



Source: NH Journal



FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA)

Meghan Wells – State Hazard Mitigation Officer
September 2020

What is Hazard Mitigation?



“Hazard Mitigation is any action taken to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from natural disasters.

Hazard Mitigation planning is a process used by State and local governments to identify risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural disasters and develop mitigation strategies to reduce or eliminate long term risks.” – FEMA



Hazard Mitigation Assistance Funding



Hazard Mitigation Assistance Funding



Post-
Disaster



Annual
NOFO*
issued late
Summer/early Fall



Annual
NOFO*
issued late
Summer/early Fall

*NOFO = Notice of Funding Opportunity

Authorizing Authority



Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- Section 404 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5170c

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

- Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), as amended (Pub. L. No. 93-288) (42 U.S.C. § 5133) as implemented by Hazard Mitigation Assistance: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (FP:04-008-05).

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Section 1366 of The National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (Pub. L. No. 90-448) (42 U.S.C. § 4104c)

Program Objectives



HMGP

Ensure that the opportunity to take critical mitigation measures to reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future disasters is not lost during the **reconstruction process following a disaster**

BRIC

Makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, Indian tribal governments, and local communities for **pre-disaster mitigation activities**

FMA

Makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, Indian tribal governments, and local communities **to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance**

Eligible Subapplicants



Entity	HMGP	BRIC	FMA
State agencies	✓	✓	✓
Federally-recognized tribes	✓	✓	✓
Local governments/communities ⁽¹⁾	✓	✓	✓
Private nonprofit organizations (PNPs)	✓		

⁽¹⁾ Local governments/community may include non-federally recognized tribes, or consistent with definition of local government at 44 CFR 201.2, may include any Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or Alaska Native village or organization that is not federally recognized per 25 U.S.C. 479a et seq.

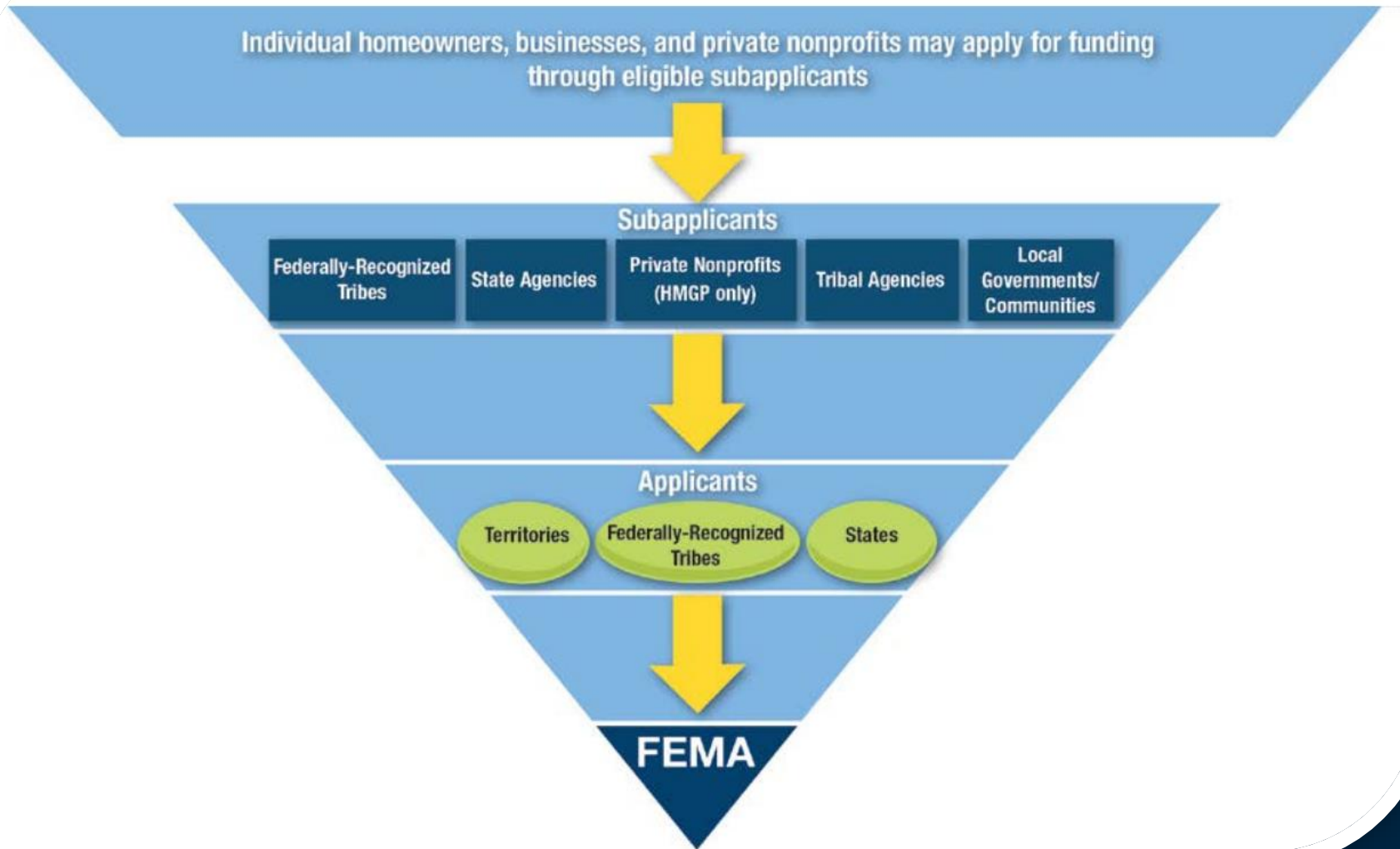
Individuals and business are not eligible to apply for all HMA funds, while non-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for BRIC and FMA; however, an eligible Applicant or Subapplicant may apply for funding on their behalf.

*Eligible Subapplicants



- Subapplicants are required to have a FEMA-approved Local or Tribal **Hazard Mitigation Plan** in accordance with 44 CFR Part 201 by the Application deadline and at the time of obligation of grant funds for mitigation projects and Capability & Capacity Building (C&CB) activities (with the exception of mitigation planning and direct technical assistance).

Figure 1: Application Process



Funding and Cost Share



Programs	Cost Share (% of Federal/Non-Federal Share)
HMGP	75/25
BRIC	75/25
BRIC - subrecipient is small impoverished community	90/10
FMA – insured properties and planning grants	75/25
FMA – repetitive loss (RL) properties	90/10
FMA – severe repetitive loss (SRL) properties	100/0
Management Costs (HMGP, BRIC, & FMA)	100/0

Non-Federal Share

- Subapplicant will need to display availability of the non-federal share
- Non-federal share may consist of:
 - Cash
 - Donated or third party in-kind services, materials, or any combination thereof
 - **Cash and third-party in-kind matches must consist of eligible costs (i.e., same eligibility as the federal share)
- Cannot apply other federal funds toward non-federal share
- FEMA encourages innovative use of public and private-sector partnerships to meet the non-federal cost share



Eligible Activities



*PDM eligible activities are eligible under BRIC

Eligible Activities	HMGP	PDM	FMA
1. Mitigation Projects	✓	✓	✓
Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition	✓	✓	✓
Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation	✓	✓	✓
Structure Elevation	✓	✓	✓
Mitigation Reconstruction	✓	✓	✓
Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential Structures	✓	✓	✓
Dry Floodproofing of Non-residential Structures	✓	✓	✓
Generators	✓	✓	
Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects	✓	✓	✓
Non-localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects	✓	✓	
Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings	✓	✓	✓
Non-structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities	✓	✓	✓
Safe Room Construction	✓	✓	
Wind Retrofit for One- and Two-Family Residences	✓	✓	
Infrastructure Retrofit	✓	✓	✓
Soil Stabilization	✓	✓	✓
Wildfire Mitigation	✓	✓	
Post-Disaster Code Enforcement	✓		
Advance Assistance	✓		
5 Percent Initiative Projects	✓		
Miscellaneous/Other ⁽¹⁾	✓	✓	✓
2. Hazard Mitigation Planning	✓	✓	✓
Planning Related Activities	✓	✓	
3. Technical Assistance		✓	✓

Pre-Award Costs



- Pre-award costs directly related to developing the grant application that are incurred prior to the date of the grant award are allowed - subject to FEMA approval at time of award.
 - For example, to develop a BCA, to gather EHP data, for preparing design specifications, or for workshops or meetings related to development and submission of HMA applications and subapplications.
- * Pre-award costs must be identified in an individual line item in the cost estimate of the subapplication.

Pre-Award Costs *Caveats*



- Costs associated with implementation of proposed projects in the submitted grant application or subapplication that are incurred prior to the date of the grant award are **not allowed**.
- Applicants and subapplicants who are not awarded funding or subawards **will not** receive reimbursement for the corresponding pre-award costs.

Minimum Applicant Criteria

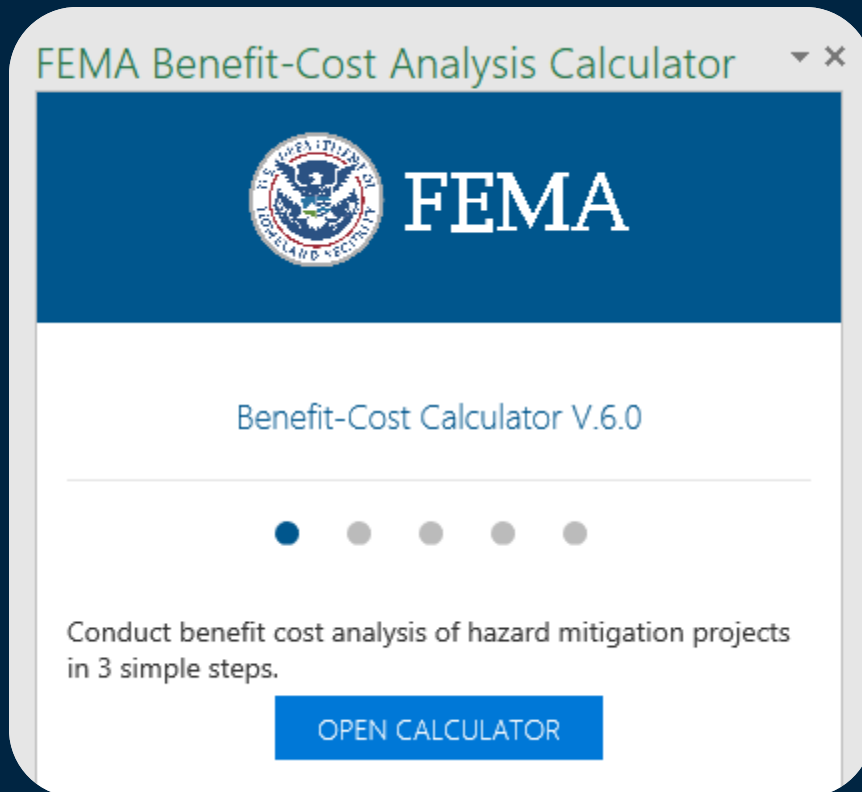


- Eligible Applicant and Subapplicant
- FEMA-Approved Mitigation Plan
- Scope of Work
- Work Schedule
- Cost Estimate
- Cost Share
- Cost-Effectiveness and Feasibility
- Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) Review and Compliance
- Assurance Forms

Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA)



[Click here for FEMA's BCA Tool](#)



- All mitigation projects must have a benefit-cost ratio (BCR) of 1.0 or greater.
- The BCR metric of 1.0 or greater indicates that the benefits of the mitigation project will outweigh the cost of the project.

Considerations



- Conflict of Interest
- Procurement
- Duplication of Programs
- Duplication of Benefits
- Floodplain and land use laws and regulations
- Construction activities for which ground disturbance has already been initiated or completed are not eligible for funding
- Non-construction activities that have already started may not be considered for funding

 **FEMA**

Job Aid

Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Procurement Standards

Purpose

This Job Aid describes the procurement standards for non-Federal entities that obtain property and services under a Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Federal award. Procurement includes the selection, award, and administration of contracts. A "non-Federal entity" is a State or local government, federally-recognized tribe, institution of higher education, or nonprofit organization that carries out a Federal award as a Recipient or subrecipient.

The procurement standards covered in this Job Aid are required by the Office of Management and Budget Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR Part 200). They apply to all Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) awards made on or after December 26, 2014, and to all Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) awards authorized by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) and made under Presidential major disaster declarations declared on or after December 26, 2014.

Grace Period: Non-Federal entities may continue to comply with the applicable procurement standards in 44 CFR Section 13.36 (for States, local, and federally-recognized tribes) or 2 CFR Sections 215.40 to 48 (for institutions of higher education, hospitals, and other nonprofit organizations) for one additional fiscal year after December 26, 2014. If a non-Federal entity chooses to use the previous procurement standards for an additional fiscal year before adopting the procurement standards in 2 CFR Part 200, the non-Federal entity must document this decision in its internal procurement policies.

Procurement by States

When procuring property and services under a Federal award, a State (acting as either a Recipient or subrecipient) must comply with the requirements of 2 CFR Section 200.317. This regulation requires a State to follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements issued from its non-Federal funds. Further, the State must comply with 2 CFR Section 200.322 (Procurement of Recovered Materials) and ensure that every purchase order or other contract includes any clauses required by 2 CFR Section 200.326 (Contract Provisions).

Procurement by Non-Federal Entities Other Than States

When procuring property and services under a Federal award, all non-Federal entities that are not States must follow 2 CFR Sections 200.318 through 200.326. Nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, and hospitals that were previously subject to the procurement standards set forth at 2 CFR Part 215 are now subject to the procurement standards set forth at 2 CFR Sections 200.318 through 200.326. These requirements differ from previous requirements, and the affected non-Federal entity should educate its employees on these new standards.

Conflict of Interest Policy

The non-Federal entity must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts as required in 2 CFR Section 200.318. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest.

If the non-Federal entity has a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization (that is not a State, federally-recognized tribe, or local government), then the non-Federal entity must also maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest occur when the non-Federal entity is unable, or appears to be unable, to be impartial in conducting a procurement action involving a related organization because of relationships with a

"FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards."

1

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

HMGP Eligible Activities



- **Mitigation Projects**

- Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition
- Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation
- Structure Elevation
- Mitigation Reconstruction
- Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential Structures
- Dry Floodproofing of Non-residential Structures
- Generators
- Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
- Non-localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
- Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings
- Non-structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities
- Safe Room Construction
- Wind Retrofit for One- and Two-Family Residences
- Infrastructure Retrofit
- Soil Stabilization
- Wildfire Mitigation
- Post Disaster Code Enforcement
- Advance Assistance
- 5 Percent Initiative Projects
- Miscellaneous/Other

- **Hazard Mitigation Planning** and planning related activities

- **Management Costs**

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

BRIC Eligible Activities



- **Mitigation Projects**
 - Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition
 - Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation
 - Structure Elevation
 - Mitigation Reconstruction
 - Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential Structures
 - Dry Floodproofing of Non-residential Structures
 - Generators
 - Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
 - Non-localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
 - Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings
 - Non-structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities
 - Safe Room Construction
 - Wind Retrofit for One- and Two-Family Residences
 - Infrastructure Retrofit
 - Soil Stabilization
 - Wildfire Mitigation
 - Miscellaneous/Other
- **Hazard Mitigation Planning (Capability and Capacity Building – C&CB)**
 - Local Hazard Mitigation Plans
- **Direct Technical Assistance**
- **Management Costs**

BRIC – Capability & Capacity Building (C&CB)



C&CB activities enhance the knowledge, skills, expertise, etc., of the current workforce to expand or improve the administration of mitigation assistance

This includes activities in the following sub-categories:

- Building Codes Activities
- Partnerships
- Project Scoping
- Mitigation Planning
- Planning-related Activities
- ...and other activities

BRIC – Capability & Capacity Building (C&CB)



- Maximum allocation for a state or territory under this category is \$600,000, covering all activities/projects
 - Up to \$300,000 of the State/Territory Allocation may be used for **mitigation planning** and planning-related activities per Applicant.

Similar to PDM, NH HSEM (Applicant) will apply on behalf of the communities whose plans are coming up for expiration.

- Up to 10 percent of any subapplication may be used for information dissemination activities, including **public awareness** and **education** (brochures, workshops, videos, etc.) related to a proposed C&CB activity or mitigation project.

BRIC – Non-Financial Direct Technical Assistance



Goal is to build a community's capacity and capability to improve its resiliency to natural hazards and to ensure stakeholders are capable of building and sustaining successful mitigation programs, submitting high-quality applications, and implementing new and innovative projects that reduce risk from a wide range of natural hazards.

A community must submit a Letter of Interest (LOI)



Each State may submit one Letter of Interest (LOI) to FEMA on behalf of a community for Direct Technical Assistance.

BRIC – Non-Financial Technical Assistance



Examples of **project or application-specific** assistance needs:

- Support applying the Benefit-Cost Analysis methodology to nature-based solutions
- Assistance with understanding or completing environmental planning and historic preservation requirements

Examples of **community-wide resilience** assistance needs:

- Building a shared understanding of resilience across local government departments
- Matching mitigation solutions to funding mechanisms
- Identifying partnership opportunities and building a partnership framework
- Exploring mitigation strategies to reduce risk to Community Lifelines

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

*FMA Subapplicants



- All subapplicants must be participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and not be withdrawn, on probation, or suspended.
- Structures identified in the subapplication must have an NFIP policy in effect at the FMA application start date and must maintain it through completion of the mitigation activity and for the life of the structure.
- NFIP community status can be verified [here](#).

FMA Eligible Activities



- **Mitigation Projects**
 - Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition
 - Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation
 - Structure Elevation
 - Mitigation Reconstruction
 - Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential Structures
 - Dry Floodproofing of Non-residential Structures
 - Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
 - Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings
 - Non-structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities
 - Infrastructure Retrofit
 - Soil Stabilization
 - Miscellaneous/Other
- **Hazard Mitigation Planning** (flood hazard component of LHMPs)
- **Technical Assistance** (NH is not eligible as the State did not receive a \$1 Million FFY 19 FMA Award)
- **Project Scoping (Previously Advance Assistance)**
- **Management Costs**

Hazard Mitigation Assistance

HMGP, BRIC, and FMA

Management Costs

Management costs are **any indirect costs, any direct administrative costs, and other administrative expenses** that are reasonably incurred in administering an award or subaward.



- Up to 5 percent of the total cost of their planning, project scoping, mitigation project, or C&CB activity to manage the proposed subaward activities.
- * Subapplicant management cost activities must be added to the Scope of Work section and identified as a line item in the Cost Estimate section of subapplications in FEMA GO.

Period of Performance (POP)

The POP is the period of time during which the non-Federal entity may incur new obligations to carry out all administrative actions and award activities, and incur costs.



Period of Performance (POP)



Program	Period of Performance (POP) End Date
HMGP	36 Months from Close of Application Period
BRIC	36 Months from Date of Award
FMA Community Flood Mitigation Projects	48 Months from Date of Award
FMA All Other Projects	36 Months from Date of Award

POP Extension Requests are allowed

Reporting



Quarter	Reporting Period	Report Due Date
1	October 1 – December 31	January 30
2	January 1 – March 31	April 30
3	April 1 – June 30	July 30
4	July 1 – September 30	October 30

- Quarterly Progress Reports
- Risk Monitoring
- Closeout

Mitigation Success Stories

Barrington, NH

Culvert Upsizing



- The Town of Barrington replaced a hydraulically undersized culvert with a crossing that will pass the 50 year flood event.
- The existing 48" reinforced concrete pipe was replaced with a 7' rise concrete box culvert.
- Prior to mitigation, the undersized culvert crossing had a history of insufficient flow capacity resulting in the roadway overtopping and closing.
- The improved culvert has been tested by major rain/precipitation events and performed as expected, thereby eliminating the problems that existed previously.
- Total Project Cost \$271,525.33



Before
Mitigation



After
Mitigation

Pittsfield, NH

Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition



- An abandoned, unsightly, and derelict house was vulnerable to flooding by the adjacent Suncook River.
- House contained minor asbestos which had the potential of being released into the Suncook River during a flood event.
- The structure was demolished, and the land returned to its original state eliminating the possibility for flood damage to a structure.
- Total Project Cost \$40,823.00



Before
Mitigation



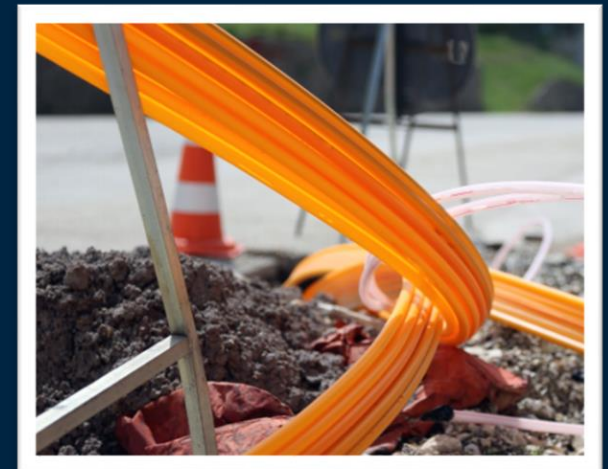
After
Mitigation

Arlington County, VA

Communication Infrastructure Upgrades



- Arlington County, VA, created its own fiber optic network through the ConnectArlington Program.
- The program replaced 52 miles of copper wiring with 60+ miles of fiber optics to link county facilities, school facilities, and traffic signals.
- Radio towers connected terrestrially allows campuses to provide in-building public safety radio communications to all buildings from a single source, reducing miscommunication and lag time.
- Prior to mitigation, the County relied on radio communications via towers and microwave for 911 operations. When a storm would hit, there was the potential for signal and service disruption. The new fiber optic cables resolved this.
- Total Project Cost ~\$50 Million



Thinking about applying?



Submit a Letter of Intent!



Hazard Mitigation is the only phase of emergency management that breaks the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage.

Resources



- [NH HSEM Resource Center](#)
- [NH HSEM Hazard Mitigation Assistance Flyer](#)
- [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance](#)
- [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Brochure](#)
- [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Brochure](#)
- [Benefit Cost Analysis](#)

Contact Information



Meghan Wells

NH State Hazard Mitigation Officer

Meghan.K.Wells@dos.nh.gov

Work: 603.223.4395 Cell: 603.406.1292

Kayla Henderson

State Hazard Mitigation Planner

Kayla.J.Henderson@dos.nh.gov

603.223.3650

Whitney Welch

Assistant Chief of Grants

Whitney.A.Welch@dos.nh.gov

603.223.3667

HSEM Field Representative

603-223-3663

Hazard Mitigation Planning

HazardMitigationPlanning@dos.nh.gov