



NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

OFFICE OF RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY

CDBG-MIT Citizen Advisory  
Committee Public Meeting

Summary  
Presentation

## Before We Begin

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- This presentation and discussion will focus on the Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Action Plan Amendment only. To review and provide comments on the CDBG-Disaster Recovery Action Plans for hurricanes Matthew and Florence, please visit: <https://www.rebuild.nc.gov/about/plans-policies-reports/action-plans>
- If you are a survivor of previous disasters and have questions regarding your FEMA assistance or ReBuild NC application please reach out to the appropriate program for additional help: [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) for FEMA assistance, and [Ask-RBNC@rebuild.nc.gov](mailto:Ask-RBNC@rebuild.nc.gov) or 833-275-7262 for ReBuild NC assistance.
- You can access the CDBG-MIT Action Plan Substantial Action Plan Amendment on NCORR's website: <https://www.rebuild.nc.gov/about/plans-policies-reports/action-plans>

## Before We Begin Continued...

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- Formal public comments and/or questions can be submitted via email: [publiccomments@rebuild.nc.gov](mailto:publiccomments@rebuild.nc.gov).
- For more information on how people with disabilities can access and comment, please call 984-833-5350.
- Hard copies of the CDBG-MIT Action Plan Amendment may be requested by calling 984-272-7053.

# Agenda

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- Meeting rollcall and quorum confirmation
- Introductions and Meeting Accessibility
- Action Plan Amendment Presentation
  - Review roles and responsibilities
  - Overview of CDBG-MIT Substantial Action Plan Amendments
  - Overview of updated program activities, allocations, mitigation needs, and policies
  - Review CDBG-MIT timeline and public comment process
- Questions
- Adjourn meeting

# Citizen Advisory Committee Leadership

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Chairperson: Mayor Dontario “Don” Hardy

Vice-Chairperson: Council member Owen Thomas

Secretary: Maggie Battaglin

# Meeting Accessibility Resources

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To ensure accessibility for participants this meeting will have:

- Webex generated closed captioning and will make the transcript and slides available for participants.
- Also, a translated script of this presentation along with the slides will be made available for Spanish speaking community members

# Introduction

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In this meeting we will discuss the following:

- NCORR's latest CDBG-MIT Substantial Action Plan Amendment and newly incorporated draft updates.
- As part of the Substantial Action Plan amendment process, the Citizen Advisory Committee is required to review the proposed changes and provide written comment in response to the proposed changes. These responses will be recorded and included in the final adopted action plan as part of the submission to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

# NCORR - Roles and Responsibilities

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- In compliance with 84 FR 45853, NCORR established a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), to solicit and respond to public comment and input regarding proposed mitigation activities and to serve as an ongoing public forum to inform MIT projects and programs.
- Meetings shall be held in open forums not less than twice annually to provide increased transparency in the implementation of CDBG-MIT funds.
- NCORR maintains a mitigation website at [rebuild.nc.gov/mitigation](https://rebuild.nc.gov/mitigation), which includes information such as the most current CDBG-MIT Action Plan and program updates.
- At the conclusion of the public comment period, all comments will be reviewed, and the State will provide responses to the comments.
- Upon approval by HUD, a final version of the Action Plan Amendment will be posted on NCORR's website.



# Citizen Advisory Committee - Roles and Responsibilities

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- Provides increased transparency in the implementation of CDBG-MIT funds by providing input regarding NCORR's mitigation activities and serving as an on-going public forum to continuously inform NCORR's CDBG-MIT projects and programs.
- Reviews Substantial Action Plan Amendments and offers comment, if desired.
- Exists for the term of the CDBG-MIT grant, or until the requirement for the CAC is abolished or revised by HUD

Note: NCORR hosts a webpage dedicated to the CAC, where meeting information is posted, including recordings and transcripts of public meetings, approved meeting minutes and CAC contact information.

# CDBG-MIT Overview

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- Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) is the funding approach from HUD intended to relieve the repetitive cycle of disaster relief allocations to often-impacted areas of the country.
- In Public Law 115-123 (February 9, 2018), the State of North Carolina was allocated \$168,067,000 in Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds.
- In Public Law 116-20 (June 6, 2019), the state was allocated an additional \$34,619,000 in CDBG-MIT funds.

# CDBG-MIT Overview

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- NCORR received a total of \$202,686,000 in CDBG-MIT funds. The funding was allocated to North Carolina for Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Florence and is intended to mitigate or reduce damages caused by future storms.
- What is “mitigation”? Generally, mitigation is any activity that increases resilience to a disaster, through the reduction or elimination of long-term risks.
  - This looks different for every community, and may look like buying out at-risk properties, investing in stormwater infrastructure, or supporting long-range regional and planning efforts.

# CDBG-MIT Activities

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The funding is required to be spent on mitigation activities:

- **Strategic Buyout Program;**
- **Public Housing Restoration Fund;**
- **Infrastructure Recovery Program;**
- **Additional resilience planning.**

These areas of focus address the risks identified in NCORR's Mitigation Needs Assessment.

The activities must consider and target:

- At least 50% funding spent in counties determined to be 'most impacted and distressed' (MID counties).
- At least 50% must benefit communities who are low-to-moderate-income (LMI).

# CDBG-MIT SAPA Defined

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NCORR identifies the following criteria which constitute a substantial amendment:

- A change in program benefit or eligibility criteria.
- The addition or deletion of an activity.
- An allocation or reallocation of \$15 million or more.
- The addition of a CDBG-MIT defined “covered project”.
- A covered project is an infrastructure project having a total project cost of a \$100 million or more with at least \$50 million of CDBG funds regardless of source (CDBG-DR, CDBG National Disaster Resilience [NDR], CDBG Mitigation, or CDBG).

# CDBG-MIT All Substantial Action Plan Amendments

- SAPA 1 – Program reallocations, changed buyout housing value to fair market value, introduction of the phased approach, and reallocation of the Resilient Affordable Housing Program
- SAPA 2 – Provided budget for allocation of additional \$36,619,000 in CDBG-MIT funds, funds added to Strategic Buyout Program, and administration and planning budgets, updated data and overall document to align with CDBG-MIT funded activities, public comments made at public hearing and submitted after draft was published for public comment.
- SAPA 3 – Clarified the payment of incentives to households that did not maintain flood insurance; clarified the eligibility of certain properties; clarified that housing counseling may be provided as a public service in alignment with the Hurricane Florence CDBG-DR Action Plan, established that planning projects may be identified by NCORR staff.
- SAPA 4 – Program reallocations to diversify mitigation activities including the addition of the Public Housing Restoration Fund and Infrastructure Recovery programs; additional allocation to support resilience planning; updated data added to Mitigation Needs Assessment; policy updates to include program changes and HUD waivers.

# SAPA 4 Key Takeaways

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- Updated unmet needs in CDBG-MIT action plan to reflect latest Mitigation Needs Assessment data and programmatic changes.
- Strengthened the CDBG-MIT Action Plan by including a comprehensive set of mitigation activities:
  - Public Housing Restoration Fund
  - Infrastructure Recovery Program
  - Additional Resilience Planning
- Retained NCORR's Strategic Buyout Program (SBP) as one of the largest investments in voluntary buyouts in North Carolina.
- Included programmatic and policy updates to reflect recent upgrades and changes to better serve mitigation goals.

# CDBG-MIT Mitigation Needs Assessment

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- HUD specifies that CDBG-MIT funds are closely aligned with and seek to bolster the use of FEMA funding program such as the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).
- The CDBG-MIT Action Plan and the Mitigation Needs Assessment seeks to address the gaps and weaknesses in the disaster recovery cycle using a comprehensive methodology.
- In accordance with CDBG-MIT Action Plan program guidelines for use of funds, NCORR must specify the connection to:
  - The North Carolina's State Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan.
  - The Community Lifeline weakness addressed through the mitigation activities.
  - The CDBG-eligible activities as set forth in Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act (HCDA) or through specific waivers provided through HUD.
  - HUD National Objective Criteria satisfied through the mitigation activities.



# CDBG-MIT Mitigation Needs Assessment

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- In an updated consideration of the data available from the Mitigation Needs Assessment, ongoing disaster recovery needs, community and stakeholder input, regulatory requirements, and an analysis of its programs and funding sources, NCORR has determined that a strategic revision to the use of CDBG-MIT funds to add mitigation program activities was warranted for meaningful investment in long-term hazard mitigation.
- By connecting the Public Housing Restoration Fund and the Infrastructure Recovery Program, and expanding resilience planning resources, NCORR is taking a more comprehensive approach to mitigation and committing to addressing the risks associated with long term recovery in a holistic way.

# Updated CDBG-MIT Allocations

Program	SAPA 3 Total	SAPA 4 Total	% of Total Allocation	\$ to LMI	% to LMI	\$ to HUD-defined MID areas	% to HUD-defined MID areas
Administrative Costs	\$10,134,300	\$10,134,300	5%	\$0	0%	\$5,067,150	50%
Planning Costs	\$10,134,300	\$15,201,450	8%	\$0	0%	\$7,600,725	50%
Strategic Buyout	\$182,417,400	\$123,103,334	60%	\$68,937,867	56%	\$119,410,234	97%
Public Housing Restoration Fund	N/A	\$36,246,916	18%	\$36,246,916	100%	\$28,997,533	80%
Infrastructure Recovery Program	N/A	\$18,000,000	9%	\$12,600,000	70%	\$14,400,000	80%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$202,686,000</b>	<b>\$202,686,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$117,784,783</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>\$162,475,642</b>	<b>85%</b>

# CDBG-MIT Activities: Updated Approach

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NCORR determined that a strategic revision to the use of CDBG-MIT funds to add mitigation programs activities was needed for meaningful investment in long-term hazard mitigation.

NCORR is taking a more comprehensive approach to mitigation and committing to address the risks associated with long term recovery in a holistic way, by weaving in the **Public Housing Restoration Fund, Infrastructure Recovery Program with existing buyout activities, and Resilience Planning.**

# CDBG-MIT Activity: Public Housing Restoration

## Activity:

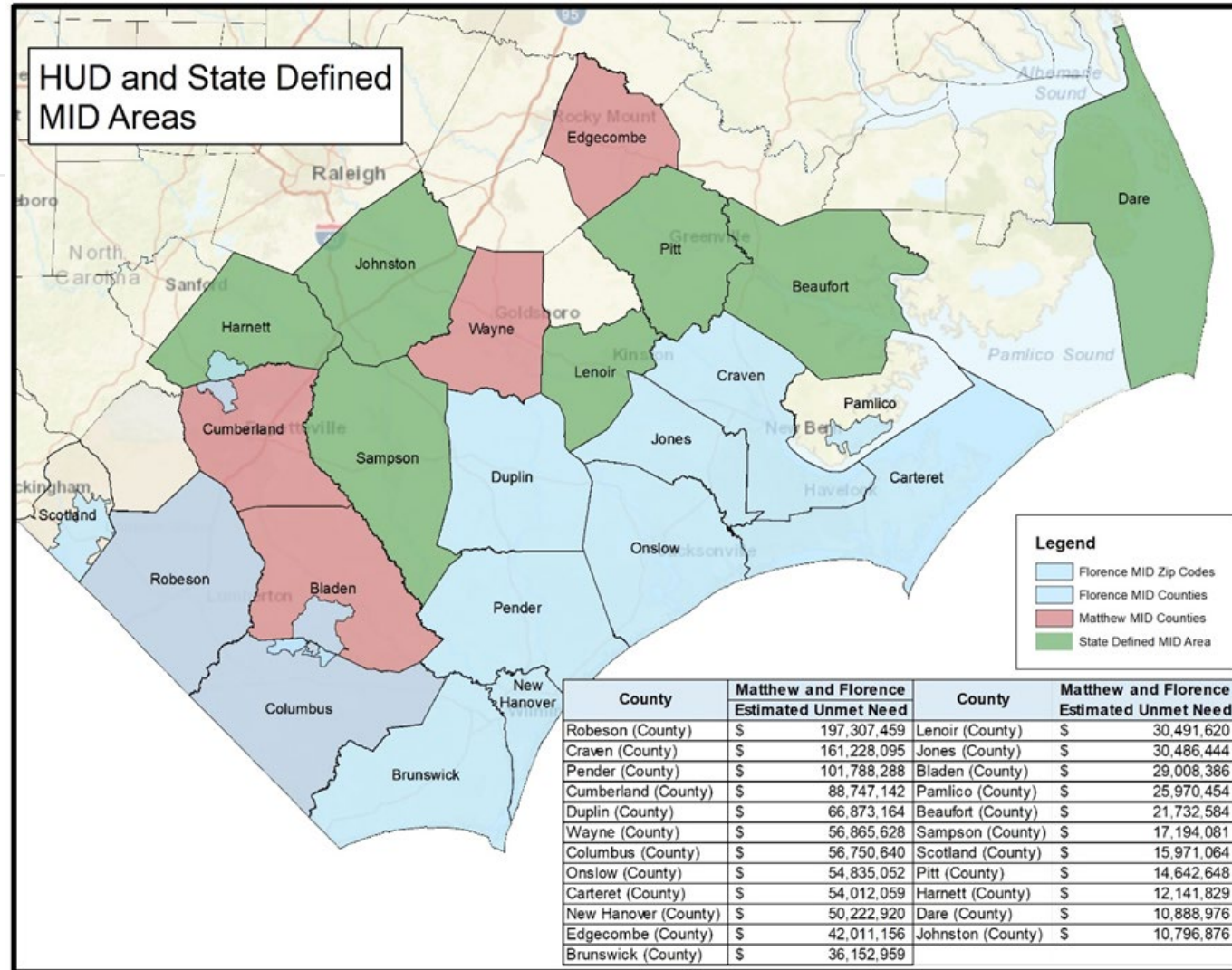
Funds from this program can be used to rehabilitate and/or repair Public Housing Authority (PHA) properties that were negatively affected from Hurricanes Matthew and Florence.

## Priorities:

PHAs located in a HUD-defined most impacted county.

## Allocation:

\$36,246,916



# CDBG-MIT Activity: Infrastructure Recovery

## **Activity:**

Repair, replace, rebuild, make more resilient or improve public facilities that were damaged by Hurricanes Matthew and Florence.

## **Priorities:**

Eighty percent of program funds are set aside for services within the most impacted counties, with primary focus on outcomes that show improvements to LMI benefit and MID community lifelines.

## **Allocation:**

\$18,000,000



# Strategic Buyout Program Updates

SBP continues to expand its program into areas that are at risk for future storm damage. The program focuses on concentrated geographic areas, called Buyout Zones.

Eligible properties in the program are separated into Phase I and Phase II and the CDBG-MIT SAPA 4 clarified that, in some cases, both phases can be administered concurrently.

Additionally, vacant lots have been made eligible under Phase I of the program, along with vacant properties.

Phase II property types are properties purchased after the storm and commercial properties.



# CDBG-MIT Program Implementation

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Effective program implementation continues to be a critical priority for NCORR, once the action plan is approved, we will have a better understanding of how program activities evolve down the road.

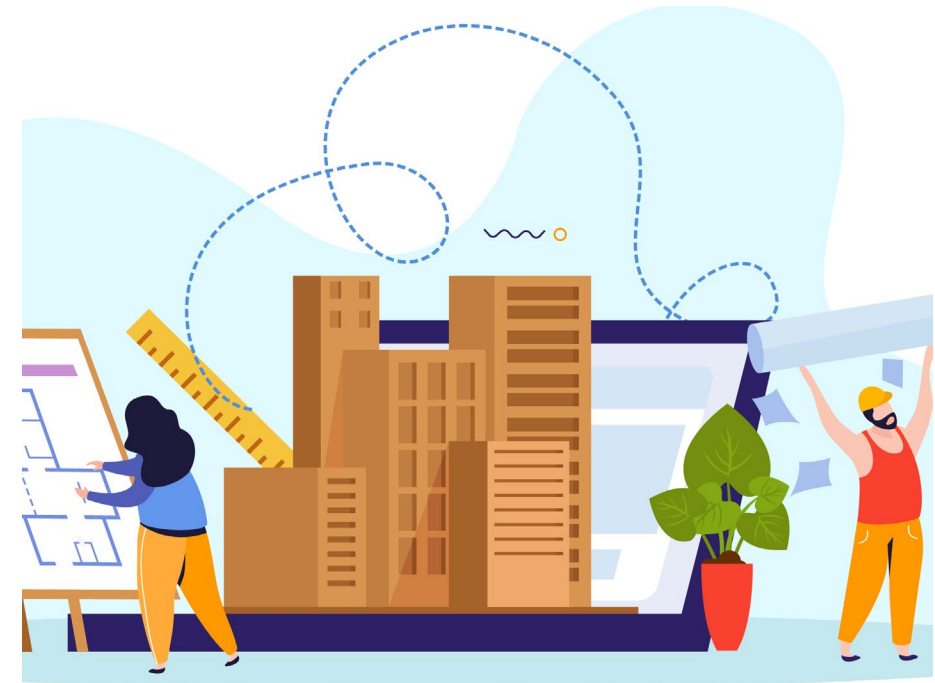
The SAPA 4 is a direct result of this priority and is ensuring that the CDBG-MIT programming continues to be robust and meeting community needs.

- **Strategic Buyout Program:** the SAPA 4 program updates ensure flexibility of buyout activities by broadening how the phases are implemented.
- **Infrastructure Recovery Program:** Infrastructure projects have already been identified and may be potential for future projects down the line.

As programs continue to move forward, we will discuss more detail on implementation in a future meeting.

# Planning

- Additional funds for planning activities will allow for improved resilience and mitigation efforts, coordination with local and regional entities, and sufficient support to plan for the mitigation needs of impacted communities.
- Support continues for projects identified by the State Disaster Recovery Task Force's Recovery Support Function (RSF) subcommittees and coordinating agencies, such as NCDEQ, NCEM and NCDOT
- The work of NC State's Coastal Dynamics Design Lab will also continue as they help create innovative, sustainable, adaptable, and resilient design solutions to address the environmental and human needs of impacted communities.





# Policy Updates

This latest Action Plan Amendment also aims to update policies that allow programs to better meet programmatic goals and align with the latest guidance provided by HUD.



# Specific Policy Updates

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- Eliminating direct proof of storm damage for SBP. Due to updated guidance from HUD, proof of storm damage is no longer an eligibility criteria for the buyout program.
- Anti-displacement updates; one-for-one replacement waiver which permits NCORR to support alternative reconstruction options for public housing developments that are not suitable for rehabilitation and/or in a floodplain while remaining compliant with Faircloth Act restrictions on the creation of new public housing.
- Additional HUD waivers: **“NCORR will have flexibility to target LMI communities even if they are under the national objective threshold, this will help reach more vulnerable populations”**

# Timeline of CDBG-MIT Update

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- **SAPA Shared with CAC:** November 18, 2022
- **Publication of SAPA and Start of Public Comment Period:** December 9, 2022
- **Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting:** January 10, 2023
- **End of Public Comments and CAC Feedback Deadline:** January 23, 2023
- **Completed Action Plan Amendment Submitted for HUD Review:** February 2023
- **Program Implementation follow up:** TBD Quarter 2 in 2023

# Submitting Public Comment

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- Public comments on the CDBG-MIT Action Plan may be submitted as follows:
  - **Written comments may be mailed to:**
    - Attn: Public Comments
    - North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR)
    - PO Box 110465
    - Durham, NC 27709
  - **Email comments: [publiccomments@rebuild.nc.gov](mailto:publiccomments@rebuild.nc.gov)**
    - Please include “CDBG-MIT” in the subject line.
  - **By telephone for those hearing impaired:** (984) 833-5350, TDD 1-800-735-2962
  - **By fax transmission:** (919) 405-7392

# Providing Committee Feedback

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- If the Committee has comments on the Substantial Action Plan Amendment, they shall be provided to NCORR within the public comment period that ends January 23, 2023.
- The Committee's comments and suggestions on the action plan amendment shall be submitted to NCORR in the form of a Committee Report or meeting minutes.
- NCORR will consider the Committee's comments in its review of all public comments received on the Substantial Action Plan Amendment and will include a response in its action plan submission to HUD.
- If the Committee does not choose to provide formal comments on the proposed amendment during a CDBG-MIT Substantial Action Plan Amendment public comment period, NCORR will note in the amendment that the Committee did not provide a public comment on the proposed amendment.

Please send Committee comments to [publiccomments@rebuild.nc.gov](mailto:publiccomments@rebuild.nc.gov).

