

# **LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY**

## **Long-Term Community Recovery Funding Allocation**

**January 12, 2007**

**OVERVIEW:** A resolution to request the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board to approve and recommend to the Governor and the Louisiana Legislature for approval Action Plan Amendment no. 10 to allocate \$200 million of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the implementation of long-term community recovery projects to address long-term community recovery needs including, but not limited to the economy, environment, housing stock, public safety, education, health care, and transportation.

Whereas, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the parishes of Louisiana and created long-lasting problems including, but not limited to; the economy, environment, housing stock, public safety, education, health care, and transportation among other problems.

Whereas, very robust planning efforts are on-going at the local, regional, and state levels to ensure a wise, forward-looking investment of very limited resources.

Whereas, these planning efforts have provided and continue to provide guidance to our recovery effort.

Whereas, prioritization of projects that drive local recovery must ultimately come from local communities.

Whereas, consistency between local priorities and projects and regional plans provides the best opportunities for wise recovery investments.

Whereas, Louisiana's local communities have requested \$200 million in CDBG funds for the purpose of implementing long-term community recovery projects to address problems, including but not limited to the economy, environment, housing stock, public safety, education, health care, and transportation.

Whereas, at the board meeting held on December 14, 2006, the LRA Board directed the LRA and OCD staff to develop and publish for public comment Action Plan Amendment no. 10 for the allocation of \$200 million of CDBG funds for the implementation of long-term community recovery projects in the most heavily affected parishes to address long term community recovery needs, including but not limited to the economy, environment, housing stock, public safety, education, health care, and transportation.

Whereas Action Plan Amendment no. 10 was drafted and published for public comment.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the LRA Board does hereby approve Action Plan Amendment no. 10 for the allocation of \$200 million of CDBG funds for the implementation of long-term community recovery projects in the most heavily affected parishes to address long term community recovery needs, including but not limited to the economy, environment, housing stock, public safety, education, health care, and transportation.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby recommend that the funding to be provided under this Action Plan Amendment be distributed among the local communities based on a damage estimate formula.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby recommend that the allocation be made under the following conditions:

- (1) The local communities select and submit projects to the LRA that address their local recovery needs;
- (2) The local project prioritization must include broad-based community participation and approval, as indicated by inclusion in a broadly accepted recovery plan, public meeting and/or input opportunities, Council or Police Jury resolution, or other such mechanism; and
- (3) The projects prioritized by the local communities must be consistent with the LRA's priorities and with regional plans, as determined by the LRA.
- (4) That the funding be provided to parishes which have adopted the latest available base flood elevations of the FEMA Flood Recovery Guidance unless exceptions are granted by the LRA based on reasonable alternatives where safety is not minimized;
- (5) That the funding be provided to parishes or communities which have adopted, implemented or are in the process of implementing the new statewide building code standards adopted in the 2005 1st Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature;
- (6) That each infrastructure project considers and/or proposes a mitigation plan to minimize damage in the event of future floods or hurricanes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby recommend the Louisiana Parishes Allocation Action Plan Amendment no. 10 for Disaster Recovery funds to the Governor and the Louisiana Legislature for approval.