DISASTER RECOVERY INITIATIVE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5051-N-01]

Federal Register / Volume 71, Number 29

Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-148)

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT-DISASTER RECOVERY UNIT,

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

STATE OF LOUISIANA SUBSTANTIAL ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT NO.70 FOR THE UTILIZATION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS IN RESPONSE TO HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA FIRST APPROPRIATION

Public Comment Period: June 23, 2021 – July 6, 2021

Submitted to HUD: July 7, 2021

HUD Approved: August 19, 2021

John Bel Edwards Governor

Billy Nungesser Lieutenant Governor

Jay Dardenne
Commissioner of Administration

I. Overview

This Action Plan Amendment No. 70 amends allocations to the Environmental Clearance; Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant; Bridge Loan; Technical Assistance to Small Firms; and Local Government Infrastructure Programs.

Program	Previous Total	Reallocation	Proposed Total	% Change
Environmental Clearance	\$5,283,475.00	(\$39,208.19)	\$5,244,266.81	(<1%)
Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program	\$7,412,000.00	(\$28,945.82)	\$7,383,054.18	(<1%)
Bridge Loan Program	\$7,259,506.00	(\$1,133,569.83)	\$6,125,936.17	(15.61%)
Technical Assistance to Small Firms Program	\$10,925,000.00	(\$1,085,366.05)	\$9,839,633.95	(9.93%)
Local Government	\$139,358,671.15	\$2,287,089.89	\$141,645,761.04	1.64%
Total:	\$170,238,652.15	\$0	\$170,238,652.15	

II. Reallocation of funds for existing programs

A. Environmental Clearance

The Environmental Clearance budget is reduced to \$5,244,266.81 because funds have been deobligated from activities that are completed and closed out. This program was created in the Initial Action Plan and amended in Amendment 42.

B. Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program

The Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program budget is reduced to \$7,383,0564.18 because funds have been de-obligated from activities that are complete and in the closeout process. This program was created in Action Plan Amendment 2 and amended in Amendments 8, 13, 15, 17, 34, 40, 41, 54 and 62.

C. Bridge Loan Program

The Bridge Loan Program budget is reduced to \$6,125,936.17 because funds have been deobligated from activities that are completed and closed out. This program was created in the Initial Action Plan and amended in Amendments 8 and 40.

D. <u>Technical Assistance to Small Firms Program</u>

The Technical Assistance to Small Firms budget is reduced to \$9,839,633.95 because funds have been de-obligated from activities that are completed and closed out. This program was created in the Action Plan Amendment 2 and amended in Amendment 34.

E. Local Government Infrastructure Program

The Local Government Infrastructure budget is increased to \$141,645,761.04 in order to fund an eligible activity to continue to meet the ongoing critical recovery needs of public entities. This program was created in the Initial Action Plan Amendment and amended in Amendments 2, 15, 19, 25, 41, 48, 49, 53, 54, and 67.

III. Public Comment

Per the state's Initial Action Plan, this Amendment is considered substantial as it reallocates more than 15% of funds from the Bridge Loan Program. The formal public comment period for the plan was Wed., June 23, 2021 through Tues., July 6, 2021 at 5 p.m. CT. The state did not receive any comments.

Citizens and organizations could comment on this amendment via:

- The OCD-DRU website, http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ocd-dru/Action Plans.aspx;
- Emailing them to <u>ocd@la.gov</u>;
- Mailing them to Disaster Recovery Unit, P.O. Box 94095, 70804-9095, Attn: Janice Lovett; or
- Faxing them to the attention of Janice Lovett at (225) 219-9605.

The plan was available in Spanish and Vietnamese to reach the limited English proficiency citizens in the impacted areas. Citizens with disabilities or those who need other technical assistance could contact the OCD-DRU office for assistance via the methods listed above.