

SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT- DECLARED DISASTER RECOVERY

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.105(c), and with significant feedback from the public and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Office of Community Development of the City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge parish offers this revised and updated amendment to the 2016 Action Plan to reallocate funding from one activity to another under CDBG-DDRF.

Substantial Amendment #3 to the 2016 Action Plan related to HUD CDBG Declared Disaster Recovery Fund (CDBG-DDRF) Allocation

In August of 2016, the Great Flood devastated a large swath of Louisiana. The City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish were particularly hard-hit, with thousands of families, businesses and congregations severely damaged and many displaced.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) previously approved disaster housing recovery plans for funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) totaling \$11,065,556.00.

Proposed Changes to the 2016 Action Plan (AP)

Reduce Funding: 2016 AP Project #28, “DDRF-Housing Repairs/Reconstruction” reduce funding to reallocate dollars to another project activity. These funds were originally allocated to assist a designated population. However, in order to streamline services and reduce duplication, participants in this project activity are served by the state program, Restore Louisiana, and these funds will be reduced from \$3,500,000 to \$200,000. The remaining \$200,000 will be used for project delivery costs.

Increase Funding: 2016 AP Project #29, “DDRF-Rental Housing Repairs/Lease” increase funding create more affordable rental units based on continued program demand and community need for affordable rental units. Funding is to be increased from \$5,237,689.28 to \$8,537,689.28.

Project Number	Project Name	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Change
28	DDRF-Housing Repairs/Reconstruction	\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	- 3,300,000
29	DDRF-Rental Housing Repairs/Lease	\$ 5,237,689.28	\$ 8,537,689.28	+ 3,300,000
31	DDRF-Emergency Shelter Provision	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	0
32	DDRF-BR General Administration	\$ 553,277.80	\$ 553,277.80	0
33	DDRF-State General Administration	\$ 774,588.92	\$ 774,588.92	0

*Please see the “Overview” section below for additional details on 2016 Action Plan CDBG-DDRF Projects:

Overview

Outlined below is the housing recovery plan to be made available for public comment and open for public feedback.

I. DDRF -Housing Repairs/Reconstruction

The Baton Rouge City-Parish Assisted Rebuild Program

Goals

1. Promote homeownership retention and housing stability for flood survivors in the City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish;
2. Includes only homeowners that are currently served by the City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish, either by mortgages that are underwritten by the City-Parish or who had been previously wait listed by the City-Parish for homeowner repair assistance.

Program Design

The City-Parish currently provides direct services to homeowners. Our plan is to serve the current clientele of the City-Parish Office of Community Development. In response to the flood, the City-Parish will implement the Baton Rouge City-Parish Assisted Rebuild Program to cover eligible repairs caused by the flood or replacement of the damage be repaired. The Baton Rouge Homeowners Program is designed to complement, not duplicate, the State of Louisiana’s homeowner recovery program. Homeowners will work with a program-managed contractor to be eligible for assistance. This program is not open enrollment.

Homeowners that are not included in this program are encouraged to seek assistance through the State of Louisiana’s homeowner assistance programs.

II. DDRF-Rental Housing Repairs/Lease

Scatter Site Rental Rehab Program

Goals

1. Provide access to safe, decent, affordable rental housing;
2. Promote a diversity of rental housing resources, including rental homes outside of the flood plain;
3. Ensure that rental housing is connected to amenities and services;
4. Promote housing stability for low to moderate income survivors that may have rented before the floods; and
5. Stabilize neighborhoods by bringing rentals back into commerce.

Baton Rouge ReBuilds Multifamily Program

The City-Parish is working with a wide range of equity investment, philanthropic, and community development partners to leverage scant resources and maximize the impact of flood

recovery funds for low to moderate income renters that have been displaced by the floods. The plan draws upon leveraging the richness of the non-profit, mission-based community, as well as private investment partners. The Baton Rouge ReBuilds Program will provide financing to nonprofit, mission-based developers working in partnership with a range of collaborators and investors. The program's objectives are as follows: (a) to finance the rehabilitation of apartment units; (b) to ensure physical and economic viability; and (c) to achieve new affordability within the marketplace.

Scatter Site Rebuilding Program Overview

Before the flood, a large portion of low income and other working families lived in small rental properties - single-family homes, "doubles" and small, multi-family buildings - that were owned and operated by small-scale owners that do not have the cash flow to finance the rehabilitation of flood-damaged units. A sizeable number of these properties were underinsured or uninsured and no longer available for occupancy. The City-Parish will provide financial assistance to small rental property owners so that they may effectively return affordable and "ready to be occupied" units to the rental housing market.

1. The primary purpose of this grant program is to ensure access to rental housing for low to moderate income; and
2. Return small-scale rental properties of up to 7 units to the market while limiting the amount of debt (and therefore debt service) required for the properties so that the owners are able to charge affordable rents for low to moderate income households.

III. DDRF-Emergency Shelter Provision

Goals

1. Promote housing stability for flood survivors in the City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish with an emphasis on safe, inclusive housing no more than 10 miles from a survivor's pre-flood residence;
2. Permit participants to sustain social networks and obligations, including school enrollment for minor children, employment, significant healthcare delivery, substantive family relations, and other safety net aspects of original communities.

Program Design

If homeless households do not access housing interventions, they will require shelter. However, the shelter system simply cannot accommodate large number of new households. The City-Parish program is designed to complement, rather than duplicate, state efforts to meet the needs of our homeless population, including support for emergency shelter provisions.

Public Participation

The City's Citizen Participation Plan includes 30-day comment period. which allows reasonable opportunity for citizen comments and ongoing citizen access how the additional grants funds will be used. The notice will be issued as a legal notice posted in the Baton Rouge newspaper and on

OCD's website. All comments and views of citizens received in writing or via the Internet will be considered in preparation of the Substantial Amendment.

Public comments regarding the amendment will be accepted starting May 2nd and ending May 31st. A public hearing will be held on May 23rd at the EBR Metro Council meeting. A summary of these comments and views will be attached to the substantial amendment.

A draft of the amendment is available online at <https://www.brla.gov/863/Plans-Reports> and for review at the City-Parish Office of Community Development located at 222 St. Louis Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 and may be examined from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Comments must be submitted to the City of Baton Rouge/Parish of East Baton Rouge Office of Community Development located at 222 St. Louis Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 before 4:00 p.m. on May 31st, 2018. Comments may also be submitted via email to ocd@brgov.com.

Persons requiring reasonable accommodations to either view the file or submit comments are requested to contact City of Baton Rouge/ Parish of East Baton Rouge Office of Community Development at 225-389-3039 or TDD 301-833-5428.

Attachment: Public Notice #2

Public Notice
City of Baton Rouge-East Baton Rouge Parish

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.105(c), and with significant feedback from the public, the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Office of Community Development of the City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge parish offers this revised and updated substantial amendment to the 2016 Action Plan to reallocate funding from one activity to another under CDBG-DDRF.

The Baton Rouge City-Parish Substantial Amendment to the 2016 Action Plan will be available for another period of public comment, beginning May 1st and ending May 30th. A copy of the Annual Action Plan and this amendment to the plan is available online at <http://brgov.com/dept/ocd/announcements.htm> or at the Office of Community Development, 222 St. Louis Street, 7th Floor, Baton Rouge.

The proposed plan allocates \$11,065,556.00 in declared disaster recovery funds as follows: \$200,000.00 to housing repairs for homeowners in the City-Parish closed homeowner category; \$8,537,689.28 to rental housing repairs; \$1,000,000.00 to emergency shelter provisions; \$774,588.92 to sub-recipient administration and \$553,277.80 for City-Parish administration.

Project Number	Project Name	Project Budget
28	DDRF-Housing Repairs/Reconstruction	\$200,000
29	DDRF-Rental Housing Repairs/Lease	\$8,537,689.28
31	DDRF-Emergency Shelter Provision	\$1,000,000
32	DDRF-BR General Administration	\$553,277.80
33	DDRF-State General Administration	\$774,588.92

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