

Board of County Commissioners

Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)

February 25, 2025



Presentation Outline

- CDBG-DR Basics
- Hurricane Ian – Overview
- Program Administration
- Program Implementation
- Hurricane Milton
- Next Steps



CDBG-DR Basics

- CDBG-DR is comprised of federal funds to carry out a wide range of activities related to:
 - Disaster relief
 - Long-term recovery
 - Restoration of infrastructure and housing
 - Economic revitalization
 - Mitigation of risk





CDBG-DR Basics

- **Major goals of CDBG-DR**
 - **Address unmet needs relating to**
 - **Housing (housing repairs, replacement, new construction)**
 - **Infrastructure (water, sewer, drainage, etc.)**
 - **Public Services (job training, mental health counseling, economic development, etc.)**
 - **Improve resiliency through mitigation efforts**
 - **Ensure funding and programs prioritize underserved and vulnerable populations**
- **Project activities must be tied to a specific disaster event**



CDBG-DR Basics

■ Funding guidelines

- At least 70% of the funds must be spent on activities benefitting Low-Moderate Income (LMI) individuals or areas
 - LMI households – \$77,200 for household of 4 (2024 income limits)
 - LMI Areas – census tracts with greater than 50% of households designated as LMI (80% of Area Median Income (AMI))
- At least 15% of funds must be spent for mitigation activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce long-term risk



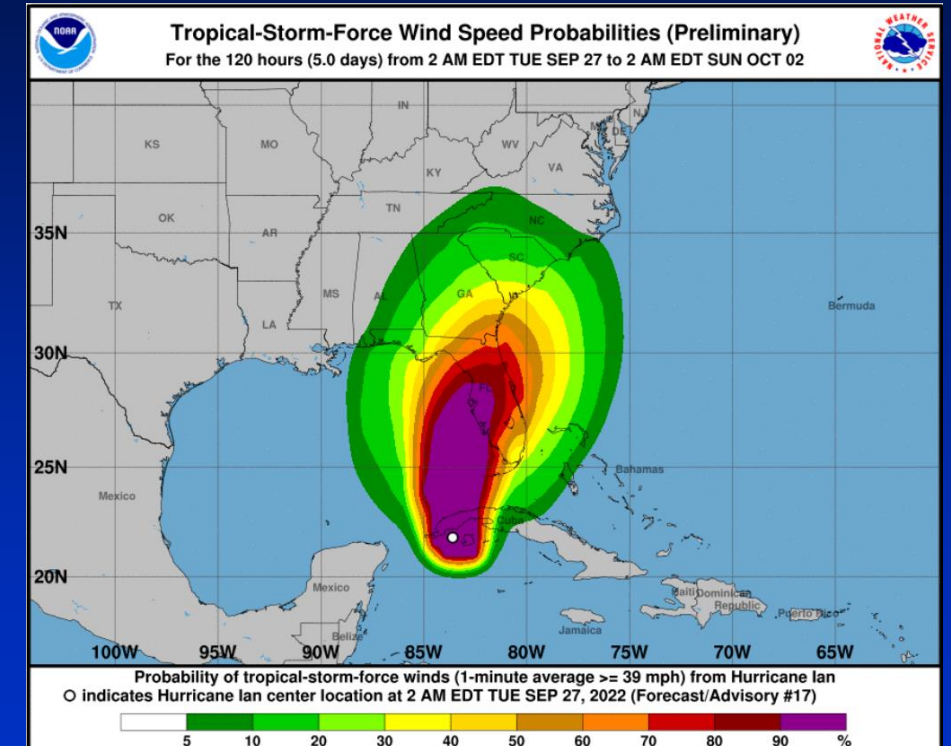
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Hurricane Ian - Overview

- Hurricane Ian (Category 4) event – September 28, 2022
- In 2023, Orange County was allocated \$219,712,000 from HUD to address damages caused by Hurricane Ian.
- On January 9, 2024, the BCC approved the CDBG-DR Action Plan.
- On April 9, 2024, grant agreement was fully executed with HUD.
- The County has until April 2030 to expend the funds.





Hurricane Ian - Overview

- To develop the Action Plan, staff solicited input from Orange County residents, local municipalities, and community stakeholders.
- Community engagement and outreach:
 - citizen participation survey;
 - focus group meetings;
 - 13 community meetings throughout the County
- The final Action Plan included:
 - Unmet needs analysis
 - Citizen input and engagement summary/results
 - Proposed uses of funds





Hurricane Ian - Overview

<u>Category</u>	<u>Remaining Unmet Needs</u>	<u>% of Unmet Needs</u>	<u>Program Allocation</u>	<u>% of Program Funds</u>
Housing (rehab & new housing construction)	\$253,300,768	59.31%	\$108,746,160	49.5%
Infrastructure & Public Facilities	\$160,700,743	37.63%	\$59,322,240	27%
Mitigation			\$28,658,000	13%
Economic Revitalization	\$13,047,152	3.06%	\$0	0%
Public Services (includes economic recovery activities)			\$7,000,000	3.2%
Administration			\$10,985,600	5%
Planning			\$5,000,000	2.3%
TOTAL	\$427,048,663	100%	\$219,712,000	100%



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Program Administration

- Hired 5 full-time County employees for the program, including fiscal staff
- Policies and procedures developed for:
 - Infrastructure and Public Facilities
 - Planning Studies
 - Public Services
- Requests for Applications developed for three (3) activities
- Technical assistance sessions held for potential applicants



Program Administration

- Environmental review process for projects/activities started
- CDBG-DR website is regularly updated (www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR)
- Monthly newsletter published by the program staff
- Continuous coordination with Local Mitigation Strategy Working group
- Regular updates to the Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB)
- Board approved the selection of a general consultant (HORNE) on November 19, 2024, to assist with:
 - Grant management
 - Staff augmentation
 - Program implementation



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Program Implementation

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Program Implementation

Competitive Request for Applications (RFAs)

- Two RFAs were made available on December 10, 2024, to Orange County Departments and Divisions and local municipalities:
 - 1) Infrastructure and Public Facilities (\$59M), and Mitigation (\$28M) Programs
 - 2) Planning Studies Program (\$5M)
- Notice of Funding Availability was published in newspapers and on the program website; email notifications sent to all municipalities and County Departments/Divisions
- The program website was updated with detailed information



Program Implementation

- **Infrastructure and Public Facilities Program** include:

- Flood and drainage related repairs and improvements
- Storm water management projects
- Water and sewer projects
- Rehabilitation/construction of public facilities

- **Eligible Applicants**

- Orange County Departments and Divisions
- Local Municipalities
- Non-Profit Agencies (2nd RFA will be available at a later date)

- **Subtotal: \$59,322,240**

- **Max Award Amount: \$15,000,000 per project**





Program Implementation

■ Mitigation

- Does not require a tie-back to Hurricane Ian
- Must be used to increase resiliency from future disasters

■ Eligible Applicants

- Orange County Departments and Divisions
- Local Municipalities

■ Subtotal: **\$28,658,000**



727.520.8181
www.aerophoto.com

Orlo Vista Flood Mitigation Y227009

Image # 54
Date 01.16.25



Program Implementation

- **Planning Studies**
- **Use of Funds**
 - Provides CDBG-DR funding to conduct comprehensive planning activities that prioritize data-driven mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate long-term disaster risks and promote County initiatives
- **Eligible Applicants**
 - Orange County Departments and Divisions
 - Local Municipalities
- **Subtotal: \$5,000,000**
- **Max Award Amount: \$500,000 per project/activity**



Program Implementation

Competitive Request for Applications (RFAs)

- Both RFAs closed on February 5, 2025.
- A total of 17 applications submitted
 - Orange County (6 projects)
 - City of Ocoee (3 projects)
 - City of Orlando (4 projects)
 - City of Winter Garden (1 project)
 - City of Winter Park (2 projects)
 - Town of Eatonville (1 project)
- Projects include:
 - Drainage improvements
 - Stormwater mitigation
 - Basin studies





Program Implementation

Competitive Request for Applications (RFAs)

- Applications will be reviewed and scored by an evaluation committee, with some members recommended by the Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group.
- The Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) will review the committee's recommendations
- Final funding recommendations to be presented to the BCC in May 2025



Program Implementation

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Program Implementation

Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program

- \$35M allocated in the CDBG-DR Action Plan budget
- Aims to fulfill outstanding housing recovery needs by repairing, replacing, or reconstructing owner-occupied structures, including manufactured homes, affected by Hurricane Ian.
- Primary objective is to provide a safe and sanitary home to all eligible applicants.





Program Implementation

Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program Construction Standards (Sustainability)

- Construction will comply with Green and Resilient building standards for:
 - New construction and reconstruction of housing
 - All rehabilitation activities of substantially damaged residential buildings
- Emphasis on high-quality, durable, sustainable, and energy-efficient construction methods and materials
- For rehabilitation projects, the County will follow the HUD Green Building Retrofit Checklist to the extent feasible and applicable to repair work undertaken.



Program Implementation

Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program

- Program development
 - Policies and procedures
 - Standard operating procedures
 - Intake documentation
 - Income verification
 - Duplication of benefits
 - Eligibility criteria
 - Marketing materials



Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program

Award Type	Award Cap
Housing Rehabilitation	\$250,000
Housing Reconstruction	\$375,000
Housing Replacement (modular/mobile)	\$200,000



Program Implementation

Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program Eligibility Criteria

- Must have owned the property at the time of Hurricane Ian
- Must also currently own the property and use it as primary residence
- Low-to-moderate income households
- Unrepaired storm damage
- Mortgage in good standing
- Property taxes current or on a payment plan



Program Implementation

Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program

- The program is set to launch March 5, 2025
- Program components include:
 - Branding
 - Media campaign
 - Outreach and marketing
 - Online application portal





Program Implementation

Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program – How to Apply

- Online via www.orangecountyrecovers.com
- Mobile device
- Outreach events
- For more information, call: 321-382-3514





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Program Implementation

Public Services – Request for Applications (RFAs)

- RFA to open for qualified non-profits early March 2025.
- Notice of Funding Availability to be published in the newspapers, distributed via email, and posted on the Program website
- Eligible services include:
 - Self-sufficiency services
 - Health and mental health services
 - Job training and placement
- Pre-Award Technical Assistance Workshop will be held to go over the eligibility requirements and the application process.



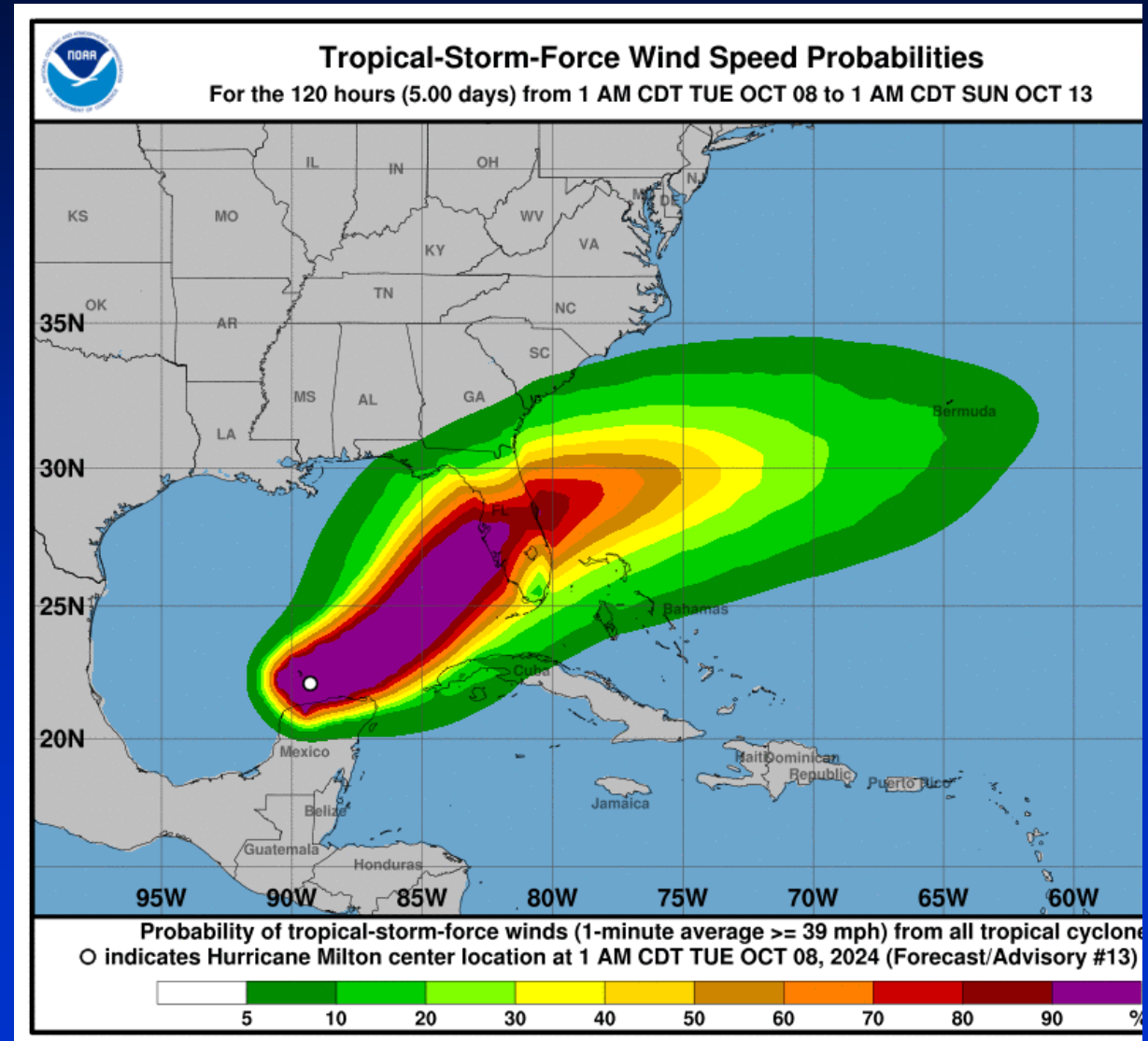
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New CDBG-DR Allocation for Hurricane Milton

- In January 2025, HUD announced \$12 billion allocation to states and local governments for major disasters that took place in 2023 or 2024.
- Orange County was allocated \$33,357,000.
- The County must develop a new Action Plan.





Hurricane Milton – Action Plan

- HUD simplified the submittal process for an action plan but shortened the timeframe.
- The Action Plan must be submitted to HUD within 90 days of the allocation announcement notice/effective date (by April 21, 2025).
- HUD approved an additional 30-day extension request allowing the County to submit the Action Plan by May 21, 2025.
- A grant agreement for Milton funds will not be executed until HUD approves the Action Plan.



Hurricane Milton – Action Plan

- As part of the Action Plan development, the County needs to:
 - Analyze FEMA and SBA data
 - Conduct community engagement and outreach:
 - County Departments/Divisions and local municipalities;
 - Public Housing Authorities (PHAs);
 - Community partners (non-profit agencies, homeless service providers, and grassroots organizations, etc.);
 - County residents (Town hall meetings)
- Develop a proposed budget for programs to meet the unmet needs identified through data analysis and community input.



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Next Steps

Hurricane Ian Action Plan Amendment

- The approved CDBG-DR Action Plan for Hurricane Ian is being amended to:
 - reflect changes to the Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program (eligibility, max award amounts, affordability periods);
 - include additional national objectives (slum and blight, urgent need).
- Public comment period for proposed changes: 2/17 – 3/19
- The proposed amendment to the CDBG-DR Action Plan will be presented to the BCC for approval on 3/25.



Next Steps

Hurricane Ian

- **March 5, 2025:** Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program set to launch
- **March 2025:** RFA for Public Services to open for qualified non-profits.
- **Spring/Summer 2025:** Launch the remaining CDBG-DR programs, to include Public Facilities and Infrastructure (for non-profit agencies), Rental Housing Rehabilitation, and New Affordable Housing Construction.



Next Steps

Hurricane Milton

- **February/March 2025:** Conduct community engagement and outreach
- **Late March 2025:** Complete a draft Action Plan
- **April/May 2025:** Draft Action Plan available for a public comment period
- **May 2025:** Action Plan presented to the BCC, and submitted to HUD for review and approval