The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM), as the designated State of Alaska grantee, announces available statewide sub-grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The HMGP grants shall be awarded on a statewide competitive basis and are funded at 75% federal share and 25% state share basis.

Eligible Applicant/Sub-applicants:
State-level agencies, state and federally recognized Indian tribal governments, local governments, Alaska native villages, public and tribal colleges and universities may apply as sub-grant applicants for project or planning funds. Private Non-profit Organizations (PNP) and private colleges and universities are eligible. All sub-grant applicants must have a FEMA approved and community adopted Local All-Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting the requirements of 44 CFR Part 201 and 206.434(b) to submit HMGP Project Applications.

Eligible Mitigation Activities Include:
The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property, as long as the project fits within State and local government mitigation strategies to address areas of risk, and complies with program guidelines.

- Voluntary property acquisition (structure demolition or relocation for open space in perpetuity)
- Structure elevation (existing public or private structures to avoid flooding)
- Dry flood proofing historical residential and non-residential structures (in compliance with 44 CFR 59.1, 60.3)
- Minor localized flood reduction projects to reduce or eliminate long-term risk from storm water or flood hazards (Culverts, diversions, detention or retention basins, floodwalls, berms, levees, dikes)
- Structural retrofitting of existing buildings and facilities (foundations, load-bearing walls, beams, columns, building envelope, structural floors and roofs and connections between these elements)
- Nonstructural retrofitting of existing buildings and facilities (bracing, strapping of mechanical, electrical, plumbing, heating, lighting, ceilings windows, parapet walls, contents like equipment, racks, shelves or cabinets)
- Infrastructure retrofit of utilities for protective measures (bury, harden, brace, elevate, seismic shut-off valves)
- Soil stabilization (geo-textiles, stabilization/anchoring, vegetation, rip rap)
- Wildfire mitigation (defensible space, ignition-resistant, hazardous fuels reduction)
- Post-disaster code enforcement (support of future adoption and/or implementation)
- Generator (protects a critical facility, is a component of a larger project, and portable generators)
- 5% “Initiative” projects (public awareness or education about mitigation, equipment and warning systems)
- Developing State, local or tribal hazard mitigation plans (new or update)

HMGP “Project” Grant Application requirements are intensive and include the following:

- Submission of detailed and thorough scopes of work
- Comprehensive cost estimates with supporting documentation
- Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) with a BC ratio of 1.0 or greater (planning applications do not require a BCA)
- Demonstration that the project is technically feasible and ready to implement
- Includes and meets environmental/historic preservation plans

Contact Information:
If you have any questions or need further information, please contact us toll free at 1-800-478-2337 or individually at:

- Brent A. Nichols – State Hazard Mitigation Officer, 907-428-7085. Email: brent.nichols@alaska.gov
- Javin R. Swearinger Sr. – HMA Officer, 907-428-7045. Email: javin.swearinger@alaska.gov

Links:
HMGP application forms and other key aspects of the program are available on-line at:

- DHS&EM – Mitigation https://ready.alaska.gov/Grants
There are two distinct hazard mitigation programs.

The Section 406 Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program, has been established to allow funding for cost effective mitigation measures for eligible projects that were damaged by a declared disaster.

The Section 404 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), involves facilities other than those damaged by the disaster such as flood and seismic structural or non-structural measures. New or updating mitigation plans and development of floodplain management regulations.

Hazard Mitigation Scenario

Both programs require a FEMA Benefit Cost Analysis. The difference between Section 404 (HMGP) and Section 406 (PA) Mitigation:

The culvert upgrading and wing-wall mitigation project can be included in the Public Assistance Section 406 mitigation because:
- This is a disaster damaged site eligible for Public Assistance.
- It reduces or eliminates the potential for future damage.
- It is permanent work.
- The benefits are greater than the investment.

The costs to construct a new retention pond, which is not site-specific to the disaster damage, could be considered for funding through the Section 404 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Had the road and culvert not been damaged by this disaster, the culvert upgrading project could also be considered under Section 404 but not under Section 406.

Both projects serve to reduce the potential for damage to the road from future disaster events.