

## HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP)

### HOMEOWNERS AND BUSINESSES ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR MITIGATION FUNDING

Updated on September 9, 2011

As a result of the Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-4023-DR-CT) the state of Connecticut is eligible to receive funding under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The HMGP provides 75% Federal matching grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the mitigation (reduction) of damages that result from natural disasters. The goal of Hazard Mitigation is to reduce the amount of Federal and State assistance necessary after a major disaster by mitigating the effects of the disaster to homes and businesses. Hazard Mitigation measures traditionally include structural mitigation (e.g. acquisition or elevation of flood prone homes and businesses), small scale flood control projects and planning that leads to projects. The most frequent and costly disasters in Connecticut are caused by flooding.



**The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection will be sending application packages to all municipal Chief Elected Officials and Emergency Management Directors in early October, 2011. Homeowners and businesses interested in applying for funding should contact their local Chief Elected Official or Emergency Management Director for an Application Package in early October.**

The amount of funding available from the HMGP after a disaster is equal to 15% of the Public Assistance Damages caused by any Presidentially Declared Disaster that occurs in Connecticut. HMGP funding is only available as a result of a Presidential Disaster Declaration and DESPP is currently anticipating receiving 6 – 8 million dollars for the HMGP as a result of Tropical Storm Irene. Eligible applicants (state agencies, municipalities and tribal nations) are strongly encouraged to consider applying for HMGP funding to mitigate natural hazards. The deadline for submitting a letter of intent is November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 with a full application due by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

#### HMGP Quick Facts:

- Total Open HMGP Disaster Grants in Connecticut: 5
- Total HMGP Funding for Connecticut: ≈ \$ 13.2 Million
- Funding Passed Through to Towns Thus Far: ≈ \$ 2.5 Million
- Types of Eligible Projects in Connecticut Include:
  - ⇒ Home and Business Elevation Projects
  - ⇒ Voluntary Home and Business Acquisition Projects
  - ⇒ Stormwater Projects (e.g. Culvert Replacement) that Reduce Flood Damage to Buildings
  - ⇒ Small Scale Flood Control Projects Such as Levees
  - ⇒ Wind Mitigation Projects Such as Shudders or Hurricane Clips to hold down roofs.

#### HMGP FAQ's

- Due Date for Letter of Intent: November 1, 2011.
- Federal Funding Available: Approximately 6 – 8 Million
- Amount of Federal Funding: 75% of Project Cost
- Match Required: 25% (Cash / Some In-Kind Services)
- Source of In-Kind Services: Must be Non-Federal
- Management and Administration: 1.89% of Federal Grant
- Eligible Applicants: State, Municipal and Tribal Entities
- Duration of Grant: 3 years
- Administration of Grant by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection in coordination with Municipalities and Building Owners.

Listed below the types of projects that are typically eligible for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding and a timeline for the application process. Also listed are project types that are not typically approved under the HMGP. Please feel free to share this information with any towns if you get any questions about the HMGP.

1. The amount of HMGP funding that will be available as a result of Disaster #1958 will be approximately 2.4 million dollars.
2. Letters of Intent (containing a brief description of the project and a rough cost estimate) are due by June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
3. Application packages will be sent to all towns that submit a letter of intent.
4. Although this most recent disaster was the result of a record snowstorm on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011, all hazard types will be eligible in applications for HMGP funding including:
  - a. Enhancement of building regulations to strengthen codes for flat roofs.
  - b. Operational snow clearance planning for roads and buildings.
  - c. Mitigation of Flooding through the acquisition or elevation of homes, businesses and public buildings.
  - d. Minor flood control projects such as berms and levees that protect insurable buildings such as homes, businesses and public buildings.
  - e. Wind mitigation along the coast (e.g. storm shutters and hurricane clips).
  - f. Culvert and bridge reconstruction that results in the reduction or elimination of flooding to insurable buildings.
  - g. Limited warning systems that provide early warning of a natural hazard (e.g. Flood Warning Systems).
  - h. Limited public outreach as part of a project to mitigate the effects of winter storms (e.g. brochures on clearing snow from homes and businesses).
5. The following projects are not typically approved under the HMGP:
  - a. Roadway reconstruction.
  - b. Culvert upgrades that do not prevent or reduce flooding to insurable structures.
  - c. Mitigation or operations plans that do not lead to projects or new operational procedures.
  - d. Snow removal costs.
  - e. Snow removal equipment.

If any towns have questions about projects that do not appear on the above lists, please have them send me an email with their project proposal to [douglas.glowacki@ct.gov](mailto:douglas.glowacki@ct.gov)