

# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary September 28, 2023



John Bridges Community Center - 6 p.m.

445 W. 13th Street  
Apopka, FL 32703

Persons in attendance:

38

## Comments/Concerns

- **Affected areas:** Bithlo, Orlo Vista, College Park, Lockhart.
- **General comments:** flooding on 13th Street; tree cutting in the area; homeless problems in the area.
- **Funding:** there must be transparency in how CDBG-DR funds are distributed on different programs/activities.
- **Pre-disaster:** Tree removal prior to a storm is important; need programs to inform residents about evacuation plans, shelters, etc. (note: not everyone has access to digital information).
- **Post-disaster:** public cooling centers are needed during power outages; need to establish a system for debris removal for seniors and vulnerable populations; post-disaster social services.
- **Post-disaster issues** include: repair of traffic signals; trouble w/traffic patterns; evacuation plans; generators shut down; sewage on the streets.
- **Emergency management services**— need more pre/post-disaster community awareness for residents.
- **Special needs populations:** need homeless shelters for families, day drop-in shelters; further develop assistance for homeless.
- **Housing:** need to mitigate/elevate low areas/flood-prone areas; mobile home rehabilitation; need for affordable housing in more rural areas of the County; rehab of damaged housing stock.
- **Area concerns (Apopka):** Can making area improvements potentially price people out? Preservation of wetlands and recharge areas can aid in flood prevention; undocumented individuals are not likely to seek assistance.
- **Infrastructure:** clogs in sewer lines lead to increased flooding even during regular rain events; on-going maintenance is needed.
- **Homeowner insurance:** people are being priced out of their homes due to insurance cost increases.

## Priorities Identified

### HOUSING - 32

- New construction - 4
- Homeownership assistance - 5
- Rental assistance - 8
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 15

### INFRASTRUCTURE - 20

- Public facilities - 15
- Road and bridges repairs - 2
- Water and wastewater facilities - 3

### ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 2

- Job training - 1
- Loans and grants to businesses - 1

### PUBLIC SERVICES - 8

- Legal assistance - 3
- Housing counseling - 2
- Utilities assistance - 3



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 5, 2023



New Beginnings Church - 6 p.m.  
6859 Edgewater Commerce Pkwy.  
Orlando, FL 32810

Persons in attendance:  
**11**

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Funding:** CDBG-DR funds have been allocated to Orange County (not municipalities), but funds can be spent on projects and activities within municipal boundaries.
- **Pre-disaster (Pine Hills):** Power outages due to tree falling, need to cut trees along power lines in Pine Hills.
- **Post-disaster (Pine Hills):** Cleanup of debris in the Pine Hills area took a long time; there are still some debris present.
- **Post-disaster:** Need for emergency shelters; assistance in obtaining generators.
- **Housing:** Any investment in housing should include "sweat equity"; lots of damages to mobile homes.
- **Housing (Dockside condos):** Many people lost their cars during the hurricane (due to flooding); rain events flood the pond; there are water damage and drainage problems that still need to be fixed; project eligibility for CDBG-DR funds—unclear.
- **Damage to businesses:** Dress for Success (nonprofit) had to shut down their location and lay off employees due to damages (building, clothing/merchandise) from Hurricane Ian that insurance did not cover; need for economic development funds.
- **Program eligibility:** Eligibility for individual assistance will likely include "immigrant status," while area improvements (such as public facilities and infrastructure) might have different requirements.

## Priorities Identified

### **HOUSING - 15**

- New construction - 1
- Homeownership assistance - 1
- Rental assistance - 3
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 9
- Property buyout - 1

### **INFRASTRUCTURE - 13**

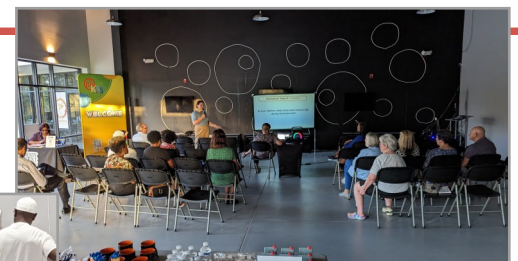
- Public facilities - 0
- Drainage/Utilities - 8
- Water and wastewater facilities - 1
- Other - 4 (tree removal/trimming)

### **ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 2**

- Business retention program(s) - 2
- Loans and grants to businesses - 0

### **PUBLIC SERVICES - 7**

- Legal assistance - 2
- Housing counseling - 1
- Mental/Health services - 1
- Housing stability services - 1
- Job training/Placement - 1
- Other - 1



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 10, 2023



Grand Avenue Neighborhood Center - 6 p.m.  
800 Grand St.  
Orlando, FL 32805

Persons in attendance:  
16

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Funding:** CDBG-DR funds can be used to serve qualified city residents and/or qualified areas located within a municipality (such as City of Orlando).
- **Community engagement:** CDBG-DR community meetings were advertised on the project website, through the County's social media, by Commissioners' Offices, at the libraries, neighborhood centers for families, and local chambers of commerce.
- **New housing construction:** It can be argued that Hurricane Ian made an existing affordable housing crisis worst; additionally, special needs housing (for seniors, homeless, persons with disabilities) is always needed and is in high demand.
- **Flooding:** The following areas were listed as affected by floods—I-Drive, Isle of Catalina, Bonnie Brook community, Orlo Vista, and Oakridge. The County needs to solicit input from those areas regarding the flooding damages.
- **Mitigation:** Flood forecasting could be part of mitigation.
- **Public services/childcare:** Such services, or similar services, can potentially be subsidized for qualified families; subsidies are likely to be funded through a nonprofit (such as 4Cs).
- **Public services/transportation:** Direct subsidies for transportation related expenditures (such as loss of a vehicle) are not likely to be funded with CDBG-DR dollars.
- **Job training and placement:** Finding qualified contractors might be a challenge. The County needs to invest into a contractors' training program.
- **Additional service needs:** Homeowner insurance assistance /and education.

## Priorities Identified

### HOUSING - 18

- New construction - 6
- Homeownership assistance - 2
- Rental assistance - 3
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 7
- Property buyout - 0

### INFRASTRUCTURE - 11

- Public facilities - 1
- Drainage/Utilities - 6
- Water and wastewater facilities - 4
- Other - 0

### ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 1

- Business retention program(s) - 0
- Loans and grants to businesses - 1

### PUBLIC SERVICES - 8

- Legal assistance - 2
- Housing counseling - 1
- Mental/Health services - 2
- Housing stability services - 1
- Job training/Placement - 2
- Other - 0



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 11, 2023



Tildenville Elementary School - 6:30 p.m.

1221 Brick Rd.  
Winter Garden, FL 34787

Persons in attendance:

13

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Tildenville area:** New construction around the area results in flooding where no flooding was reported before. Long-time residents has seen flooding get worst over-time due to new developments. The City of Winter Garden has maintenance responsibilities, and it can apply for CDBG-DR funds to conduct infrastructure improvements in qualified areas.
- **Tildenville area/facilities:** The playground in the area (Tildenville Park/off Avalon Rd.) floods even during the regular rain events; flooding has not been addressed for some time.
- **Other area concerns:** Drainage and ditches; trash pickup in the neighborhood (might need a clean up program).
- **Homeowners:** Lakeview Reserve residents have been dealing with lots of flooding issues. The community is gated, and HOA does not have sufficient funds in reserve to address continuous flooding/make infrastructure improvements. The community residents have been in communication with the City of Winter Garden staff.
- **Renters:** Reported loss of personal property; not covered by insurance.
- **Mitigation:** Protection and restauration of urban wetlands to aid in drainage/flooding.
- **Post-disaster:** Power outages; debris removal is still needed.
- **Public service needs:** Mental health services; job training and placement for younger individuals.

## Priorities Identified

### HOUSING - 7

- New construction - 0
- Homeownership assistance - 2
- Rental assistance - 1
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 3
- Property buyout - 1

### INFRASTRUCTURE - 11

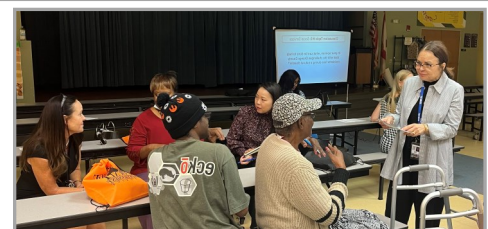
- Public facilities - 0
- Drainage/Utilities - 7
- Water and wastewater facilities - 2
- Other - 2

### ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 0

- Business retention program(s) - 0
- Loans and grants to businesses - 0

### PUBLIC SERVICES - 3

- Legal assistance - 0
- Housing counseling - 0
- Mental/Health services - 1
- Housing stability services - 0
- Job training/Placement - 1
- Other - 1



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 12, 2023



Meadow Woods Elementary School - 6:30 p.m.  
500 Rhode Island Woods Cir.  
Orlando, FL 32824

Persons in attendance:  
**1**

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Funding:** It is good to know the availability of funding coming to the community to address the impacts of Hurricane Ian.

## Priorities Identified

### HOUSING - o

- New construction - o
- Homeownership assistance - o
- Rental assistance - o
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - o
- Property buyout - o

### INFRASTRUCTURE - o

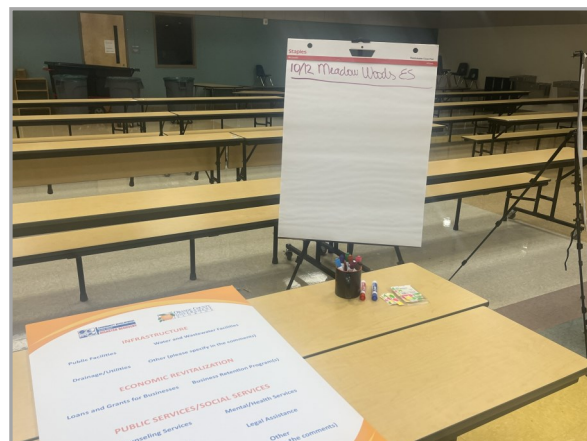
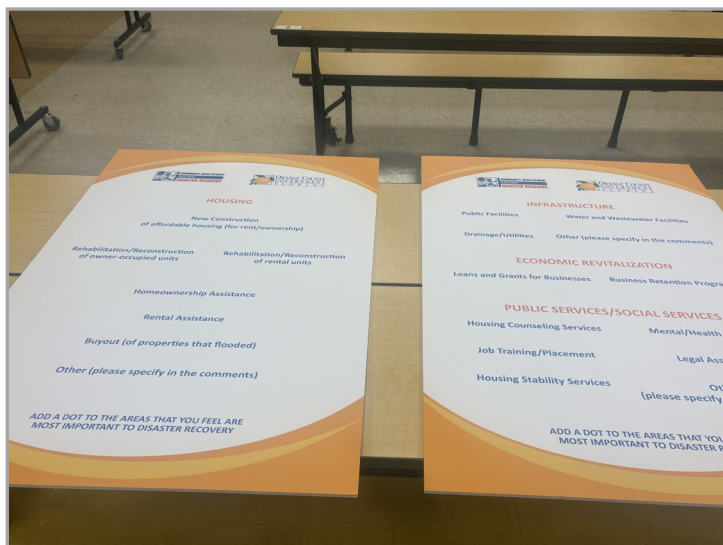
- Public facilities - o
- Drainage/Utilities - o
- Water and wastewater facilities - o
- Other - o

### ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - o

- Business retention program(s) - o
- Loans and grants to businesses - o

### PUBLIC SERVICES - o

- Legal assistance - o
- Housing counseling - o
- Mental/Health services - o
- Housing stability services - o
- Job training/Placement - o
- Other - o



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 16, 2023



**Bithlo Community Center - 6 p.m.**  
18501 Washington Ave.  
Orlando, FL 32820

**Persons in attendance:**  
3

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Funding:** Disaster recovery funding needed for renters; many residents/renters not eligible for FEMA assistance.
- **Mitigation:** 6th Street needs a lower speed limit; installation of street lights, sidewalks repairs.
- **Infrastructure:** Street drainage, water & sewer infrastructure improvements needed; need county water lines in some areas.
- **Pre-disaster:** Consider disaster supply drive to provide non-perishable food, batteries, generators for low-income persons who might have difficulties accessing those items after a storm ( due to flooded roads, lack of transportation).
- **Post-disaster:** Restoration of power lines/water is essential. Loss of power means no water as wells are electric. Power companies are not responsible for repair of power lines on private property. Additionally, need tree trimming and garbage pickup post storms.
- **Housing:** Need affordable housing; construction, replacement, relocation and rehab of mobile /manufactured homes. Housing stock in the area is mostly trailers/mobile homes.
- **Housing (special needs):** Need an east Orlando homeless shelter; consider repurposing the Covenant House facility.
- **Public services:** Need a mental health center in East Orlando. Consider funding "street psychology" services to diagnose, prescribe medication, and medically stabilize homeless persons with mental illness so they can better access shelter & services.
- **Businesses:** Prioritize funding for businesses that provide basic needs; groceries, pharmacies, etc. Suggestion to create a warehouse to produce manufactured homes.



## Priorities Identified

### **HOUSING - 4**

- New construction - 1
- Homeownership assistance - 1
- Rental assistance - 2
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 0
- Property buyout - 0
- Other - 0

### **INFRASTRUCTURE - 3**

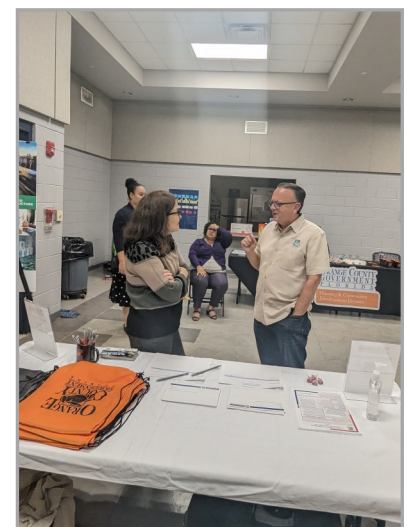
- Public facilities - 1
- Drainage/Utilities - 1
- Water and wastewater facilities - 1
- Other - 0

### **ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 0**

- Business retention program(s) - 0
- Loans and grants to businesses - 0

### **PUBLIC SERVICES - 2**

- Legal assistance - 0
- Housing counseling - 1
- Mental/Health services - 1
- Housing stability services - 0
- Job training/Placement - 0
- Other - 0



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 17, 2023



Goldenrod Recreation Center - 6 p.m.  
4863 N. Goldenrod Rd .  
Winter Park, FL 32792

Persons in attendance:  
14

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Housing:** Housing rehabilitation is essential to preserve what we already have in place.
- **Community/Dockside:** Need oversight to ensure HOA dues are used for disaster prep. Drainage pumps were not prepared/serviced prior to Hurricane Ian. Pump station failed during the storm pushing more water into the Dockside condos. Extensive damage to first floor condos; significant increases in monthly fees to repair.
- **Infrastructure:** Need improved drainage and underground power lines. Some communities experience power outages even during regular rain events. Orange County does not own electric utilities; however, concerns and suggestions will be share with energy providers.
- **Pre-disaster:** Communities need to initiate disaster planning. With Hurricane Ian, communities that never before flooded had flood issues. Disaster preparedness (checklist of items) is important—water needs to be drained from ponds, pumps need to be inspected/checked, etc.
- **Post-disaster:** Need to better inform the public about flooded roads within communities, not just major roadways. Suggest posting updates and maps online, etc. Road flooding limits access to helpful resources.
- **Public services:** Many residents are seniors who are now experiencing housing instability (Dockside condos). County requested a list of seniors (home owners and renters) impacted. Potentially, CDBG-DR funding can be used to assist. Additional service needs—housing stability, legal counseling and mental health counseling.
- **Businesses:** Prioritize funding for businesses that provide essential services and address basic needs (food delivery, etc.)



## Priorities Identified

### HOUSING - 9

- New construction - 1
- Homeownership assistance - 0
- Rental assistance - 3
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 3
- Property buyout - 1
- Other - 1

### INFRASTRUCTURE - 4

- Public facilities - 0
- Drainage/Utilities - 4
- Water and wastewater facilities - 0
- Other - 0

### ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 0

- Business retention program(s) - 0
- Loans and grants to businesses - 0

### PUBLIC SERVICES - 1

- Legal assistance - 0
- Housing counseling - 1
- Mental/Health services - 0
- Housing stability services - 0
- Job training/Placement - 0
- Other - 0



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 18, 2023



Green Briar Village Clubhouse - 6 p.m.  
10151 Gifford Blvd.  
Orlando, FL 32821

Persons in attendance:  
7

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Flooding/Drainage:** (Shingle Creek, Orangewood Blvd.) Extensive flooding during and after Hurricane Ian. Need to conserve wetlands to allow for natural drainage solutions. Extensive development in the area caused older communities to flood (did not flood before). New developments only address drainage within the proposed development; need to look at their effect on surrounding areas. Flooding in the community, to include roadway flooding, even during the regular rain events.
- **Infrastructure:** Overdevelopment (hotels, apartments, etc.) is worsening drainage issues; suggested to consider restricting development until infrastructure catches up with increased drainage needs. (e.g. close to 100,000 units are being proposed/developed in a 5-mile radius of Williamsburg and Green Briar communities).
- **Mitigation:** Stormwater retention requirements are currently under review/floodplain studies underway to address increased rainfall due to an on-going climate change and its impact on stormwater and drainage.
- **Natural environment:** Animals encroaching on homes due to loss of habitat/floodplains.
- **Public Service:** Education/awareness of planning/development process for residents. Disaster preparation—need general knowledge and information on what to do before and after a disaster.
- **Businesses:** Many businesses were impacted by extended road closures due to flooding and slow drainage.
- **Housing:** Rising homeowner insurance costs/premiums—can CDBG-DR be used to assist low-income homeowners with insurance costs?

## Priorities Identified

### HOUSING - 9

- New construction - 2
- Homeownership assistance - 1
- Rental assistance - 2
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 3
- Property buyout - 1
- Other - 0

### INFRASTRUCTURE - 12

- Public facilities - 0
- Drainage/Utilities - 12
- Water and wastewater facilities - 0
- Other - 0

### ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 0

- Business retention program(s) - 0
- Loans and grants to businesses - 0

### PUBLIC SERVICES - 1

- Legal assistance - 1
- Housing counseling - 0
- Mental/Health services - 0
- Housing stability services - 0
- Job training/Placement - 0
- Other - 0





# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 19, 2023



East Orange Community Center - 6 p.m.  
12050 E Colonial Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32826

Persons in attendance:  
12

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Areas impacted:** High Point Subdivision, Eastwood development/golf course, Dockside at Ventura, Alafaya Trail and adjacent areas, Econlockhatchee River basin.
- **Infrastructure:** Stormwater and waste management facilities/improvements are needed to meet the needs of new developments and to address aging facilities. The area needs more of water reclamation centers. The area is losing wetlands to overdevelopment along Colonial Drive/near Econlockhatchee River area.
- **Mitigation:** Eastwood development - high elevation of the golf course sends water runoff into surrounding neighborhoods; the golf course owner is not maintaining the pump system. What can be done to ensure private property owners and HOAs maintain stormwater management equipment? Poor maintenance/lack of maintenance impact neighboring properties and communities.
- **Funding eligibility:** Can HOAs access CDBG-DR funds? **Ans:** CDBG eligibility is based on an individual eligibility (ex. low-income homeowners, seniors, persons with disabilities, etc.) and/or an area eligibility (area contains  $\geq$  51% of low-income residents). Private HOAs may not qualify.
- **Post-disaster/Housing repairs:** Residents just above the HUD-published income limit who suffered catastrophic damage need funding for repairs/rehab. The County's Homeowner Rehab and SHIP Disaster Rehab programs are currently available and may be able to assist with repairs. The County also partners with nonprofits to offer minor rehab/roof repair programs for qualified homeowners.
- **Housing/New construction:** Some residents might need temporary housing while rebuilding/rehab is in progress. The County should invest in building affordable housing in more prosperous areas vs. low-income areas. Mixed-income housing model is needed. Need to revitalize existing structures and reclaim space/land in underdeveloped areas closer to the downtown core, area that already are close to jobs and transportation routes and have infrastructure capacity in place.

## Priorities Identified

### **HOUSING - 11**

New construction - 2  
Homeownership assistance - 2  
Rental assistance - 1  
Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 2  
Property buyout - 4  
Other - 0

### **INFRASTRUCTURE - 15**

Public facilities - 1  
Drainage/Utilities - 7  
Water and wastewater facilities - 7  
Other - 0

### **ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 0**

Business retention program(s) - 0  
Loans and grants to businesses - 0

### **PUBLIC SERVICES - 1**

Legal assistance - 1  
Housing counseling - 0  
Mental/Health services - 0  
Housing stability services - 0  
Job training/Placement - 0  
Other - 0



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 24, 2023



Christ The King Episcopal Church - 6 p.m.  
26 Willow Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32807

Persons in attendance:  
24

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Areas impacted:** Rio Pinar Country Club Estates, El Prado Canal, Little Econ river basin, Lake Azalea, Semoran Blvd.
- **Infrastructure:** Issues with power outages, downed power poles (private and county-owned), fallen trees, maintenance of canals and stormwater drains. Drainage issues caused by new construction/new development are a concern (new flooding). Water management in older neighborhoods, especially those without closed pump systems, is essential.
- **Mitigation:** Need to upgrade water retention/drainage plans for older neighborhoods to reflect changes in water levels/storm intensity. Elevation of structures, upgraded storm-water management systems, and development of a backup plan were offered as potential solutions (example: Blanchard Park Pump station malfunctioned). Protection of wetlands. Additionally, better collaboration needed between jurisdictions to maintain/improve existing infrastructure.
- **Program eligibility:** Funding assistance needed for home owners who did not qualify for FEMA or may not meet CDBG-DR income limits, although living on a fixed income and/or living paycheck-to-paycheck.
- **Program requirements (insurance):** Homeowners receiving federal assistance are required to maintain a flood insurance. CDBG-DR funds can be used to supplement FEMA and insurance funding gaps for eligible homeowners.
- **Housing:** Home rehabilitation should be the top priority. In some cases, repairs exceeded home values. Will County reimburse additional cost to owners forced to rebuild/rehab older homes to current codes? Timeline of CDBG-DR funding does not address immediate needs. (Resources were provided on the existing Homeowner Rehabilitation Program).
- **Housing resources:** Need additional resources for displaced homeowners without insurance. On Rio Drive, 60% of homes flooded, and residents had to be evacuated by boat.
- **Public services:** Emergency shelter (Timbercreek HS) was not ready for residents; no food, blankets, toiletries etc. Mental health services for post-disaster trauma are needed. Homeless services, shelters, special services for elderly, etc.

## Priorities Identified

### **HOUSING - 5**

New construction - 0  
Homeownership assistance - 1  
Rental assistance - 0  
Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 4  
Property buyout - 0

### **INFRASTRUCTURE - 26**

Public facilities - 4  
Drainage/Utilities - 13  
Water and wastewater facilities - 9

### **ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 0**

Business retention program(s) - 0  
Loans and grants to businesses - 0

### **PUBLIC SERVICES - 1**

Legal assistance - 0  
Housing counseling - 0  
Mental/Health services - 1  
Housing stability services - 0  
Job training/Placement - 0



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)

## Community Meeting Summary

October 25, 2023



Taft Community Center - 6 p.m.  
9450 S. Orange Ave.  
Orlando, FL 32824

Persons in attendance:  
19

### Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Areas impacted:** Lake Underhill, Deerwood Community, Rio Pinar, Ensenada Dr., Chickasaw Trail, Goldenrod Rd., Dean Rd., Little Econ River Basin.
- **Infrastructure:** Power outages, especially due to fallen trees; drainage issues caused by new construction /new development on wetlands; flooding due to failed pump station (Madeira Ave./Ensenada Dr. pump station - County aware since 2001 but did not address issue). Poor maintenance of canals and drainage pipes.
- **Funding requirements:** CDBG-DR funds can be used to expand and/or improve infrastructure and facilities, but can not be used to provide continuous and on-going maintenance.
- **Mitigation:** Preservation of wetlands is important to allow for natural drainage to occur. Elevation of structures; up-grades to the stormwater management system; and automation of water pump system are important parts of mitigation.
- **Pre-disaster:** Need more shelters in the Taft area and sufficient transportation to get to those shelter(s).
- **Post-disaster:** 60 homes in the Rio Pinar community flooded. Insurance and FEMA did not cover the full cost of rehab.
- **Housing:** New housing construction near Rio Pinar is unaffordable. Will VISION 2050 work with CDBG-DR funding? Response: it is a separate funding and focus. CDBG-DR funding is tied to Hurricane Ian long-term disaster recovery and can fund development of affordable/special needs housing.
- **Funding:** Monetary assistance needed for homeowners who do not meet CDBG-DR income limits; insurance/FEMA funds did not completely cover the cost of rehab.
- **Public services:** Special services for elderly who lost food, medicine, and equipment. Generators for nursing homes and public housing complexes. Resiliency hubs can provide daily living supplies, resources, counseling, and shelter information. Need for medical services (a variety of), to include mental health.
- **Homeless services:** Need a way to communicate to homeless persons about where they can be sheltered ahead of storm.

### Priorities Identified

#### **HOUSING - 11**

- New construction - 1
- Homeownership assistance - 1
- Rental assistance - 2
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 6
- Property buyout - 1

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE - 7**

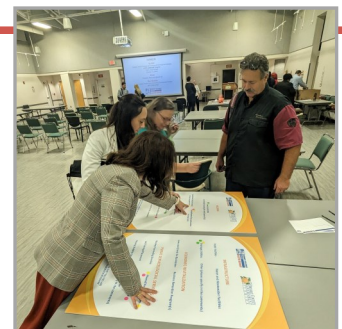
- Public facilities - 1
- Drainage/Utilities - 5
- Water and wastewater facilities - 1

#### **ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 1**

- Business retention program(s) - 0
- Loans and grants to businesses - 1

#### **PUBLIC SERVICES - 5**

- Legal assistance - 2
- Housing counseling - 0
- Mental/Health services - 3
- Housing stability services - 0
- Job training/Placement - 0



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)

## Community Meeting Summary

October 26, 2023



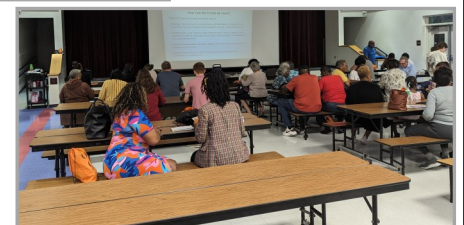
Orlo Vista Elementary School – 6:30 p.m.  
3 S. Hastings St.  
Orlando, FL 32835

Persons in attendance:  
35

### Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Areas impacted:** Orlo Vista community - Westside Manor, Oak Crest Mobile Park, Fleming Heights, Ronnie Cir. & Hope Cir., W. Washington St., Wilmer Ave., Quintard Ave., Normandale Ave., Malibu Groves community.
- **Infrastructure:** All major infrastructure is over 60yrs old, and it needs to be upgraded. Power outages; fallen trees; drainage issues; extensive damage due to multi-year flooding and pump failures; need more auxiliary pumps.
- **Mitigation:** Need to improve the overall stormwater management system in the area; repair of damaged roads; debris removal and tree trimming; installation of fiberoptic cables—to upgrade phone and internet services.
- **Mitigation/Post-disaster:** Inspect/repair water and sewer lines going into homes as foundations may have shifted due to flooding. Prominent regulatory signage at entrance to stormwater drainage facilities/streets/areas to discourage dumping and blockage of drains.
- **Post-disaster:** Need to improve emergency management response by visiting individuals in most impacted areas first; provide more emergency shelters; code enforcement. Additionally, a need for an area-wide emergency alert system (phones) for hurricane (s).
- **Funding:** Set aside County funds (vs. federal dollars) for disaster recovery (e.g. Citizen Emergency Funds). Ensure that CDBG-DR funding is not spent in wealthy communities (spending transparency). Cut down on red tape to get assistance.
- **Program eligibility:** FEMA/ insurance did not cover the costs of repair/rehab; residents may not have receipts— will they be able to access CDBG-DR funds? No funding/support for loss of property (food, clothing, furniture, etc.). Need funds to repay SBA loans.

- **Plan development:** Residents want to participate in writing of the CDBG-DR action plan. (Note: Residents are providing input through public meetings, surveys, and CDBG-DR website). Action Plan will be available for a 30-days public review period prior to being submitted to HUD.
- **Housing:** Home rehabilitation, repair and replacement; elevation of structures; mold remediation, driveway repairs. Flood zones create challenges to meeting housing needs (i.e. insurance, finding affordable housing).
- **Businesses:** Shopping plaza/medical and professional offices were severely damaged (south of SR408; Kirkman Rd. & Colonial Dr.)
- **Public service(s):** Assistance needed to navigate an online application processes for home rehabilitation programs. Services for special needs individuals (seniors, persons w/ disabilities, homeless individuals, etc.)
- **Mental/Health services:** Medical assistance for those sickened by mold/standing water.
- **Other/Financial recovery:** Residents are financially exhausted from multiple hurricanes, high out of pocket expenses and inadequate funding for recovery that were made available (from government/insurance, etc.).



# CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 30, 2023



Barnett Park - 6 p.m.  
4801 W. Colonial Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32808

Persons in attendance:  
30

## Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Areas impacted:** Orlo Vista, West Side Manor, Oak Crest Mobile Park, Fleming Height, Azalea Park, Ronnie Cir., Bonnie Brook, Holden Heights area, Tangelo Park, Mercy Dr.
- **Infrastructure:** Power outages; drainage issues such as standing water for days; sewer line backups/flooding of homes on Ronnie Cir. Flooding continues with summer rains (Azalea Park). New construction is causing flooding in older/established neighborhoods. Raw sewage entered homes.
- **Wetlands/Flooding:** Development of wetlands resulted in current flooding conditions in areas around municipalities—how are these needs being addressed? Homeowners were not notified when an area became a “flood zone” resulting in high insurance premiums, cancelations, or inability to get flood insurance.
- **Mitigation:** Need to address flooding issues caused by outdated stormwater management system (Azalea Park). New developments on wetlands contribute to flooding. Underground power lines to reduce loss of power.
- **Post-disaster:** Need more emergency shelters that are accessible. More assistance to repair/rebuild/rehab. Debris removal; tree trimming/removal; trash pickup; code enforcement; and elevation of structures. Also need to improve the 911 system—cannot retain enough operators.
- **Program oversight:** Communication between residents and the County government needs improvement. Which agency has oversight of CDBG-DR funds? (Response: Orange County Housing and Community Development Division.)
- **Program eligibility/Insurance:** Need to cut down on red tape to apply for assistance. FEMA/ insurance did not cover cost of damage. Excessive out of pocket costs to replace/repair/rebuild/rehab. “Flood zone” label creates challenges to securing and maintaining insurance coverage. Rise in insurance cancelations, increased premiums, overall cost.
- **Housing:** Home rehabilitation, repair and replacement; elevation of structures; new housing construction.
- **Public Service:** Medical services; services for special needs individuals, including seniors, persons with disabilities, supportive services for homeless individuals and families.

## Priorities Identified

### **HOUSING - 24**

New construction - 5  
Homeownership assistance - 7  
Rental assistance - 0  
Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 11  
Property buyout - 0  
Other - 1 (shelters)

### **INFRASTRUCTURE - 9**

Public facilities - 0  
Drainage/Utilities - 5  
Water and wastewater facilities - 4

### **ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 2**

Business retention program (s) - 1  
Loans and grants to businesses - 1

### **PUBLIC SERVICES - 2**

Legal assistance - 0  
Housing counseling - 0  
Mental/Health services - 1  
Housing stability services - 1  
Job training/ Placement - 0

