

LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

July 30, 2008

OVERVIEW: A resolution to request that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board to reallocate \$260 million of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to the Traditional Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for use by parishes, state agencies, and other entities to continue recovery efforts and to protect against future emergencies across Louisiana.

Whereas, the State has allocated \$1.47 billion of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita;

Whereas, the Road Home Elevation Program is being funded with \$1.1 billion in HMGP funds; that program presents the largest single allocation of these disaster funds which is moving forward now through the Office of Community Development, Disaster Recovery Unit;

Whereas, mitigation projections for the Road Home program have become more defined, the Louisiana Recovery Authority, Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and Office of Community Development have determined that \$260 million, a portion of HMGP funds, can now be reallocated to use in the "Traditional" HMGP program to assist parishes, state agencies and other entities in taking on mitigating measures to ensure against future emergencies;

Whereas, parish and local governments, state agencies and other entities have expressed to the Louisiana Recovery Authority and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness a need for additional resources to continue to recover and to mitigate against future storms;

Whereas, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the lead state agency responsible for recovery and preparedness, has studied the need for these additional resources; and

Whereas, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness has confirmed with the Federal Emergency Management Agency that funds for the traditional program are an allowable expense under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Whereas, 2008 DR 1603 Allocations will be allocated in the following manner:

- \$100 million in State Agency projects, most of which will go toward coastal restoration and protecting critical roads;
- \$74 million in statewide competitive projects for all eligible HMGP applicants (which includes local jurisdictions, State Agencies, certain private non-profit organizations and federally recognized Indian tribes);

- \$64 million to parishes (\$1 million to each parish);
- \$22 million to the eleven (11) most impacted parishes with each receiving an additional \$2 million. These parishes are: Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Calcasieu, Plaquemines, Vermilion, Terrebonne, Cameron, Washington and Iberia; and

Whereas, based on the LRA's intentions concerning the HMGP, the "2008 DR 1603 Allocations" are weighted in favor of more grant dollars being awarded to local jurisdictions. Future allocations of Katrina/Rita HMGP funding will also be weighted in this manner.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby approve the reallocation of \$260 million of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to be used in the "Traditional" HMGP program to assist parishes, state agencies and other entities in taking on mitigating measures to ensure against future emergencies.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director shall provide a monthly report to the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board on the Traditional Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.