



Orleans Parish, Louisiana – 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update  
Section 8 - Capability Assessment

## Section 8. Capability Assessment

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#### Changes between the 2010 Plan and the 2015 Plan Update

The Capability Assessment section of the 2010 Plan has been updated. In the 2010 Plan, a capability assessment survey was sent to key departments and agencies to gather self-assessments. However, responses to that survey were not numerous enough to be uniformly helpful in the Plan update. For the 2015 Plan Update, the City's Hazard Mitigation Office updated the capability assessment from their own knowledge and experiences for those agencies that are most likely to serve as lead agencies in the implementation of the Mitigation Strategy in the 2015 Plan Update. The Capability Assessment section for the 2015 Plan Update also includes an updated discussion of federal and state capabilities to support Orleans Parish as well as a new funding source matrix.

### 8.1 Interim Final Rule (IFR) Requirements for Capability Assessment

**IFR §201.6(c)(3):** The plan shall include a mitigation strategy that provides the jurisdiction's blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools.

The capability assessment contains an analysis of local, state and federal agencies and departments that support hazard mitigation activities. Agency missions, programs, and policies were reviewed to gauge the capacity of each to contribute in the implementation of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Additionally, funding opportunities were examined at local, State and Federal levels.

The following capability assessment provides the basis for developing a mitigation strategy that fulfills the requirement of FEMA 44 CFR Part 201.6 (c) (3).

### 8.2 Local Capability Assessment

This section describes the City's capacity to implement the mitigation actions proposed in this Plan. The City of New Orleans is a Home Rule City, as defined by the Louisiana Constitution. Among other things, the City has the power to adopt and implement regulations for land use, zoning, and historic preservation and to adopt standards for the construction, demolition, use and modification of land and structures.

Since the 2010 Plan Update, the City updated many of the regulations that govern its application of these powers. One important milestone is the City's Master Plan for the 21st Century: New Orleans 2030, which was adopted by the City Council August 12, 2010 (Ordinance Calendar No. 28,069). The new Master Plan also includes an approved Land Use Plan. The Master Plan establishes the policies and vision to guide future development that will encourage economic development and investment, support New Orleans neighborhoods and communities and help move New



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Orleans towards becoming a more resilient city. Elected officials, as well as city departments, boards and commissions are charged with implementing the policies of the Master Plan. The 2010 Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted as an appendix to the Master Plan. As part of the Master Plan, elected officials, as well as city departments, boards, and commissions, will also be charged with implementing the 2010 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. In the next round of Master Plan amendments following the adoption of the 2015 Plan Update, inclusion of the 2015 Plan within the Master Plan will be requested.

On August 12, 2015, the City adopted a new Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance Calendar 30,637) which establishes the regulatory tools to implement the policies of the Master Plan, including the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### **Departments, Boards, and Commissions**

Many City departments, boards, and commissions perform functions related to hazard mitigation. The organizations listed below are those that are most likely to be involved in mitigation activities or to support other organizations in that capacity.

#### **New Orleans City Departments and Offices**

Chief Administrative Office – Serving as the administrative arm of the Mayor, this office oversees other city departments and the city budget.

Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (NOHSEP) – This office is responsible for emergency planning and response to disasters. This includes preparation for and coordination of the actions needed to protect the lives and property of the citizens of New Orleans from natural or man-made disasters. Requests for federal disaster assistance and federal funding subsequent to disaster declarations have historically been made through this office. NOHSEP also encompasses the Hazard Mitigation Office. The Hazard Mitigation Office is responsible for the maintenance and implementation of the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan as well as for the management of the City's disaster risk reduction efforts, including FEMA's Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs. The office is responsible for gathering knowledge about local hazards and risks, and incorporating this knowledge into project planning and development. The Hazard Mitigation Office also communicates hazard and risk information to New Orleans residents, coordinates with city, state, and federal agencies, and builds capacity outside city government for disaster risk reduction.

Capital Projects Administration – Capital Projects Administration is responsible for the implementation of the City's Capital Improvements Plan and for projects funded by FEMA's Public Assistance program.

Office of Coastal & Environmental Affairs (OCEA) – The OCEA was established to enhance and protect the New Orleans environment for current and future generations. OCEA strives to deliver on a vision for creating a truly sustainable community through energy efficient housing, green economic development, sustainable coastal zone management, and soil/land remediation, as well as public education and information to further amplify the message of a green, sustainable New Orleans.

Department of Code Enforcement – This department enforces a broad set of housing standards in the City Code. The department's main functions include inspecting houses, prosecuting code violations, and initiating the expropriation process when needed. This department seeks to make sure that neighborhoods are vibrant and safe through: a) Removing blighted property and getting the property back into commerce; b) Making sure that properties do not pose health threats to the community; and c) Making sure that properties are structurally sound.



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Office of Communications – The Office of Communications is responsible for coordinating all external communications.

New Orleans Fire Department (NOFD) – The NOFD responds to all emergency situations in the City of New Orleans to protect and save life and property. The Department also strives to reduce the incidence of fire and the loss of life and injuries due to those incidents.

Department of Health – The New Orleans Department of Health is responsible for adopting and enforcing local health and sanitary regulations, making health inspections, and operating and providing emergency medical services. The Health Department also provides other services including disease mapping, prevention, and health maintenance. The Health Department is also in charge of implementation of the evacuation plan for special needs citizens.

Department of Information Technology & Innovation – The Office of Information Technology and Innovation facilitates effective, cost efficient use of technology by spearheading the assessment and deployment of technology-based business management solutions, and service delivery strategies. They strive to maximize the City's IT value by providing a stable technology and network infrastructure; drive innovation and performance improvement to enhance the delivery of all City services; increase the availability of information to improve decision making for City employees and residents.

Office of Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) – This office oversees many federal and state programs and monitoring of those programs. IGR works with federal, state and local agencies to secure funding for the City. This office also coordinates between the Administration and the City Council.

Mayor's Office of Resilience – The Mayor's Office of Resilience was established in 2015 through the City's participation in 100 Resilient Cities. This office is headed by the Chief Resilience Officer and is responsible for the City's Resilience Strategy.

Department of Parks & Parkways – The Department of Parks & Parkways is responsible for maintenance of neutral grounds, the tree canopy on public property, and City-owned parks.

Department of Public Works (DPW) – This department is responsible for designing, constructing, paving, and maintaining streets, bridges, the local storm sewer, and related structures. They have the responsibility for parking enforcement, towing abandoned cars and vehicles, and clearing catch basins.

Department of Safety and Permits – The Safety and Permits Department is responsible for issuing the permits needed for all new construction, renovations, additions, use, and special events. The Building Division of Safety and Permits is responsible for inspecting buildings to ensure that new construction or alterations to existing structures are done according to the minimum standards provided in the Building Code. The Building Division also conducts flood compliance reviews and inspections. The Director of Safety and Permits also serves as the Floodplain Manager.

Department of Sanitation – This department is responsible for keeping city streets clean and for the collection of refuse.

### **New Orleans City Council**

City Council – The City Council serves as the legislative body of the City and consists of seven members – five council members representing each district and two at-large council members. They enact laws to protect the safety



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and welfare of the citizens of New Orleans. The Council has the authority to levy taxes (subject to state law) and to adopt the City's annual capital and operating budgets. Ordinances of the Council may be vetoed by the Mayor, and vetoes may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the Council. The Hazard Mitigation Plan must be adopted by the City Council for it to become effective.

### **Boards and Commissions**

**New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board** – The mission of the Sewerage and Water Board is to provide New Orleans with drinking water, drainage, water for fire protection, and wastewater service. The Board is responsible for operating pumping stations throughout the City to pump out storm water.

**City Planning Commission** – The City Planning Commission is responsible for developing the City's zoning ordinance, land use plan, Master Plan, and subdivision regulations. It is also in charge of plans for the "re-planning, improvement, and reconstruction of neighborhood and community centers, and of areas or districts destroyed or seriously damaged by fire, earthquake, flood, or other disaster."

**New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA)** – NORA was created by state statute to eliminate and prevent the spread of slums and blight in the City of New Orleans in accordance with Community Improvement Plans. Its powers include acquiring real property through acquisition or expropriation; disposing of said property by sale or lease; and providing security to support slum clearance and neighborhood development. NORA's redevelopment policies are critical for the City's future sustainable growth and development, especially regarding development policies that mitigate future hazards. NORA coordinates with other departments within the City as well as outside agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to bring a better quality of life to Orleans Parish residents.

**Historic District Landmarks Commission (HDLC)** – The HDLC is responsible for preserving and protecting the architectural character of New Orleans through the regulation of thirteen designated historic districts and separate landmark structures. The HDLC must issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations to any private structure within a district under their control.

**Vieux Carre Commission** – The Vieux Carre Commission is responsible for preserving the buildings in the Vieux Carre. Specifically, the Commission reviews all plans for the erection of any new building or alteration, addition to, painting, or demolishing of any building in the Vieux Carre.

**Mosquito, Termite & Rodent Control Board** – This board is responsible for administering and evaluating mosquito and termite activities, and for monitoring the population of disease and virus transmitting mosquitoes.

**Regional Transit Authority (RTA)** – The RTA operates public buses and streetcars in New Orleans. The RTA plays a major role during evacuations of the city.

### **Other Organizations**

**Evacuteer** – Evacuteer is a non-profit organization with an emphasis on community relations in the New Orleans area. Their mission is predominantly to recruit, train, and manage volunteers. Evacuteer is comprised primarily of volunteers who provide assistance to New Orleans residents who may have accessibility issues during a mandatory evacuation. They provide neighborhood pick-up points known as Evacuspots. They train volunteers from neighboring communities to staff these locations, as well as provide assistance at City Hall with the 3-1-1 hotline. The authority of



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Evacuteer stems from an existing agreement with NOHSEP. Evacuteer trains approximately 500 volunteers each hurricane season to assist with potential activation of the City-wide Assisted Evacuation Plan (CAEP).

In addition, Evacuteer encourages the use of community partnerships to assist during mandatory evacuations. Community organizations that participate are provided with training to fully understand their expected responsibilities and roles within Evacuteer. They must commit a certain number of Evacuteers during an activation of the CAE. Volunteers provided by these organizations receive twenty five hours of training, drills, etc. throughout the calendar year. Volunteers may also be asked to be present during the re-entry phase of the CAEP.

Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPAE) – The SLFPAE covers three consolidated districts: East Jefferson Levee District, Orleans Levee District, and Lake Borgne Basin Levee District. The Authority's mission is to ensure the physical and operational integrity of the regional flood risk management system, and to work with local, regional, state, and federal partners to plan, design, and construct projects that will reduce the probability and risk of flooding for the residents within the Authority's jurisdiction. SLFPA-East is one of two authorities serving Orleans Parish and the surrounding metropolitan area, and it is the successor to the Orleans Levee District for the east bank of Orleans Parish.

Orleans Levee District – The Orleans Levee District is responsible for maintaining the levee system and associated drainage. It must also issue a permit or "letter of no objection" to any work or structures proposed in the vicinity of the levee system. As part of the maintenance program for the levees, a joint inspection of the hurricane levees is conducted each May by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Louisiana State Department of Transportation and Development, NOHSEP, and the Orleans Levee District. Each October or November, the same parties conduct an inspection of the Mississippi River levee system. Furthermore, the Operations and Maintenance Director for the Orleans Levee District is required to make bi-weekly checks of all levees for unusual conditions. (Also see Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East and –West).

The Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West (SLFPAW) – The SLFPAW is the levee authority serving the West Bank of the City of New Orleans and its surrounding metropolitan area. It is the successor of the Orleans Levee District on the west bank of Orleans Parish. It provides flood protection for nearly all land on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Jefferson and Orleans parishes by building, operating and maintaining flood control systems. The Authority is made up of two levee districts: the West Jefferson Levee District, which serves the west bank portions of Jefferson Parish, and the Algiers Levee District, which serves the west bank portions of Orleans Parish. Its jurisdiction covers approximately 67 miles of hurricane flood protection levees, floodwalls and floodgates and approximately 33 miles of Mississippi River levees and floodwalls.

Regional Planning Commission (RPC) – The RPC includes Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, and St. Tammany Parishes. Its mission is to promote the general welfare and prosperity of the entire region by harmonizing the activities of federal, state, parish, municipal, and other governmental agencies in the region.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – The USACE's New Orleans division provides comprehensive water resources management to include navigation, hurricane and storm damage risk reduction, and environmental stewardship for south Louisiana to ensure public safety and benefit the nation. The local USACE district conducts contingency operations and supports the national response plan.

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF) – The LPBF is a non-profit organization that works to restore and preserve the water quality, coast, and habitats of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, a 10,000 square mile watershed encompassing 16 Louisiana parishes. The Foundation, consisting of a 14-member board of directors representing



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parishes located within the Basin, as well as regulatory agencies, works in partnership with all segments of the community to coordinate restoration activities, educate citizens and stakeholders, advocate, and monitor regulatory processes. Over the last decade LPBF has worked with numerous federal, state, and local agencies to create comprehensive strategies for coastal restoration and hurricane protection in the Basin.

Entergy New Orleans (ENO) – ENO, a subsidiary of Entergy Corporation, is the electric and gas utility serving Orleans Parish. Until late 2015, customers on the west bank of Orleans Parish were served by Entergy Louisiana. However, all of Orleans Parish is now served by Entergy New Orleans.

### **Survey of Local Capabilities**

An assessment of agencies that provide services which directly or indirectly support hazard mitigation planning activities was conducted by the Hazard Mitigation Office. During the first year following adoption of this plan, each of these agencies will be asked to update and expand upon any information about their operations or authority that may further support implementation of the plan. The Hazard Mitigation Office will use this information to fill capability gaps and to identify additional gaps, conflicts, and or weaknesses to be addressed through the maintenance cycle of the Mitigation Plan.

The results of the Mitigation Office's Capability Assessment are shown in the following tables. This assessment is intended to identify current capabilities to implement hazard mitigation activities. In particular, the information below reflects: 1) planning and regulatory tools currently in place; 2) administrative and technical authority and resources; and 3) funding resources.





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STAFF/PERSONNEL RESOURCES	Staff with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Engineers or professionals trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	Staff having specialized experience with natural and/or human-caused disasters	Emergency Manager	Certified Floodplain Manager®	Land Surveyors	Scientists familiar with the hazards of the community	Staff with education or expertise to assess the community's vulnerability to hazards	Personnel skilled in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and/or FEMA's HAZUS program	Resource development staff or grant writers
	New Orleans City Departments and Offices									
Chief Administrative Office (CAO)	✓							✓		
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (including Hazard Mitigation Office)	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Capital Projects Administration	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
Office of Coastal & Environmental Affairs (OCEA)	✓		✓				✓	✓		✓
Department of Code Enforcement	✓	✓	✓					✓		
Office of Communication			✓							



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New Orleans Fire Department (NOFD)			✓	✓				✓		✓
Department of Health			✓	✓			✓	✓		✓
Department of Information Technology and Innovation			✓					✓	✓	✓
Office of Intergovernmental Relations										✓
Mayor's Office of Resilience	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓
Department of Parks and Parkways	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓
Department of Public Works (DPW)	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
Department of Safety and Permits	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
Department of Sanitation			✓				✓	✓		
New Orleans City Council	✓									
<b>Boards and Commissions</b>										
Sewerage & Water Board	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
City Planning Commission	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓





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New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA)	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
Historic Districts Landmarks Commission (HDLC)	✓	✓	✓							
Vieux Carre Commission	✓	✓	✓							
Mosquito, Termite, & Rodent Control Board			✓				✓	✓		✓
Regional Transit Authority	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	
<b>Other Organizations</b>										
UNO - CHART	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Evacuteer	✓		✓					✓		✓
Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East (SLFPAE)	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Orleans Levee District	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West (SLFPAW)	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓
Regional Planning Commission (RPC)	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



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Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF)	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Entergy, New Orleans	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓



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**FINANCIAL  
RESOURCES**

	Capital Improvement Programming	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	Special Purposes Taxes (or taxing districts)	Fees for Water, Sewer, Gas, Electric, or other Utility Services	Stormwater Utility Fees	Development Impact Fees	General Obligation, Revenue and/or Special Tax Bonds	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements	Impact fees for homebuyers or developers of new developments	Ability to withhold spending in hazard-prone areas
<b>New Orleans City Departments and Offices</b>										
Chief Administrative Office (CAO)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (including Hazard Mitigation Office)								✓		
Capital Projects Administration	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓
Office of Coastal & Environmental Affairs (OCEA)								✓		
Department of Code Enforcement							✓			



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Office of Communication										
New Orleans Fire Department (NOFD)	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Department of Health							✓	✓		
Department of Information Technology and Innovation										
Office of Intergovernmental Relations								✓		
Mayor's Office of Resilience	✓	✓						✓		✓
Department of Parks and Parkways	✓	✓							✓	✓
Department of Public Works (DPW)	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓
Department of Safety and Permits		✓				✓	✓		✓	✓
Department of Sanitation	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	
New Orleans City Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Boards and Commissions</b>										
Sewerage & Water Board	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
City Planning Commission	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓



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New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA)		✓						✓		✓
Historic Districts Landmarks Commission (HDLIC)										✓
Vieux Carre Commission			✓							
Mosquito, Termite, & Rodent Control Board			✓	✓			✓	✓		✓
Regional Transit Authority			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Other Organizations</b>										
UNO - CHART								✓		
Evacuteer								✓		
Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East (SLFPAE)			✓					✓		✓
Orleans Levee District			✓					✓		✓
Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West (SLFPAW)			✓					✓		✓
Regional Planning Commission (RPC)								✓		✓
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)			✓					✓		✓



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Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF)								✓		
Entergy, New Orleans				✓			✓			

DRAFT



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### Local Funding Sources

The City of New Orleans has the capacity to fund some mitigation activities from City revenues. The City adopts two different budgets every year, the Operating Budget and the Capital Budget. Funds in both the Operating Budget and the Capital Budget can be used to support mitigation activities.

In the case of the Operating Budget, some revenues must be used for predetermined purposes while other revenues are unrestricted. Tax revenues make up slightly less than half of the City's total operating revenues in most years. All sales tax revenue and approximately one-third of property tax revenue goes into the City's unrestricted General Fund and may be used at the City's discretion to provide public services. Of the restricted sources of revenue, the Economic Development Trust Fund and the Housing Trust Fund could possibly be used to fund mitigation activities.

## 8.3 Federal and State Capability Assessment

The Federal government and the State of Louisiana have an abundance of resources that the City of New Orleans can access in order to support the Orleans Parish 2010 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. Federal agencies provide mitigation assistance through various programs that conduct studies, develop, and fund projects for ecosystem restoration, flood control and hurricane protection, as well as indirectly provide mitigation assistance through disaster recovery. The federal government has several programs to support hazard mitigation through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). These programs are federally-funded but typically administered by the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP).

### FEMA-funded programs

- **FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM):** The Pre-Disaster Mitigation program is designed to implement cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program. These include planning, acquisition, retrofitting, flood control projects, generators, and other projects. All applicants must participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) if they have been identified through the NFIP as having a Special Flood Hazard Area. Only governments are eligible. The PDM covers up to 75% of costs.
- **FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA):** The Flood Mitigation Assistance program's goal is to reduce or eliminate claims under the NFIP. This program provides funding to assist states and NFIP-participating communities in implementing plans, projects, and programs to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP. This includes acquisition, elevation, and other methods of flood mitigation. The FMA program covers up to 75% of costs unless the subject property meets the definition of Severe Repetitive Loss, in which case up to 90% of eligible costs may be reimbursed by the FMA program.
- **FEMA Repetitive Flood Claims Program (RFC):** This program provides funding to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the NFIP that have had one or more claim payment(s) for flood damages. Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) funds may only be used for structures in NFIP participating communities that cannot meet the requirements of the FMA program due to lack of cost





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share funds or capacity to manage the activities. The RFC grants provide up to 100% of state/local match for FMA property acquisitions, as well as other flood-related mitigation measures.

- **FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP):** Authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is administered by FEMA and provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the program is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. Eligible projects include drainage systems, structure elevation, landscape alteration, floodwalls, road elevation, property acquisition, development of mitigation plans, development of land-use regulations, and more. Governments and selected non-profits are eligible. The HMGP covers up to 75% of costs. The majority of hurricanes Katrina and Rita-related funds came through FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) and HMGP.
- **FEMA Public Assistance (PA):** The Public Assistance Program provides supplemental federal disaster grant assistance under Section 406 of the Stafford Act for the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged publicly owned facilities, and the facilities of certain private, non-profit organizations. Eligible projects include: debris removal, emergency protective measures, repair of transportation and utility infrastructure, and more. The PA covers up to 75% of costs. Rather than simply repairing a facility to its pre-damage level of safety, the Public Assistance program can provide additional funding, where cost-effective and technically feasible, to bring a facility to a higher safety standard.
- **FEMA Unmet Needs:** FEMA's Unmet Needs program is authorized by Congress for specific major disaster related events where the needs of the citizens are not met through existing services. The Unmet Needs program is implemented only when deemed appropriate by Congress. Project eligibility is also determined by Congress, but will usually conform to the existing criteria under the HMGP unless specifically waived.

For many of these federal grants, the "non-federal" share can be borne by the state as the "grantee", the recipient community as the "subgrantee" or the property owner who benefits from the project. In most states, the non-federal share is typically borne by the community or the property owner.

#### Other Federal Mitigation-Related Programs

The following other federal programs represent only some of the federal programs related to mitigation with may be available to support the Orleans Parish 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan. A more comprehensive listing of potential funding sources to support this Update is included in Table 8.1 at the end of Section 8.

- **National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC):** NDRC is a HUD program intended to help communities become more resilient. The National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) is a two-phase process that will competitively award nearly \$1 billion in HUD Disaster Recovery funds to eligible communities. Orleans Parish is an eligible community. The competition will help communities recover from prior disasters and improve their ability to withstand and recover more quickly from future disasters, hazards, and shocks. This support will help applicants consider future risks and vulnerabilities in planning and decision-making. The competition encourages communities to not only consider how they can recover from a past disaster but also how to avoid future disaster losses.



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- **Non-Structural Alternatives to Structural Rehabilitation of Damaged Flood Control Works:** The USACE, New Orleans District Office provides planning and construction grants for non-structural alternatives to structural rehabilitation of damaged flood control works.
- **Beneficial Uses of Dredge Material Program:** The USACE, New Orleans District Office provides funding to use dredged materials from navigable waterways to create wetlands, protect eroding shorelines, and more.
- **Flood Control Act Funds:** The USACE, New Orleans District Office provides funding through federal appropriations in support of flood control infrastructure projects.
- **Project Modification for Improvement of the Environment:** The USACE New Orleans District Office provides ecosystem restoration by modifying structures and/or operations of water resource projects constructed by the USACE, or restoring areas where USACE projects degraded an area.
- **Water Resources Development Act:** The USACE New Orleans District Office provides funding to support federal projects including flood control and coastal restoration.
- **Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Supplemental Appropriations:** The Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides CDBG grants to help cities, parishes, and states recover from disasters, especially in low-income areas.
- **CDBG, State-Administered Program:** HUD provides financial assistance to promote development and economic opportunities for low and moderate-income persons, including mitigation actions.
- **CDBG Entitlement Communities Program:** HUD provides financial assistance to larger cities and urban parishes to promote development and economic opportunities for low and moderate-income persons, including mitigation actions.
- **HOME Investment Partnership Program:** HUD provides grants and loans to states, local governments, and consortia for permanent and transitional housing (including support for property acquisition and rehabilitation) for low-income persons.

### State of Louisiana

A number of mitigation-specific acts, plans, executive orders, and policies exist in the State. Among them are several targeted planning and policy documents, and several multi-agency attempts at integrating the various hazard mitigation activities in the State. Many of these plans and policies hold significant promise for hazard mitigation, particularly because they are ongoing and take an integrated, strategic look at the whole hazard-mitigation landscape in Louisiana and propose ways to continually improve hazard mitigation.

The largest number of the mitigation policies, programs, and activities undertaken by Louisiana State agencies occur within the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP). However, the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the Coastal Protection Restoration Authority (CPRA), the Division of



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Administration, and the Office of Community Development (OCD) all have policies, programs, and activities specific to mitigation or that actively support hazard mitigation. Additional agencies and entities have programs that further support hazard mitigation activities in the State. In many cases, these programs' full potential for effective mitigation is not realized. Thorough and systematic policy/program evaluations and organizational reviews of hazard mitigation efforts are needed both within the State and among federal partners.

GOHSEP, DNR, OCD and DOTD all have significant numbers of staff devoted specifically to hazard mitigation, or whose activities actively support hazard mitigation. GOHSEP is the programmatic lead on hazard mitigation activities.

Finally, to provide a sound basis for ongoing and future hazard mitigation planning, a better GIS and other data creation, consistency, management, and distribution systems are needed. The 2010 Plan concluded that the most viable option was likely one that involves partnerships between GOHSEP, Louisiana universities, and other state agencies, as well as local and regional entities. While this would also facilitate better integration between local and state planning, the City itself has taken great steps forward to establish a level of capacity to manage and use data in the years since the previous plan update. The City should continue this positive momentum to establish a continuous and deliberate decision-making process that can be based on, and supported by, this capacity to analyze data. Additionally, efforts to collaborate with respect to this effort, as suggested in the 2010 Plan, should be continued.



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**(Table 8.1, Funding Source Matrix)**

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