

Helping North Carolina Prepare for Future Storms with CDBG-MIT Funds

In 2018, the U.S. Congress created Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds to help states impacted by disasters that happened from 2015 to 2017. In August 2019, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the rules for how states can use CDBG-MIT funds. Because of damage from storms like Hurricane Matthew, HUD made \$168 million in CDBG-MIT funds available to North Carolina.

UNDERSTANDING MITIGATION

Mitigation helps communities lessen the impacts of disasters by reducing or eliminating the long-term risk of death, injury, property loss or damage, suffering and hardship. Mitigation activities can include:

- **Public Infrastructure:** Reduces risks for flood, fire, wind and other hazards.
- **Affordable Housing:** Increases available affordable housing in lower-risk areas of communities affected by storms.
- **Property Buyouts:** Reduces risk from future flooding in floodways, 100-year flood plains or Disaster Risk Reduction Areas by purchasing property at risk of future damage and converting it to green space.
- **Planning:** Helps develop land use plans and make upgrades to mapping and data systems. Planning can also help reduce the amount residents pay for flood insurance each year.

HOW FUNDING CAN BE USED

There are several ways to use CDBG-MIT funds, but HUD has some rules that states must follow when working with local governments and residents to protect communities from future disasters. North Carolina must:

- Spend at least half of the funds to benefit areas that were the most affected by Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Florence.
- Use at least 50% of the funds for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income residents.

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY PREPARE FOR FUTURE STORMS

Local governments, businesses, residents and other community members are encouraged to share feedback on how CDBG-MIT funds can help the most people and protect the most at-risk areas. Submit your comments to publiccomments@rebuild.nc.gov.

Learn more at <https://www.rebuild.nc.gov>.