - 87% of the registrants for FEMA were owner occupied

### **Small Rental Rehabilitation**

- Program Purpose: Repair or rehabilitation of small rental housing units damaged by the October 2015 severe storms and flooding
- Eligible structures: small (1-4 units) rental housing with minimum of 51% affordable units
- Assistance type: 5-year, zero interest forgivable loan
- Program budget: \$2,000,000
- Performance Goals: 28 homes
  - 6,500 – 6,600 applied to FEMA
  - Approximately 1,5000 received assistance
  - 35-37% buildings damaged were in low/moderate income areas
  - 60% of the total damage were in the low/moderate income areas
  - Each owner may receive up to \$70,000
  - Each owner can apply for up to 4 loans
  - 25% owner match per loan
  - Recommended not to do duplexes, but single dwelling units

Ms. Myers suggested lowering the maximum amount that each person receives.

Ms. Larratt suggested those applying for this funding show where they were declined for a traditional loan.

County is currently working with Hearts and Hands as case managers to assist those affected.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Huguley, to allow one loan per owner, a 5-yr. zero interest forgivable loan, and to require rent to remain fixed for the 5-yr. period. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **HMGP Buyout Local Match**

- Program Purpose: Provide the 25% local match for the voluntary buyout of homes located in the SHFA that were impacted by the severe storms and flooding of October 2015
- Eligible structures: 63 homes with pending HMGP applications
- Assistance Type: Local match contribution
- Program budget: \$1,680,000
- Performance Goals: 63 homes

Ms. Larratt moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to support the 25% local match. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **HMGP Infrastructure Project Local Match**

- Program Purpose: Provide the 25% local match for public infrastructure projects with pending HMGP applications
- Eligible projects: 7 projects with pending HMGP applications
- Assistance Type: Local match contribution
- Program budget: \$889,375.50
- Performance Goals: 7 projects

### **Public Infrastructure Resilience Program**

- Program Purpose: Implement resilience improvements to public infrastructure and facilities that will reduce the impacts of future storms on public safety and property damage.
- Eligible projects: County-owned infrastructure and facilities
- Assistance Type: County funds
- Program budget: \$2,110,624.50
- Performance Goals: 1-3 projects

### **Business Assistance Program**

- Program Purpose: Provide access to financing for necessary repairs or working capital that will support employment of low and moderate income residents and help to address the unique disaster-related challenges faced by local businesses
- Eligible applicants: Local (non-chain) commercial operations
- Assistance Type: Deferred, zero-interest, forgivable loan
- Program budget: \$1,057,720.63
- Performance Goals: 14 businesses

### **Public Infrastructure Resilience Program**

- Program Purpose: Implement resilience improvements to public infrastructure and facilities that will reduce the impacts of future storms on public safety and property damage
- Eligible projects: County-owned infrastructure and facilities
- Assistance Type: County funds
- Program budget: \$2,110,624.50
- Performance Goals: 1-3 projects

### **HMGP Commercial Buyout Local Match**

- Program Purpose: Provide the 25% local match for the voluntary buyout of up to 15 non-residential structures located in the SFHA that were impacted by the severe storms and flooding of October 2015
- Eligible structures: 15 non-residential structures with pending HMGP applications
- Assistance Type: Local match contribution
- Program budget: \$942,279
- Performance Goals: 15 structures

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Huguley, to adopt the amended action plan. The vote in favor was unanimous.

## **STATUS OF THE CDBG-DR ACTION PLAN**

### **Action Plan Public Comment Period – Published August 26<sup>th</sup> for public comment**

- Available online at [www.rcgov.us/floodrecovery](http://www.rcgov.us/floodrecovery)
- Available in person at the Community Development Office located on the third floor of the Richland County Administration Building at 2020 Hampton St., Columbia
- Published in English, Spanish and Korean
- 14 day public comment period ends September 9, 2016
- County will respond to comments in final Action Plan submitted to HUD

Ms. Scott expressed concern with the citizens in the Lower Richland area being informed of the Action Plan public comment period.

Ms. Myers stated she will work with County staff to insure the community is informed of the public comment period. Additionally, she inquired if comments were received after the comment period was over would they be accepted and was informed they would still be accepted.

### **Status of the CDBG-DR Action Plan**

#### **Step 1: Initial Planning and Coordination**

- Collect disaster data, information and reports
- Coordinate staff, resources and planning partners
- Develop recovery goals

#### **Step 2: Identify Unmet Needs and Recovery Gaps**

- Public and stakeholder outreach
- Evaluate damage and impact data (FEMA, insurance, local reports, etc.)
- Catalogue completed and ongoing recovery efforts and funding
- Identify unmet needs and remaining recovery “gaps”

#### **Step 3: Funding Allocation and Program Development**

- Initial Recovery Area Allocations
- Develop recovery program concepts
- Develop program details

#### **Step 4: Submit Action Plan and Begin Recovery Program Implementation**

- Publish draft Action Plan public comment (14 days) – August 26, 2016
- Submit Action Plan to HUD – September 19, 2016

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:14 p.m.