

LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY

Private Non-Profit Schools, Colleges, and Universities 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 the Action Plan Amendment no. 10 allocating up to \$40 million of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to FEMA-eligible, private, non-profit schools (K-12), colleges, and universities to cover the 10% non-federal match of FEMA Categories C-G Public Assistance (PA) grants for the aforementioned schools in the State of Louisiana which were damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Whereas, many private, non-profit schools, colleges, and universities were severely damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Whereas, the damage sustained by the private, non-profit schools, colleges, and universities is estimated at nearly \$500 million.

Whereas, the education of our citizens and especially our youth is key to the growth of this state.

Whereas, the schools, colleges, and universities of this state play an important role in the education of the citizens of this state.

Whereas, the recovery of schools, colleges and universities is of vital importance to the state.

Whereas, certain private, non-profit schools, colleges, and universities are eligible for FEMA PA grants.

Whereas, the FEMA PA grants will cover up to 90% of the cost to repair damages, leaving 10% of the cost of repair unfunded.

Whereas, many private, non-profit schools, colleges, and universities are financially incapable of providing the remaining 10% required to repair the damage to their respective schools.

Whereas, private, non-profit schools, colleges, and universities have requested up to \$40 million in CDBG funds to cover the 10% non federal match of FEMA Categories C-G PA grants for the purpose of rebuilding their damaged structures and general recovery of their respective schools which sustained damage due to Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita.

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 up to \$40 million of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to FEMA-eligible, private, non-profit schools (K-12), colleges, and universities to cover the 10% non-federal match of FEMA PA grants for the aforementioned schools in the State of Louisiana which were damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby approve Action Plan Amendment no. 10 for the allocation of up to \$40 million of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to FEMA-eligible, private, non-profit schools (K-12), colleges, and universities to cover the 10% non-federal match of FEMA Categories C-G PA grants for the aforementioned schools in the State of Louisiana which were damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby recommend expenditures from the Private Non-Profit Infrastructure Program meet the following guidelines:

1. Funding is provided as a match for FEMA Categories C-G Public Assistance grants only;
2. That the funding to be provided is for cases of critical needs. (To be determined by the State);
3. That the funding be provided to schools and universities in parishes that 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;
4. That the funding be provided to schools and universities in 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;
5. That the projects receiving funding follow the best design for delivery of services in light of the population shifts and changed circumstances of many Louisiana communities;
6. That a project demonstrate that it is the most efficient and cost effective way to rebuild the infrastructure, or that the applicant has considered alternate methods of rebuilding to achieve the greatest efficiency of the infrastructure to serve the local as well as regional needs of the community as a result of the Public Assistance repairs or reconstruction; and
7. 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 Private Schools Allocation Action Plan Amendment no. 10 for Disaster Recovery funds to the Governor and the Louisiana Legislature for approval.