

Round 1: Local and Regional Projects Grant Program

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LOUISIANA **WATERSHED** INITIATIVE

working together for sustainability and resilience



- Briefing Objectives
- What is the Louisiana Watershed Initiative?
- Round 1 Program Essentials:
 - How much funding is available and how will it be awarded?
 - Who is eligible to apply for funding under Round 1?
 - What kinds of projects are eligible?
 - How, when and where can we apply?
- Questions



Guiding Principles: Louisiana Watershed Initiative

SCIENTIFIC TOOLS AND APPROACHES

TRANSPARENT AND OBJECTIVE DECISION MAKING

MAXIMIZE NATURAL FUNCTION OF FLOODPLAINS

REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT







The federal government has awarded Louisiana \$1.2 billion in HUD CDBG-Mitigation funds to support the LWI.

Louisiana Council on Watershed Management







LOUISIANA WATERSHED INITIATIVE WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

Draft Action Plan

- \$1.2 billion in CDBG-MIT funds to reduce statewide flood risk
- Focus on investing in mitigation activities and improving development standards
- Includes more than \$970 million for watershed projects and programs, as well as funding for improved data gathering and scientific modeling
- Funding for local and regional projects includes three rounds of funding totaling \$570 million

3 FUNDING ROUNDS

- Round 1: up to \$100
 million to be awarded
 as soon as possible
- Round 2: up to \$200 million to be awarded by 2022
- Round 3: \$270 million to be awarded in 2024 or later



Regional Steering Committees Sharing Responsibility for Resilient Decision-Making and Implementation

- Part of the Regional Capacity Grant Program
- Organized within watershed regions
- Temporary will meet for up to one year
- Between 11 and 19 residents with diverse areas of expertise
- Goal: Will identify common resilience values and select a long-term governing structures



Round 1 Program Timeline

Event	Date
Notice of funding availability issued	Nov. 22
Technical assistance opportunities for pre-application	Dec. 2 – 11
Pre-application due	Dec. 20
Full application form released	Jan. 17
Technical assistance opportunities for full application	Jan. 20 – Feb. 14
Full application due	March 27
State selects projects to fund (up to \$60 million total)	April 24
Regional selection process (up to \$5 million per region)	By July



Round 1 Program Essentials



Objectives:

- Low-risk, high-impact projects
- Mitigate flood-risk
- Regional collaboration

UP TO \$100 MILLION AVAILABLE

Up to \$60 Million

State-selected projects

Up to \$40 Million

Regional selection process (up to \$5 million per region)



Implementation-Ready Projects

WHAT DOES "IMPLEMENTATION-READY" MEAN?

- Project is not at the conceptual stage
- Project has undergone some degree of feasibility analysis or design
- Can include a project that has been designed but not yet constructed (and may still need permits)



Program Description

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Any public entity in Louisiana
- Must have jurisdiction and/or authority to implement, operate and maintain project
- Must demonstrate capacity to serve as a CDBG-MIT subrecipient

APPLICATION PROCESS





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Allowable Activities ROUND 1 LOCAL AND REGIONAL PROJECTS PROGRAM

REQUIREMENTS

- Must increase flood resilience
- Must benefit most-impacted and distressed areas identified in Action Plan



Maximum award: \$10 million

Minimum award: \$500,000

EXAMPLES INCLUDE

- Floodplain restoration and preservation
- Flood storage
- Flood mitigation for critical infrastructure and facilities
- Physical, non-structural mitigation
- Stormwater management, such as green and gray infrastructure
- Innovative and replicable mitigation



What are the Most Impacted and Distressed areas?

- HUD identified 10 MID areas: East Baton Rouge, Livingston, Ascension, Tangipahoa, Ouachita, Lafayette, Vermilion, Acadia, Washington and St. Tammany parishes
- Louisiana identifies 46 additional MID areas in the proposed Action Plan





Pre-Application: Disqualifying Factors

- Applicant is not an eligible entity
- Proposed project is not an eligible activity
- Proposed project does not mitigate flood risk
- Proposed project has potential to increase flooding in surrounding areas
- Proposed project does not demonstrate a benefit to a HUD- or Louisiana-identified MID





LWI Scoring Criteria

MAXIMUM OF 100 TOTAL POINTS

SOCIAL BENEFITS, 12 PTS MAX

Benefit to low- and moderate-income populations	7
Economic opportunity	3
Outdoor recreational resources	2

ENHANCEMENT OF NATURAL FUNCTIONS, 15 PTS MAX

Natural hydrology improvements	5
Water quality improvements	5
Improvement to aquatic/floodplain habitat	5

MID AREAS, 16 PTS MAX

EFFECTIVENESS IN MINIMIZING RISK, 44 PTS MAX

Risk reduction value	20	
Future flood risk considerations	2	
Upstream and downstream flood effects	2	
Passivity and reliability	2	
Multi-jurisdictional risk reduction benefits	4	
Enhanced protection of critical lifelines	3	
Avoided damages/losses	2	
Adaptability to higher flood levels	2	
Replicability	2	
Project design life	3	
Historical/archeological/geological impacts	2	
PROJECT COST AND IMPLEMENTATION, 13 PTS MAX		
Fund match	1	
Annual costs	2	
Implementation timeframe	2	
Project stage of development	3	
Operations and maintenance	1	
Consistency with other projects or plans	1	
Applicant capacity/previous experience managing federal grant funding	3	



LWI Scoring Criteria

EFFECTIVENESS IN MINIMIZING RISK, 44 PTS MAX

LVI Sconny Chien	Risk reduction value	20
MAXIMUM OF	Future flood risk considerations Upstream and downstream flood effects Passivity and reliability	2 2 2
100 TOTAL PROUND 1	PROJECTS SHOULD:	
 Reduce flor Be implem Benefit LN Enhance r 	od risk entation-ready II populations atural functions of the floodplain	
Natural hydrology improvements Water quality improvements Improvement to aquatic/floodplain habitat MID AREAS, 16 PTS MAX	5Annual costs5Implementation timeframe5Project stage of development5Operations and maintenanceConsistency with other projects or plansApplicant capacity/previous experience managing federationfunding	2 2 3 1 1 1 srant 3



What should applicants consider?





Ineligible Activities

- Maintenance of existing systems or deferred maintenance
- Emergency response services
- Construction has started prior to the execution of the funding agreement
- Does not mitigate current and expected future flood risk
- Increases flooding conditions in areas upstream, downstream or adjacent to the project area
- Benefits a privately owned utility
- Negative impact on archeological, historical or environmentally sensitive areas
- Enlargement of a dam or levee



Example Project Types Mitigation Actions

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Floodplain Restoration and Preservation

EXAMPLES INCLUDE

- Floodplain reforestation
- Floodplain expansion/benching
- Stream restoration
- Wetlands/marshland restoration/creation
- Conservation easements/land acquisition
- Riparian buffers





Flood Storage

EXAMPLES INCLUDE

- Detention basin
- Retention basin
- Bundled upstream projects



Retention pond in The Hollows of Dutchtown subdivision, Ascension Parish, LA





Critical Facilities and Infrastructure Flood Mitigation

EXAMPLES INCLUDE

Asset or system flood mitigation

- Elevation or relocation
- Hardening
- Redundancies (i.e., backup power supply)
- Facility/structure flood mitigation
- Wet/dry flood proofing
- Relocation
- Grounds flood mitigation
- Drainage
- Levee or floodwall



Stormwater drainage infrastructure in the parking lot of St. Bernard Parish Hospital

Physical Non-Structural Mitigation EXAMPLES INCLUDE

- Elevation
- Voluntary acquisition
- Reconstruction
- Relocation
- Wet/dry-floodproofing (commercial only)

Stormwater Management: Gray Infrastructure EXAMPLES INCLUDE

- Storm drain and culvert improvements
- Hardened channels
- Floodgates/flap gates
- Removal of impediments/ constrictions

Stormwater Management: Green Infrastructure EXAMPLES INCLUDE

- Stream daylighting
- Permeable pavement
- Green roofs
- Bioswales/stormwater parks
- Green streets/urban tree canopy
- Rain gardens/bioretention
- Cisterns and rainfall harvesting devices
- Subsurface infiltration

Questions?

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THANK YOU