Texas General Land Office
Community Development and Revitalization

CDBG Mitigation (MIT) Project

“The GLO stands ready to help our state maximize the use of this disaster recovery funding to build back stronger and more resilient communities.”

~ George P. Bush, Commissioner
CDBG-MIT Project: Project Overview

1. What is a CDBG-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Project?
2. Project Eligibility Criteria?
3. What are Eligible and Ineligible Activities?
4. CDBG-MIT Project (Example)
5. How to select a CDBG-MIT Project to Apply For?
What is a CDBG-MIT Project?

GLO Application Project Definition (CDBG-MIT Project):

* A CDBG-MIT project is a **combination** of **eligible activities** working together to reduce the risk of identified natural hazards for a defined geographic area and population.

* All proposed activities must support the overall mitigation project and the overall project will meet only one CDBG-MIT national objective.
What is a CDBG-MIT Project?

Important Definitions:

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- **Project Service Area:** Area(s) defined by the applicant that either have an urgent mitigation need (UNM National Objective) or are comprised of 51% or more of low- and moderate-income (LMI National Objective) beneficiaries.

- **Reducing Risks of Natural Hazards:** Each proposed project must mitigate against one of the following identified risks: hurricanes, tropical storms/depressions, severe coastal/riverine flooding, storms, and tornadoes (hazards vary for 2015, 2016, and Hurricane Harvey).
Mitigation Project Eligibility that applies to all allocations are as follows:

• Meets HUD’s definition of mitigation activities: “Those activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters.”
Mitigation Project Eligibility that applies to all allocations are as follows:

- Meets GLO Application project definition;
- Addresses identified current and future risks;
- Meets the definition of a CDBG-MIT eligible activity;
- Meets a CDBG-MIT National Objective of Low- and Moderate- Income (LMI) or Urgent Need Mitigation (UNM);
Mitigation Project Eligibility that applies to all allocations are as follows:

- Includes a plan for the applicant’s long-term funding and management of the operations and maintenance of the project outside of CDBG grant funds; and

- Cost verification controls must be in place to assure that construction costs are reasonable and consistent with market costs at the time and place of construction.
What are Eligible Activities? (1/3)

Generally, the activities listed below are considered typical eligible activities:

- Infrastructure improvements: Such as water and sewer lines/facilities, streets, provisions of generators, removal of debris, bridges, etc.;
- Natural or green infrastructure (More Below);
- Communications infrastructure;
- Public Facilities: Such as hardening existing buildings against hazards or creating shelters;
Generally, the activities listed below are considered typical eligible activities:

- Public Service within the 15 percent cap: e.g., housing counseling, legal counseling, job training, mental health, and general health services;
- FEMA cost share for CDBG-MIT eligible projects where not available from other sources;
- Economic development activities as allowable under CDBG-MIT;
What are Eligible Activities? (3/3)

Generally, the activities listed below are considered typical eligible activities:

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- Buyouts and Acquisition with or without relocation assistance, down payment assistance, housing incentives, and demolition; and
- All activities allowed under the HCDA Section 105(a) (1-5), 105(a) (7-9), and 105(a)(11) are allowed.
What are Ineligible Activities?

What Type of Activities are Ineligible:
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• Emergency response services;
• Enlarging a dam or levee beyond the original footprint;
• Assisting a privately-owned utility for any purpose; and
• Buildings and facilities used for the general conduct of government.

• NOTE: (Additional details and examples are in the Application Guide).
What is Natural or Green Infrastructure?

Federal Register Notice 84 FR 45838 (August 30, 2019) - LINK:

• "... integration of natural processes or systems (such as wetlands or land barriers) or engineered systems that mimic natural systems and processes into investments in resilient infrastructure, including, for example, using permeable pavements and amended soils to improve infiltration and pollutant removal."

• Develop a process to incorporate nature-based solutions and natural or green infrastructure in the selection and/or design of CDBG–MIT projects.
What is Natural or Green Infrastructure?
What is Natural or Green Infrastructure?

Examples of Green Infrastructure:

- Land Conservation
- Downspout Disconnection
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Rain Gardens
- Planter Boxes
- Bioswales
- Permeable Pavements
- Green Streets and Alleys
- Green Parking
- Green Roofs
- Urban Tree Canopy
What is Natural or Green Infrastructure?

Helpful Resources:

• U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): [LINK]

• U.S. EPA – Basics: What is Green Infrastructure?: [LINK]

• U.S. EPA – Build Green Infrastructure: [LINK]
CDBG-MIT Project Example: Flood Mitigation

1. What is the identified hazard? → Flooding from Storms
2. How do the activities mitigate the identified risk? → Reduce flooding and protect critical infrastructure and homes from the impacts of flooding.
3. What is the Project Service Area? → Defined geographic area and beneficiaries
4. What is the CDBG-MIT National Objective (LMI or UNM)? → LMI

Activity: Flood Control and Drainage Improvements
- Site 1: Retention Pond
- Site 2: Wetland Retention Area (Green Infrastructure)
- Site 3: Culvert
- Site 4: Drainage Improvement

Activity: Sewer Improvements
- Site 1: Lift Station
- Site 2: Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Site 3: Lift Station

Activity: Street Improvements
- Site 1: Raised Low-Water Crossing
- Site 2: Elevate Street
CDBG-MIT Project Example: Flood Mitigation

Beneficiaries: 520 (LMI)/1,000 (Total Beneficiaries) = 52% LMI

Activity: Flood Control and Drainage Improvements
Activity: Sewer Improvements
Activity: Street Improvements
How to Select a CDBG-MIT Project to Apply For?

• Identify the community’s risks.

• Identify the community’s mitigation needs.

• Determine project service area to identify project beneficiaries.

• Consider mitigation projects and project types already identified in a currently adopted local or regional plan.

• Review Scoring Competition Criteria ([LINK](#)) and select projects that may score the highest.
Applications due:
October 28, 2020 @ 5:00PM

Questions?
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Learn more at:
https://recovery.texas.gov/mitigation/competitions.html