



RESOLUTION

Overview: A resolution by the Restore Louisiana Task Force recommending to Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards a recovery program budget for the use of \$1,219,172,000 in Disaster Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR) funds appropriated by Congress to Louisiana for recovery from 2016 severe flooding events; and also recommending that Governor Edwards instruct the Office of Community Development to prepare a Second Appropriation Action Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development detailing the use of those funds.

WHEREAS, on September 2, 2016, Governor John Bel Edwards established by Executive Order Number JBE 2016-65, the Restore Louisiana Task Force, directing the members of the Task Force to establish both short and long-term priorities in developing plans for recovery and redevelopment;

WHEREAS, these priorities and plans shall focus on the following areas: housing and redevelopment; economic and workforce development; education; infrastructure and transportation; healthcare; fiscal stability; family services; and agriculture;

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law a Continuing Resolution directing \$500 million to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for recovery from disasters in 2016;

WHEREAS, HUD allocated \$437.8 million of that \$500 million to the State of Louisiana as a result of the catastrophic and destructive floods that impacted the state in both March and August 2016;

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2016, President Obama signed into law the Fiscal Year 2017 Further Continuing Resolution, directing HUD to allocate \$1.8 billion to states that experienced presidentially declared disasters in 2016 but prior to December 10, 2016. These funds are in addition to the \$437.8 million HUD allocated in October 2016;

WHEREAS, HUD allocated \$1,219,172,000 of that \$1.8 billion to the State of Louisiana as additional recovery funds as a result of the catastrophic and destructive floods that impacted the state in both March and August 2016;

WHEREAS, the total amount allocated of \$1,656,972,000 is less than half the amount the State estimates is required to address unmet disaster recovery needs;

WHEREAS, given the significant shortfall in allocated funding, the minimum goals and primary priorities of the Restore Louisiana Task Force for each program area are:

Housing:

Enable homeowners currently displaced, as well as those currently in their homes but living in unsustainable shelter conditions, to complete adequate repairs and/or reconstruction in order to return and re-occupy their home on a permanent basis;

Repair or construct an adequate number of affordable rental units to accommodate currently displaced renters within a reasonable proximity of their jobs and schools;

Provide adequate assisted housing solutions for disaster victims who are homeless or are in danger of becoming homeless, as well as for long-term unemployed and extremely low-income renters currently receiving FEMA temporary assistance;

Infrastructure:

Provide adequate cost-share assistance necessary to ensure that State and local infrastructure projects funded under FEMA’s Public Assistance Program are completed;

Economic Recovery:

Provide adequate assistance via grants, loans and technical assistance to prevent otherwise viable small businesses from closing and/or jobs being eliminated due to the disaster;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RESTORE LOUISIANA TASK FORCE, THAT:

Section 1: The Restore Louisiana Task Force recommends to the Governor the following recovery program budgets for the use of the \$1,219,172,000 in CDBG-DR funds appropriated in December 2016 by Congress to Louisiana for recovery from 2016 severe flooding events:

Budget Recommendations				
	1st Appropriation	2nd Appropriation	Total	%
Grant Amount	\$ 437,800,000	\$ 1,219,172,000	\$ 1,656,972,000	
Homeowner Rehab	\$ 388,288,000	\$ 935,405,120	\$ 1,323,693,120	80%
Local PA Match		\$ 105,000,000	\$ 105,000,000	6%
Rental Housing / Homeless Population / Public Housing Authorities	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 80,000,000	\$ 100,000,000	6%
Business & Agricultural Infrastructure	\$ 12,000,000	\$ 50,000,000	\$ 62,000,000	4%
HMGP Match (\$93M)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Admin (4%)	\$ 17,512,000	\$ 48,766,880	\$ 66,278,880	4%

Section 2: In order to continue expediting the process of federal fund approval, the Restore Louisiana Task Force recommends to the Governor that the State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development prepare a Second Appropriation Action Plan, and be prepared to receive recovery program recommendations from the Restore Louisiana Task Force for the full Congressionally appropriated amount of \$1,656,972,000, so that the Office of Community Development can incorporate the details of the recommended recovery programs into the Second Appropriation Action Plan, for submission to HUD as soon as possible.

Section 3: Specific to the Homeowner Rehab program, recognizing that the allocated funds are not enough to meet the entire unmet need of all homeowners in the state, the Task Force will focus on helping as many Louisiana homeowners as possible to return home. The recommended approach will incorporate and expand upon eligibility requirements of the Task Force's previously recommended homeowner recovery program options of:

I. Restore Louisiana Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program: Program-Contracted: in which homeowners can apply for assistance in rebuilding their home and the state contracts for the repair process.

II. Restore Louisiana Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program: Homeowner-Contracted: in which homeowners choose to manage their own rehabilitation or reconstruction process, selecting their own homebuilding contractor(s) and entering into contracts directly with homebuilding contractors to rebuild.

III. Restore Louisiana Reimbursement Program: in which the homeowner having fully or partially completed construction on their home before applying to the program may be eligible for some form of reimbursement of expenses incurred prior to application and within one year of the storm event.

All of which were outlined in the State's Initial Action Plan (\$437.8 million allocation).

PASSED AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED on this the 20th day of January 2017.

APPROVED

Jimmy Durbin, Co-Chair

Jacqui Vines Wyatt, Co-Chair