



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
400 WORCESTER RD., FRAMINGHAM, MA 01702-5399 508-820-2000 FAX 508-820-1404

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET, SUITE 600-700, BOSTON, MA 02114-2104 617-626-1250 FAX 617-626-1449



Kurt N. Schwartz
DIRECTOR

Deval L. Patrick
GOVERNOR

John P. Murray
COMMISSIONER

April 23, 2014

To Grant Applicants:

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) are pleased to announce the opening of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) **2014 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Programs**.

Why should this information be important to you? These federally-funded hazard mitigation grant programs provide significant opportunities to reduce, minimize or eliminate potential damages to public and private infrastructure from natural hazard events. Funding for hazard mitigation plans and projects can reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing the reliance on taxpayer-funded federal disaster assistance for disaster recovery.

- *Who's eligible to apply?* State & local governments and tribal organizations.
- *What type of work is eligible?* Storm-water, drainage and culvert improvements, property acquisition, slope stabilization, infrastructure protection, seismic and wind retrofits, structure elevations, hazard mitigation planning, etc.
- *How much federal funding is available?* For FY 2014, the total amount of Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant funding available nationally is \$23,000,000 and the total amount of Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant funding available nationally is \$89,000,000. Funds will be distributed on a competitive basis.
- *What is the grant cost share?* Funding reimbursement is typically 75% federal share, 25% non-federal match of eligible project costs (in most cases); 'in-kind' services are allowable as part of the non-federal match. For FMA the federal cost share is now up to 100% of eligible costs for repetitive loss properties.
- To be eligible for FEMA hazard mitigation project grants, applicants must have a locally-adopted and FEMA-approved Local Natural Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (in accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations Part 201) by the deadline.
- Detailed grant briefings & technical assistance opportunities are available prior to application deadline.
- **The State-established deadline for complete, full grant applications (via FEMA's eGrants system) is 3:00pm, Wednesday, July 9, 2014.**

FEMA's hazard mitigation grant programs are not intended as a source of funding for repair, replacement or deferred maintenance activities, but are designed to assist sub-applicants to develop long-term, cost-effective improvements that will reduce or eliminate risk to people and property from the effects of natural hazards. Projects that address operation, deferred or future maintenance, repairs or replacement (without a change in the level of protection provided) of existing structures, facilities,

or infrastructure (e.g., dredging, debris removal, replacement of obsolete utility systems, bridges and facility repair and rehabilitation) are not eligible mitigation grant activities.

FEMA's PDM and FMA grant programs provide funds to states, territories, Indian tribal governments, and communities for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of hazard mitigation projects prior to a disaster event. MEMA and DCR co-administer these grant programs on behalf of FEMA in the Commonwealth and encourage you to consider applying for grant funding to mitigate natural hazards that may impact your jurisdiction. For your information, this grant notice has been sent via letter to the local chief elected and/or administrative official, emergency manager, and public works director. Other departments in your community may have also received this notice via email. Communities must coordinate local project applications with other local officials.

To assist potential sub-applicants considering applying for FEMA mitigation funding, MEMA/DCR will be hosting three grant program briefings and a state-wide conference call. The briefings and conference call will provide an overview of the programs, available funding, relevant application process and deadlines. Interested sub-applicants are strongly encouraged to attend one of these briefings as the grant programs will be described in detail. Information can also be found on the 'Disaster Recovery & Mitigation' section of the MEMA website (www.mass.gov/mema).

To register for a briefing, please email to Beth.Dubrawski@State.ma.us, 508-820-1425.

Grant Program Briefing & Overview - Live Presentation

Thursday May 15, 2014 (9:30am-11:30am)
MEMA Region 1 EOC
365 East St., Tewksbury MA

Wednesday May 21, 2014 (9:30am-11:30am)
MEMA Region 2 EOC
12 Administration Rd., Bridgewater MA

Tuesday May 20, 2014 (9:30am-11:30am)
MEMA Region 4 - Holden Public Safety
Complex 1370 Main St., Holden MA

Tuesday May 20, 2014 (2:30pm-4:00pm)
MEMA Region 3 - Lee Ambulance
177 Main St., Lee MA

State-wide Conference Call

Thursday May 22, 2014 (9:00am-11:00am)

Call-In # (267) 507-0370

Passcode # 25524508

Please register to receive the slides in advance.

To learn more about the guidelines which govern this opportunity, the FEMA program guidance for the multi-hazard, Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) is available in the FEMA Library and applies to the FY14 HMA application cycle. The complete 2013 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance and addendum documents are available from the FEMA website at: <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7851>. Please be sure to download both files to obtain the complete guidance.

Interested applicants are encouraged to coordinate with MEMA/DCR early in the application development process to ensure that proposed mitigation projects are FEMA-eligible activities. Technical assistance is available to all potential sub-applicants by appointment only, please contact Beth.Dubrawski@State.ma.us to schedule an appointment. The point of contact for your MEMA region is listed at the bottom of this document. The State Hazard Mitigation Team will work with eligible sub-applicants to determine the most appropriate mitigation grant program(s) for their project

proposal. Communities can submit multiple grant applications but each project must demonstrate cost-effective hazard mitigation benefits independent of other applications.

MEMA is the conduit for all applications and FEMA funding, and is required to review and rank all the individual sub-applications that are ultimately submitted to FEMA for funding consideration. To allow sufficient time for review, the evaluation process, and submission of these applications to FEMA for these nationally competitive programs by mid-July, 2014 applications must be submitted to MEMA (via FEMA's eGrants system) **by the sub-application deadline of 3:00pm, Wednesday, July 9, 2014.**

Generally, once MEMA submits the applications to FEMA there will be no opportunity to revise, amend or submit additional supporting project information. It is important that each applicant understand that this grant program is competitive and FEMA will not be able to fund all project requests submitted for funding consideration.

Some grant program requirements to be aware of (please attend the grant briefing and refer to the HMA Program Guidance for more specific sub-applicant and project eligibility requirements):

- **Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Requirement:** To be eligible for HMA project grants, applicants must have a locally adopted and FEMA-approved Local Natural Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (in accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations Part 201) by deadline.
- **Non-Federal Cost Share Requirement:** Sub-applicants must commit to the non-federal share of the proposed application cost; depending on the grant program this can range between 10% to 25% (or more) of the total estimated project cost.
- All proposed project applications must include a formal Benefit-Cost Analysis (using FEMA-approved Benefit-Cost Analysis Version 4.8 or 5.0 software) to document the project's cost-effectiveness. Planning applications do not have a BCA requirement.
- Community participation in the **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)**, may also be a requirement for sub-applicant and project eligibility (see 2013 HMA Guidance for additional details).

Application and Technical Assistance Points of Contact

David Woodbury
Hazard Mitigation Grants Coordinator
for MEMA Regions I & II
MA Emergency Management Agency
400 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01702
(508) 820-2034
David.Woodbury@state.ma.us

Dan Nietsche
Hazard Mitigation Grants Coordinator
for MEMA Regions III & IV
MA Emergency Management Agency
400 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01702
(508) 820-2016
Dan.Nietsche@state.ma.us