



## RESOLUTION

**Overview:** A resolution by the Restore Louisiana Task Force recommending to Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards that the Office of Community Development adjust existing program budgets and beneficiaries and create new programs to address outstanding unmet recovery needs from the Great Floods of 2016; further, recommending that Governor Edwards instruct the Office of Community Development to immediately include the details of these adjustments to existing program budgets and beneficiaries and creation of new programs into an Action Plan Amendment for submission to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**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 from the effects of the flooding disasters of March and August 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, to date, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has allocated \$1,708,407,020 in Community Development Block Grant disaster recovery (CDBG-DR) grants, funded through four separate congressional appropriations, to the State of Louisiana as a resource to recover from the catastrophic and destructive floods that impacted the state in both March and August 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the State continues to vigilantly analyze methods in which to appropriately distribute funds to address unmet needs; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon outstanding unmet recovery needs from the Great Floods of 2016, adjustments may be made to existing program budgets and beneficiaries; and, creation of new programs may be made to further address unmet recovery needs;

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 changes for the Restore Louisiana Housing Programs (RLHP):

- Create two additional programs within the RLHP: (1) Interim Housing Assistance and (2) Flood Insurance Assistance. These programs are

designed to assist certain households whose income are at or below 120% area median income (AMI).

- Provide technical clarification that Solution 4 provides options for buyout and relocation to owners of repetitive loss properties in High Risk Communities and other defined High-Risk Areas, to include floodways.

**Section 2:** The Restore Louisiana Task Force recommends to the Governor the following changes for the Rental, Homeownership Assistance and Homelessness Prevention Programs:

- Increase funding for the “Piggyback Program.”
- Create five additional programs within Rental, Homeownership Assistance and Homelessness Prevention Programs, as follows:
  - Neighborhood Landlord Rental Program Phase II;
  - Resilient and Mixed Income Piggyback Program (PRIME);
  - Neighborhood Stabilization Housing Initiative Program;
  - 2016 Floods Soft Second Mortgage Program; and
  - Safe Haven Program.

**Section 3:** The Restore Louisiana Task Force recommends to the Governor the following changes for the Economic Development Programs. Deobligate funds from the Small Business Loan and Grant Technical Assistance Programs, as those programs have had a lower-than-anticipated response, despite an application deadline extension and modifications made to the program since the initial program launch. The majority of these deobligated funds will increase funding for the Farm Recovery Grant Program, as that program experienced a significant level of oversubscription.

**Section 4:** The Restore Louisiana Task Force recommends to the Governor that funding for Watershed-Based Planning be increased. This funding will bolster ongoing recovery investments in impacted communities by ensuring maximum recovery benefits are achieved from recovery projects, as well as ensuring they are not increasing flood risk and to help communities become better prepared for future disasters. Further, the task force recommends creation of The Regional Capacity Building Grant for watershed planning. This will enhance the capability and capacity of local and/or regional entities to organize around watersheds and make smart project decisions, to manage floodplains wisely and reduce flood risk as they undertake recovery efforts. The program seeks to fill gaps in existing local and regional staff capacity related to floodplain management and flood risk reduction by providing additional staff, technical assistance and training to regional entities and to provide funding to undertake watershed-based planning.

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Total Program Budgets (Current APA)</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Revised Program Budget Proposal</b>
<b>Homeowner Assistance Program</b>	<b>\$1,331,163,919</b>	<b>\$(162,267,013)</b>	<b>\$1,168,896,906</b>
RLHP Flood Insurance Assistance Program	\$ -	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
RLHP Interim Housing Assistance Program	\$ -	\$40,000,000	\$40,000,000
<b>Rental Housing Programs</b>	<b>\$134,163,402</b>	<b>\$101,867,012</b>	<b>\$236,030,414</b>
Neighborhood Landlord Program	\$46,947,884	\$ -	\$46,947,884
Multifamily Gap Program	\$22,515,518	\$ -	\$22,515,518
Piggyback	\$43,700,000	\$36,056,303	\$79,756,303
Permanent Supportive Housing Program	\$5,000,000	\$ -	\$5,000,000
Rapid Rehousing Program	\$16,000,000	\$ -	\$16,000,000
<i>Neighborhood Landlord Program Phase II</i>		\$11,000,000	\$11,000,000
<i>Resilient and Mixed Income Piggyback Program</i>		\$34,810,709	\$34,810,709
<i>Neighborhood Stabilization Housing Initiative</i>		\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
<i>Soft Second Program</i>		\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000
<i>Safe Haven Program</i>		\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
<b>Business and Agriculture Programs</b>	<b>\$62,000,000</b>	<b>\$(600,000)</b>	<b>\$61,400,000</b>
Small Business Loan Program	\$51,200,000	\$(10,000,000)	\$41,200,000
Small Business Technical Assistance Program	\$800,000	\$(600,000)	\$200,000
Louisiana Farm Recovery Grant Program	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000
<b>Infrastructure Programs</b>	<b>\$105,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$115,000,000</b>
FEMA Nonfederal Share Match	\$105,000,000		\$115,000,000
<b>First Responders Program</b>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>
<b>Watershed Planning</b>	<b>\$9,800,799</b>	<b>\$6,800,001</b>	<b>\$16,600,800</b>
<b>Regional Capacity Building Grant</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$3,200,000</b>	<b>\$3,200,000</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$58,278,880</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$58,278,880</b>
<b>Overall Grant Totals</b>	<b>\$1,708,407,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$1,708,407,000</b>

**Section 5:** In order to continue expediting the process of federal funds approval, the Restore Louisiana Task Force recommends to the Governor that the State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development incorporate and provide appropriate details on the above recommended changes into an Action Plan Amendment for submission to HUD as soon as possible, for its review.

PASSED AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED on this the 15<sup>TH</sup> day of February 2019.

**APPROVED**

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**Jimmy Durbin, Co-Chair**

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**Jacqui Vines Wyatt, Co-Chair**