

PUBLIC NOTICE

In response to presidentially declared disasters in 2016 and 2017 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that \$633 million in first-of-its-kind funding would be available to the state of Florida for disaster mitigation projects. These funds are available through HUD's newly created Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) and will be used to fund disaster mitigation programs to better protect Florida from future disasters.

Administered by the State of Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) a federally required State Action Plan was developed in partnership with state agencies, as well as with input from local communities and stakeholders to determine Florida's most critical disaster mitigation needs.

On July 2, 2020 DEO launched Round 1 of the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program (GIP) under CDBG-MIT. The Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program makes a total of \$475,000,000 available for eligible applicants. The General Infrastructure Program is designed to provide funding opportunities to units of general local government (UGLG), educational institutions, state agencies, and non-profits for the purpose of implementing innovative, collaborative, multi-jurisdictional and/or large-scale mitigation activities that reduce previously-identified hazard risks for local communities to better withstand emergency related challenges. These regional investments include, but are not limited to, upgrading of water, sewer, solid waste, communications, energy, transportation, health and medical and other public infrastructure projects.

The City of St Petersburg, Florida, is seeking roughly \$2 million in funding through DEO's Rebuild Florida GIP to dredge years of built up sediment within Bartlett Lake. The Bartlett Park neighborhood is a local community historically inundated with extreme flooding during severe weather. The goal of this project is to reduce flood risk and increase resilience to sea level rise and climate change. Improvements to this area address the 7 community lifelines which are:

- Safety and Security
- Food, Water Shelter
- Health and Medical
- Energy
- Communications
- Transportation
- Hazardous Materials

Public Comments

Public Comments on the proposed applications are being accepted in accordance with US Department of Housing and Urban Development requirements. Comments and/or requests for a copy of the proposed application can be submitted to Kelly Thomas – e-mail: Kelly.Thomas@stpete.org Phone: [727-892-5379](tel:727-892-5379).

The deadline for public comment is September 17, 2021.

For more information on the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Rebuild Florida mitigation programs go to <https://floridajobs.org/rebuildflorida/mitigation>.