

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice to the public of its intent to reimburse eligible applicants for eligible damages caused by Hurricane Dorian occurring September 1, 2019, with an incident closing date of September 9, 2019. This notice applies to Public Assistance (PA) and Hazard Mitigation Grant (HMGP) programs implemented under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121- 5207 et seq.

Under the disaster declaration FEMA DR-4465-NC, signed by the President on October 4, 2019 and amended on October 17, the following counties have been designated adversely affected by the disaster and eligible for PA, Categories A through G, including Direct Federal Assistance:

Beaufort, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Columbus, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Duplin, Greene, Hoke, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Tyrrell, Washington, and Wayne.

Under the emergency declaration FEMA EM-3423-NC signed by the President on September 3, 2019, funding for Direct Federal Assistance for Emergency Measures and PA, Category B is available for all counties statewide. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) will be available statewide. Additional declarations may be made at a later date if requested by the state and warranted by the results of further damage assessments.

This public notice concerns activities that may affect historic properties, activities that are located in or affect wetland areas or the 100-year floodplain (1% annual chance flood), and critical actions within the 500-year floodplain (0.2% annual chance flood). Such activities may adversely affect historic properties, and floodplains or wetlands, or may result in continuing vulnerability to flood damage.

Presidential Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 require that all federal actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands be reviewed for relocation opportunities and evaluated for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Where there is no opportunity to relocate facilities, FEMA is required to perform a detailed review to determine what measures may be taken to minimize future damages. The public is invited to participate in the process of identifying alternatives and analyzing their impacts.

FEMA also intends to provide HMGP funding to the State of North Carolina to mitigate future disaster damages. These projects may include construction of new facilities, modification of existing, undamaged facilities, relocation of facilities out of floodplains, demolition of structures, or other types of projects to mitigate future disaster damages. In the course of developing project proposals, subsequent public notices will be published, if necessary, as more specific information becomes available.

The National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effect of their undertakings on historic properties. Those actions or activities affecting buildings, structures, districts, or objects 50 years or older or that affect archeological sites or undisturbed ground will require detailed review to determine if the property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (Register). If properties are determined to be eligible for the Register and FEMA's undertaking will adversely affect them, FEMA will provide additional public notices. For historic properties not adversely affected by FEMA's undertakings, this will be the only public notice.

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects the civil rights of persons with disabilities. It prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by the federal government, federal contractors, and by recipients of federal financial assistance. Any recipient or sub-recipient of federal funds is required to make their

programs accessible to individuals with disabilities. Its protections apply to all programs and businesses that receive federal funds. This applies to all elements of physical/architectural, programmatic, and communication accessibility in all services and activities conducted by or funded by FEMA. FEMA intends to comply with the Rehabilitation Act in all federally conducted and assisted programs in alignment with the principals of whole community inclusion and universal accessibility.

FEMA has determined that for certain types of facilities there are normally no alternatives to restoration in the floodplain or wetland. These are facilities that meet all of the following criteria: 1) FEMA's estimate of the cost of repairs is less than 50-percent of the cost to replace the entire facility and is less than \$100,000; 2) the facility is not located in a floodway or coastal high hazard area; 3) the facility has not sustained major structural damage in a previous presidentially-declared flooding disaster or emergency; and 4) the facility is not critical (e.g., the facility is not a hospital, generating plant, emergency operations center, or a facility that contains dangerous materials). FEMA intends to provide assistance for the restoration of these facilities to their pre-disaster condition with an additional provision that certain measures to mitigate the effect of future flooding or other hazards may be included in the work. For example, a bridge or culvert restoration may include a larger waterway opening to decrease the risk of future washouts. This may be the only public notice regarding the above-described actions under PA and HMGP programs for routine actions restoring facilities or structures to pre-disaster condition or restoration with additional mitigation.

Interested persons may obtain information about these actions, or specific projects, in writing directed to: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency – Region IV - EHP, 3003 Chamblee Tucker Rd – Office #255, Atlanta, GA 30341-4112. Alternatively, an email may be sent to: FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Please include in the subject line of the email “DR-4465 NC EHAD.” Comments should be sent in writing at the above addresses within 15 days of the date of this notice.