

## **LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY**

### **A Resolution for the Reallocation of CDBG Funds from the Technical Assistance activity category to the Planning activity category**

**July 30, 2007**

**OVERVIEW:** A Resolution by the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board to urge and request Governor Blanco and the Division of Administration, Office of Community Development to reallocate \$3 million of CDBG funds from the Technical Assistance activity category to the Planning activity category.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA) is charged with establishing policy and plans for the immediate and long-term recovery of regions of the state affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita;

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

WHEREAS, very robust planning efforts are ongoing at the local level to ensure wise, forward-looking investment of very limited recovery resources;

WHEREAS, prioritization of projects that drive local recovery must ultimately come from local communities;

WHEREAS, the first Action Plan approved by the LRA, Governor Blanco, the Louisiana Legislature, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development included \$9,500,000 for planning activities at the direction of the LRA and \$12,420,000 for technical assistance activities;

WHEREAS, on August 10, 2006, the LRA Board approved a resolution directing the criteria for planning funding to be allocated to:

- 1) Increase the recovery planning staffing capacity in the severely impacted parishes (targeted to those parishes most affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita) according to a formula based on population and the levels of damage related to the storms;
- 2) Fund grant writers to support parishes who are seeking grant funds for recovery planning projects;
- 3) Fund the needs of communities to provide outreach in conjunction with their planning activities; and
- 4) Fund LRA staffing and operating needs for LRA related planning activities;

WHEREAS, funds in the Planning activity category have been exhausted and there are available funds for these initiatives in the Technical Assistance activity category;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby urge and request Governor Blanco and the Division of Administration, Office of Community Development reallocate \$3 million of CDBG funds from the Technical Assistance activity category to the Planning activity category for the successful implementation of LRA Board approved planning activities.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby authorize the LRA staff to work with the Office of Community Development to develop an Action Plan Amendment or Amendments consistent with this resolution for public comment. In the event that comments during the public comment period do not require any changes to the Action Plan Amendment, the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby authorize Dr. Francis, Chairman of the Board, to approve the Amendment and send the Amendment to the Governor and the Legislature for approval.