

## **Public Comment Period – Substantial Amendment**

We need your input once again. Here's some background:

We're asking you how to best spend some newly acquired federal disaster recovery funds, but first we want to give you some context.

In 2022, the federal department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated Kentucky \$74,953,000 in funding to help us recover from the tornadoes and flooding that struck Kentucky in 2021. The funding comes through the federal Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program. You will see it referred to as the CDBG-DR program, or simply as the "Disaster Recovery" program.

In January of 2023, HUD officially announced that Kentucky would receive an additional \$48,983,000 in CDBG-DR funds to help us recover from the tornadoes and floods of 2021. This means that, in total, Kentucky will have \$123,936,000 to address the natural disasters of 2021.

DLG had already begun the process of developing an "Action Plan" to determine how to best spend the initial funding when the additional funds were announced. The initial Action Plan, which has already been approved by HUD, overviews how we'll spend the \$74,953,000. This Action Plan can be found <a href="here">here</a>. We incorporated input from affected communities in our Action Plan to make sure we listened to the needs of the people who will benefit from the funding.

Here's where we need your help, again.

We are gathering public input to help us best determine how to spend the additional \$48,983,000 in funding. Our plan is <u>here</u>. We want to hear what you think about our plan.

The public comment period runs through 4:30 p.m. on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Please send written comments via email to <u>DLG.DR@ky.gov</u> or mail to <u>Department</u> for Local Government Office of Federal Grants 100 Airport Road, 3rd floor, Frankfort, KY 40601 ATTN: Office of Federal Grants DR Team. Reach out to us at <u>DLG.DR@ky.gov</u> with any questions.

## Here's a road map:

In this document, the initial \$74,953,000 allocation is referred to as the May 2022 Allocation and the Initial Allocation. The additional \$48,983,000 allocation is referred to as the January 2023 Allocation and the New Allocation.

Another term you will see is "MID". That stands for Most Impacted and Distressed area. In the 2021 natural disasters, Kentucky has four "MID" counties: Breathitt, Graves, Hopkins and Warren. According to federal guidelines, 80% of the \$123,936,000 must go to the MID counties. The additional 20% can go to 36 other counties eligible for funding. A full breakdown of eligible counties can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

## **Applications:**

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, DLG will begin accepting applications to build back homes, rental properties, and build new multifamily rental properties.

On June 1, DLG will be accepting applications for public infrastructure like roads and bridges, as well as building new homes.

Approved projects will be funded by the \$123,936,000 in CDBG-DR funds to help Kentucky recover from the 2021 disasters.