Grantee: Pennsylvania

Grant: B-13-DS-42-0001

January 1, 2022 thru March 31, 2022 Performance

Grant Number: B-13-DS-42-0001
Obligation Date: Contract End Date: 09/30/2023
Award Date: Review by HUD: Submitted - Await for Review

Grantee Name: Pennsylvania
Grant Award Amount: $29,986,000.00
Grant Status: Active

LOCCS Authorized Amount: $29,986,000.00
Estimated PI/RL Funds: $29,986,000.00

Total Budget: $29,986,000.00

Disasters:
Declaration Number
FEMA-4025-PA
FEMA-4030-PA
FEMA-4003-PA

Narratives
Disaster Damage:
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a notice in the Federal Register on May 29th 2013, which awarded $29,986,000 of CDBG-DR funds to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be administered by DCED. This was the second allocation of CDBG-DR funding to assist the State with recovery from 2011 storm events (April 2011 Storms – FEMA-4003-DR; Hurricane Irene – FEMA-4025-DR; and Tropical Storm Lee – FEMA-4030-DR). The Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) is the recipient and administrator of CDBG-DR funding for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Action Plan guiding the distribution of the $29,986,000 appropriation was published on August 30, 2013. Since then DCED has published and received approval for one Substantial Action Plan Amendment and one non-Substantial Action Plan Amendment to this CDBG-DR funding under Public Law 113-2. Below is a summary of those Action Plan Amendments and when they were published:

Substantial Amendment I (SA1/AP#1) July 26, 2017: This Substantial Amendment includes an updated unmet needs analysis based on the latest available data from the qualifying disaster events. It also allocated the entirety of the PL 113-2 appropriation to a mix of Housing and Infrastructure Programs based on the remaining unmet need as well as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s strategic priorities and long-term recovery plans.
Non-Substantial Amendment 2 (NSA2/AP #2), November 6, 2017: This Non-Substantial Amendment, originally submitted as Amendment I, reallocated funding from the Housing Repair, Reconstruction and Elevation line item to the Buyout line item to allow for moving and relocating payments for eligible tenants in the designated buyout areas. The effective date of this budget revision was Monday, November 6, 2017.

The needs for disaster relief have evolved since the submission of the previous Substantial Action Plan Amendment. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has updated its unmet needs analysis and made some changes to the funding allocations under the PL 113-2 appropriation to reflect this new analysis as well as complementing the strategic priorities of the Commonwealth.

Based on input received from citizens, stakeholder groups, local government officials and other partners, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania reviewed its CDBG-DR funding priorities and established the portfolio of recovery programs set forth on page 4 of this substantial amendment. DCED proposes to dedicate funding to programs currently approved by HUD, and for which demand has exceeded available funding. Integrating additional CDBG-DR funds into these established programs is the most efficient and effective way to get the funding spent in the areas of greatest need and the “most impacted” counties. This substantial amendment provides details on the programs to be funded under PL 113-2 appropriation and how much funding is allocated to each program.

This Action Plan Amendment Number 3 (SA3/AP #1) January 16, 2018 is considered a substantial amendment according to the definition in the HUD Federal Register Notice and in accordance with the State’s Citizen Participation Plan because it involves a re-allocation of more than $1,000,000 of CDBG-DR funds and the addition of a new national objective for the Buyout program.

Notice was given for a public comment period to review the proposed substantial amendment to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s FY2013 Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (PL-113-2) funds. The public comment period was from December 10, 2017 through January 10, 2018. Substantial Amendment #4 (SA4/AP#11) May 18, 2018, funds awarded to specific projects in identified target areas based on the parameters included in SA3 and requirements outlines in the DCED CDBG-DR guidelines and request for proposals.

Disaster Damage:
dated December 2016. Projects included Bloomsburg Flood Hazard Mitigation - $9,550,000 Flood Wall Construction and related storm and sanitary sewer restoration project in the Town of Bloomsburg providing benefit to the entire low-moderate income town, Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority - $1,000,000 Demolition of Public Facility - Coxton Bridge spanning the Susquehanna River between Exeter and Duyrea, Luzerne County, PA. Urgent Need; and Schuylkill County - Pine Grove - $3,000,000 Wetlands Restoration project, urgent need benefit located to create 20.2 acres of wetland habitat at the Swatara Creek beginning at East Pottsville Street.

Substantial Amendment #5 (SA5/AP#23), July 21, 2021: This substantial Amendment awarded funds to address previously identified and remaining unmet needs. Projects include Wyoming County Bridgeview Commons (LMH) $850,327 and Schuylkill County Pine Grove - $2,796,969.94 for the Wetlands Restoration Project (Urgent Need) to expand the restoration to include an additional 22 acres of wetland habitat along the Swatara Creek.

Recovery Needs:
The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is reallocating funds to the most impacted communities. Funding transfers will not affect any existing commitment of program funds to any individual, business, community or project. The following tables can be located on DCED’s website: https://dced.pa.gov/programs/community-development-block-grant-disaster-recovery-cdbg-dr/or http://dced.pa.gov Copy of the Amendment may be found in Library section on the DCED home page.

Table 1: Summary of Distribution under both CDBG-DR Allocations PL 112-55 and PL 113-2 (Pg. 4)
Table 2: PL 113-2 describes how the funds will be reallocated and the Method of Distribution - (Pg. 4)
Table 3: Transfer of Funds to the Infrastructure Program (Pg. 5)
As a result of the increased costs associated with multiple infrastructure projects, the Infrastructure Program requires additional funding. DCED has identified additional infrastructure projects that can benefit from CDBG-DR support and that can be completed within the extended timeframe. Reduction of funds for the Housing Repair, Reconstruction and Elevation Program.

Table 4: Elimination of the Housing Repair, Reconstruction and Elevation Program (Pg. 5)
Under the Housing Repair, Reconstruction and Elevation Program, homeowners can use funding to elevate their structure and implement other forms of flood proofing to make primary residences more resistant to future flooding. In order to participate in the program, many properties were required to elevate based on the amount of storm damage and location of property within the 100-year floodplain. Due to the increased number of steps required to enter their home after elevation, many elderly homeowners seeking to “age in place” chose not to elevate their homes. Approximately 23.8% of the households in the five hardest hit counties (Bradford, Columbia, Dauphin, Luzerne, and Wyoming) include individuals 60 years of age or older. Since the potential beneficiaries for this program included significant numbers of senior citizens, the demand for the program did not meet initial projections. While elevation was cited as a reason that some eligible applicants lacked interest in the Housing Repair, Reconstruction and Elevation Program, a number of the proposed infrastructure projects will reduce the need for elevation. Due to lack of interest, funds previously allocated for the Housing Repair, Reconstruction and Elevation Program will be reallocated to the Infrastructure Program. (Pg. 7)

DCED will reallocate the total allocation of $6,050,000 from the Housing Repair, Reconstruction and Elevation Program to the Infrastructure Program. DCED also recognized that cost reasonableness associated with rehabilitation of properties in the Housing Repair, Reconstruction and Elevation Program was a reason for a lack of interest from eligible applicants. The cost associated with rehabilitating and elevating homes often far exceeded the market values of the homes. In addition to expected costs of rehabilitating and elevating a home, the costs associated with regulatory compliance would deter many applicants from continuing in the program. DCED is also concerned that elevation would negatively impact the future marketability of elevated homes.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has identified a remaining balance of $4,234,265.31 (some of the balance are funds allocated from program administration) and seeks t

Recovery Needs:

- allocate these available P.L. 113 resources based on the parameters established in the DCED CDBG-DR Guidelines and request for proposals dated June 2020 and unmet needs analysis of 2017. Details of each project is included in Exhibit A. Allocation of Funds. This SA #5 DRGR Action Plan 12 (SA5/AP#12) is considered a substantial amendment according to the definition in the HUD Federal Register Notice and in accordance with the State’s Citizen Participation Plan because it involves a re-allocation of more than $1,000,000 of CDBG-DR funds.

Due to character limits the FULL Substantial Amendment can be located on DCED’s website: https://dced.pa.gov/programs/community-development-block-grant-disaster-recovery-cdbg-dr/or http://dced.pa.gov Copy of the Amendment may be found in the Library section on DCED’s home page.

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Overall Progress Narrative:

The Commonwealth of PA is currently working on compiling and importing accomplishment data for completed activities into DRGR. Under Substantial Amendment #5 funds were transferred from the Buyout budget to Multi-family Rental Housing and Infrastructure, in which the below two contracts were created and fully executed this quarter.

- Wyoming County - Bridgeview Commons is the new development of (16) affordable rental housing units in Nicholson Borough, due to the 2011 storm events Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, there was considerable storm damage to housing stock in Nicholson Borough.
- Schuylkill County - Pine Grove Wetlands Restoration project, total project expands the restoration to include an additional 22 acres of wetland habitat along the Swatara Creek.

Progress Toward Required Numeric Targets

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Projected</th>
<th>Actual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Benefit Percentage</td>
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<td>$25,751,734.69</td>
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The Commonwealth of PA is currently working on compiling and importing accomplishment data for completed activities into DRGR. There were no expenditures to report this 1st quarter of 2022.
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<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Initial Cost</th>
<th>Current Cost</th>
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