



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - June 30, 2025

Orange County Government received \$219 million in federal disaster recovery funding (CDBG-DR funds) to help communities in hard-hit areas recover from Hurricane Ian. In January 2025, it was announced that the County will receive an additional allocation of \$33 million to address the remaining needs resulting from Hurricane Milton.

Orange County aims to provide our residents and community partners with the most up to date information as the County moves forward with its implementation of the CDBG-DR programs. We encourage you to share this newsletter with your friends, family, colleagues, and anyone else who, you believe, might benefit from this information.

Please visit our website at www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR for more information about the CDBG-DR Program, timeline, and other related information.



Upcoming Request for Applications (RFAs)

Orange County is preparing to release two (2) Requests for Applications (RFAs) in July of 2025, for the following programs: (1) Public Facilities and Housing Projects for Non-Profit Organizations and Public Housing Authorities, and (2) Planning Studies for Orange County Departments/Divisions, local municipalities and quasi-governmental agencies. Pre-Award Technical Assistance Workshops will be held in July to go over the applications in detail and to answer questions about the program requirements and the application process.

1. **Public Facilities Projects:**

- **Purpose:** Focuses on unmet needs from Hurricane Ian, related to the rehabilitation and/or construction of public facilities serving low- to moderate-income persons or limited clientele, or located in low- to moderate income areas.
- **Eligible Applicants:** Non-profit organizations.

2. **Housing Projects:**

- **Purpose:** Focuses on unmet needs from Hurricane Ian, related to the rehabilitation or reconstruction of existing affordable rental units, or new construction of affordable housing units for permanent supportive housing and housing for individuals with special needs (such as group home facilities).
- **Eligible Applicants:** Non-profit organizations and public housing authorities

3. **Planning Studies Program:**

- **Purpose:** Supports departments, divisions, local jurisdictions, government units, and quasi-governmental entities in planning activities such as data gathering, studies, and the development of recovery and resiliency strategies. This program aims to help design and implement recovery efforts and CDBG-DR programs.
- **Eligible Applicants:** County Departments and Divisions, local municipalities, and quasi-governmental entities (such as water management districts and regional planning council).

Minimum Eligibility Criteria

The following minimum eligibility criteria must be met for projects applying to the CDBG-DR Infrastructure and Public Facilities and Planning Studies Programs:

Public Facilities and Housing Projects:

- Demonstrates a tie-back to Hurricane Ian
- Benefits low- to moderate-income persons (or areas – Public Facilities)
- Enhances resiliency
- New construction is limited to increasing housing units for permanent supportive housing and housing for individuals with special needs (Housing)

Planning Studies:

- The proposed study must address the impact of disaster through mitigation and resiliency related activities.

Evaluation Criteria

Projects will be scored on a scale of 0 to 100 points for each evaluation criteria listed below.

- Project Description and Need
- Agency Competency
- Budget Justification and Leverage of Funds
- Project Feasibility
- Implementation and Outcomes

To ensure that projects are selected fairly, an evaluation committee(s) composed of a variety of stakeholders will conduct an extensive review of all application submissions. The evaluation committee will be responsible for reviewing and scoring projects based on the evaluation criteria.

Orange County Recovers



**NOW
ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS**

OrangeCountyRecovers.com



Orange County's CDBG-DR Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction program, Orange County Recovers, is open and actively accepting applications. To date, over 250 applications have been received! Case managers are working tirelessly to review all applications and determine eligibility.

If you or someone you know experienced damage from Hurricane Ian and have remaining unmet needs, please apply at [OrangeCountyRecovers.com](https://www.OrangeCountyRecovers.com) or call 321-382-3514.

Next Steps

Once your application has been completed and eligibility has been determined, the next steps are as follows:

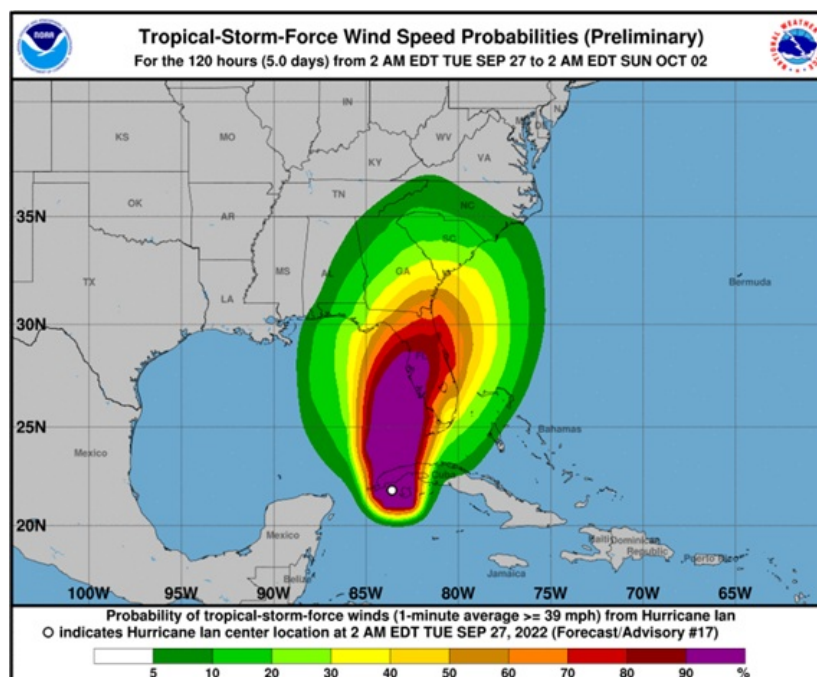
- Damage assessments
- Scope of work determination
- Environmental review
- Contractor assignment
- Begin Construction

REMINDER: You can always check your application status online or call 321-382-3514.

Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricanes bring rain, wind, water and tornadoes – make sure you begin preparations now! Click [HERE](#) for more information on how to stay prepared.

- Create a family emergency communication plan
- Prepare a disaster supply kit
- Know the local hurricane evacuation route and shelter locations
- Protect your home



CDBG-DR Timeline

The full updated CDBG-DR timeline can be found here: www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR.

Hurricane Ian

- **January 9, 2024:** BCC public hearing for the CDBG-DR Action Plan. Please click [HERE](#) to view the public hearing recording.
 - **January 17, 2024:** Orange County submitted the final CDBG-DR Action Plan to HUD for review and approval. Please click [HERE](#) for the final CDBG-DR Action Plan.
 - **April 9, 2024:** Grant Agreement for CDBG-DR funds executed between Orange County and HUD.
 - **June 17, 2024:** Orange County CDBG-DR Final Public and DRGR Action Plan was reviewed and approved by HUD.
 - **Summer 2024:** Program policies and procedures are being developed for the Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs.
 - **December 5 & 8 2024:** Notice of Funding Availability was posted for the CDBG-DR Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs.
 - **December 10, 2024:** Request for Applications (RFA) for Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs opened.
 - **December 11, 2024:** Mandatory Pre-Award Technical Assistance workshops held on the RFA process.
 - **January 6, 2025:** The CDBG-DR General Grant Management Services contract was issued.
 - **February 5, 2025:** RFAs for Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning Studies programs to close.
 - **March 4, 2025:** RFA for the Public Services program opened for qualified non-profit organizations.
 - **March 5, 2025:** Applications for the Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction program opened.
 - **March 13, 2025:** Mandatory Pre-Award Technical Assistance Workshop for Public Services RFA.
 - **April 2, 2025:** RFA for the Public Services program will close.
 - **April 11, 2025:** Request for Proposals (RFP) for general contractors to open.
 - **May 23, 2025:** RFP for general contractors closed.
 - **July 2025:** Release of Requests for Applications for Public Facilities and Housing Projects (for non-profit agencies and PHAs) and Planning Studies (the County, local municipalities, and quasi-governmental agencies).
 - **Fall 2025 (Tentative):** Launch RFA for New Affordable Housing construction.
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Hurricane Milton

- **April 15, 2025:** Draft Hurricane Milton Action Plan posted for public comment.
- **May 15, 2025:** Public comment period for the Hurricane Milton Action Plan to close.
- **June 3, 2025:** Public hearing for the Hurricane Milton Action Plan conducted by the BCC.
- **June 18, 2025:** Hurricane Milton Action Plan submitted to HUD for review and approval.

More information will be available in our next newsletter, coming soon!

Stay Tuned!

Help us spread the word about CDBG-DR

[Sign Up for our Newsletter
Here](#)

[Connect with us on our social media](#)



Questions? Thoughts? Suggestions?

We are here to help! Contact us here:
Disaster.Recovery@ocfl.net

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