

# FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance

## Introductory Workshop

Massachusetts Emergency  
Management Agency  
April 2021





# Objectives for the Day

- COMFORTABILITY with the HMA process
- UNDERSTANDING of how HMA can help your community
- KNOWING where to access information and resources

One Thing to Remember

Start with Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency  
(MEMA)

# Agenda


- Regulation and Guidance
- Lifecycle
- Programs
- Eligibilities and Requirements
- Application Elements
- Process Elements

Opportunities for Questions and Discussion  
Between Every Section

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# FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance

“FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs provide funding for **eligible activities** that **reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property** from future disasters...Eligible applicants of these grants include **states, local, tribal and territorial governments**”

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# Regulation

1968: National Flood Insurance Act (1968)

1979: Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act)

2000: Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000

2018: Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA)



## State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO)

The official representative of State government who is the primary point of contact with FEMA, other Federal agencies, and local governments in mitigation planning and implementation of mitigation programs and activities required under the Stafford Act.

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) includes the State Hazard Mitigation Officer.

# Parties (2 CFR § 200.1-200.99)

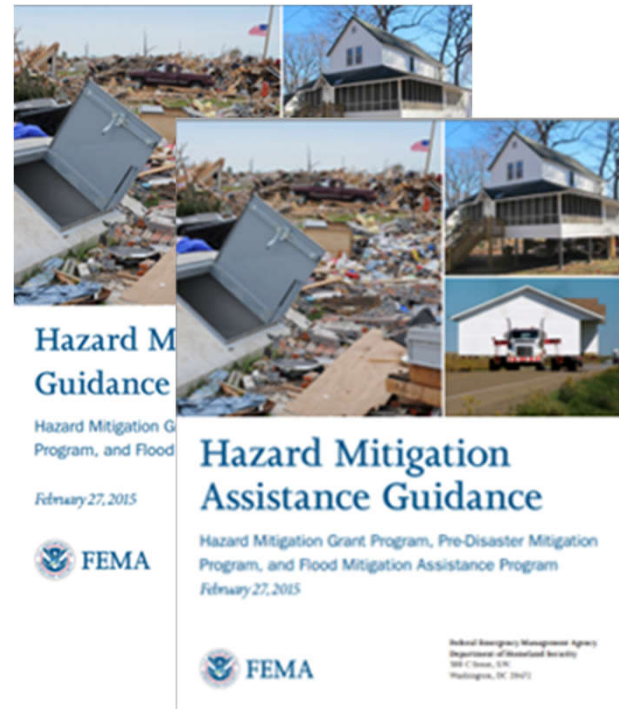
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FEMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Federal awarding agency</b> means the Federal agency that provides a Federal award directly to a non-Federal entity.</li></ul>
MEMA/State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Recipient</b> means a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients. See also §200.69 Non-Federal entity.</li></ul>
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Subrecipient</b> means a non-Federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.</li></ul>
Community's vendor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Contractor</b> means an entity that receives a contract as defined in §200.22 Contract.</li></ul>

# Guidance

2015: Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance

2015: Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance  
Addendum



2015-2021: Job Aids, Fact Sheets, Circulars,  
Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs),  
Specific Guidance





Floodplain Buyout  
Greenfield MA

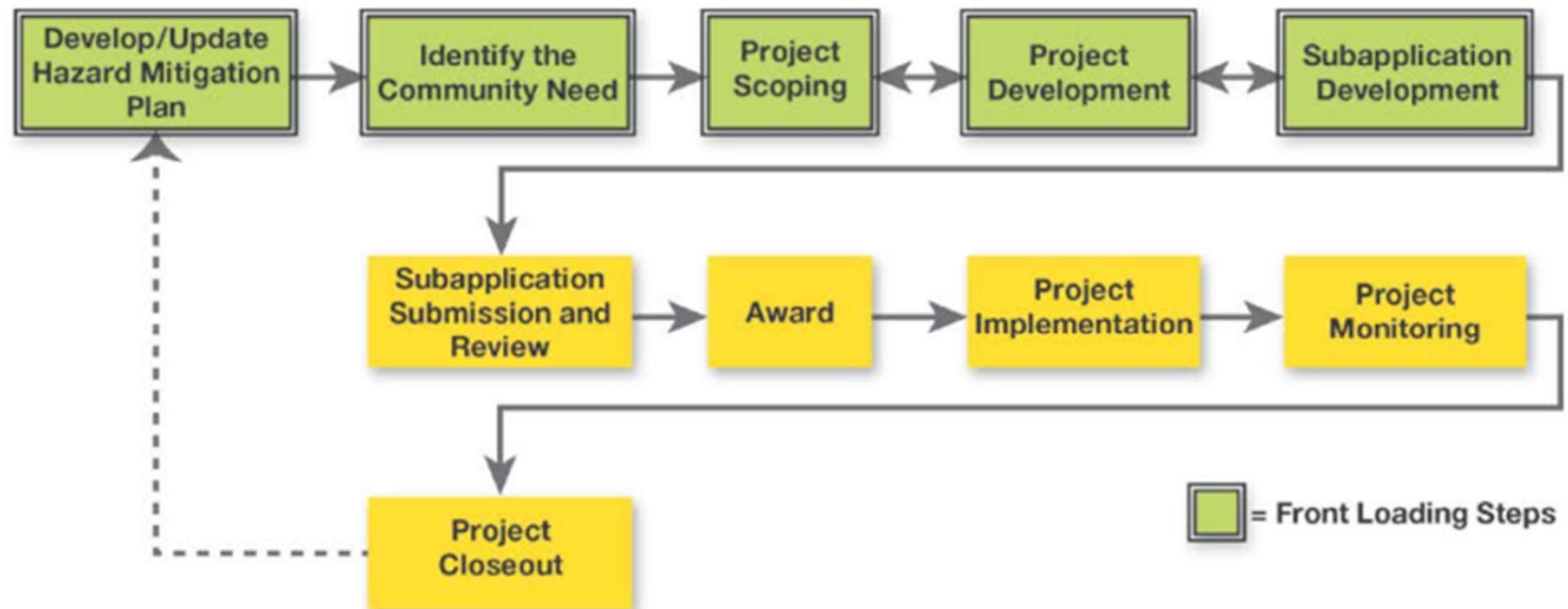
## Hazard Mitigation: Saving Lives, Infrastructure, and Money

- Adapting to natural hazards
- Protecting people and structures from future hazards
- Maintaining consistency with resiliency and sustainability principles
- Minimizes the costs of disaster response and recovery
- Provides increased level of protection that will reduce or eliminate risk.

# Questions on HMA Regulation and Guidance



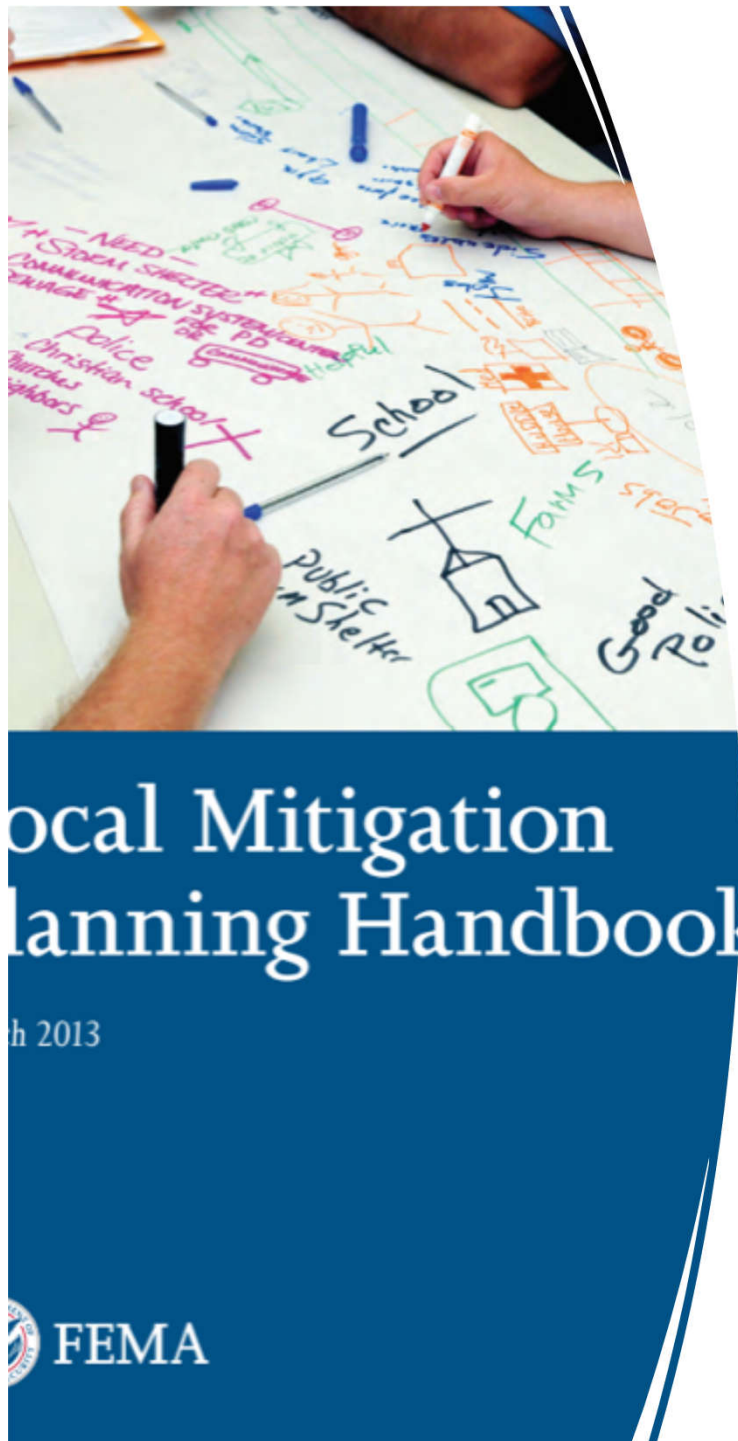
# Hazard Mitigation Project Lifecycle



# Hazard Mitigation Planning

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- First step in the mitigation process
- Helps establish mitigation strategy and outline priorities for identifying mitigation activities
- Identifies potential projects relative to hazard risk
- **REQUIRED TO RECEIVE PROJECT FUNDING (Approved and up-to date)**



# Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)

- Planning Process:
  1. Organize the Planning Process and Resources
  2. **Assess Risks and Capabilities**
  3. **Develop a Mitigation Strategy**
  4. Adopt and Implement the Plan
- Local multi-jurisdictional plans must be adopted by all participating jurisdictions.
- Local mitigation plans are valid for five years.
- **HMPs may include natural and man-made or technological hazards, HMA is only natural hazards**



# MEMA HMP Contact



**Jeff Zukowski**

[Jeffrey.Zukowski@mass.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Zukowski@mass.gov)

(508) 820-1422

[MEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Website](#)

# Natural Hazards

- Earthquake
  - Extreme Heat
  - Hurricane
  - **Landslide**
  - **Riverine/Coastal Flooding**
  - **Severe/Winter Storm**
  - Tornado
  - Tsunami
  - Volcano
  - Wild Fire
- 
- *HMA may Include Infrastructure Failure*



# Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs

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- **Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)**
    - Replaces Pre-Disaster Mitigation(PDM)
  - **Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)**
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Fire (HMGP Post Fire)
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- *Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Grant Program*



# Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

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- Hazard mitigation funding for states, tribal governments, and local communities
- Replaces Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program
- Establishes an annual national competitive award
  - Qualitative and quantitative evaluation criteria
  - ~\$500 Million in grant funding awarded annually
  - Funds projects up to \$50 Million
  - Projects can be up to 36 (or 48) months
- Annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

# Why BRIC

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- Intended to create consistent predictable funding stream and promote local investment
- BRIC Priorities:
  - Public infrastructure projects
  - Projects that mitigate risk to one or more FEMA lifelines
  - Projects that incorporate nature-based approaches
- Reducing the risk to vulnerable populations
- Building code updates (2015/2018 IBC standards) and enforcement

# BRIC's Guiding Principles

## Guiding Principles



Support Community  
Capability & Capacity Building



Encourage and Enable  
Innovation



Promote Partnerships



Enable Large Infrastructure  
Projects



Maintain Flexibility



Provide Consistency

## Supports FEMA's Strategic Plan

1

Build a Culture of  
Preparedness

2

Ready the Nation for  
Catastrophic Disasters

3

Reduce the Complexity  
of FEMA

# FEMA Community Lifelines





# Urban Drainage Upgrade: Fall River

This project included partial combined sewer separation and drainage piping upgrades, new tree-box filters and bioswales, reducing neighborhood stormwater & critical facility flooding.

Project was funded through the HMGP program.

Completed Spring 2020.



**Middle Street Fall River**



MA Open/Rolling Statement of Interest (SOI) Period	Open and Ongoing
Sub-applicant Register with FEMA GO	Ongoing
Federal Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)	August 2021
Federal Grant Application Period Opens	September 2021
Iterative State Pre-Application and Review	October - December 2021
Sub-application Final Submittal	Early December 2021
State Review Committee	December 2021 – January 2022
Submittal to FEMA for National Competitive Review	January 2022
Award Notification for FFY21 Cycle	Summer 2022
Project Initiation	~Spring 2023

Expected BRIC/FMA FFY21 Cycle

# MEMA Technical Assistance

## Virtual Roadshow – Engage Regional and Local Decision Makers

- Identify regional and local priorities and concerns
- Promote dynamic solutions with “Whole Community” benefits

## Workshops and Trainings

- Hazard Mitigation/BRIC Programs
- BCA development
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

## Curate Available Resources

- Hazard Mitigation Assistance guidance
- Guidance videos
- BCA data sets

## Direct Technical Assistance

- Initial Discussion – Short meetings to review applications and provide advice
- Focused Support – Hydrological, BCA, Structural, etc

**Technical  
Assistance**

**Direct Technical  
Assistance Available  
Now - June 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Submit a Statement of  
Interest (SOI) For  
BRIC/FMA  
on MEMAs Website**



# Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Funding for projects that reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to buildings that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- Community must participate in NFIP
- Awarded Annually
- Nationwide Competitive Review Process

# Eligible FMA Project Activities

- Project Scoping (Advance Assistance)
- **Community Flood Mitigation Projects**
- Flood Hazard Mitigation Planning
- Individual Flood Mitigation Projects



# Community Flood Mitigation Project Types

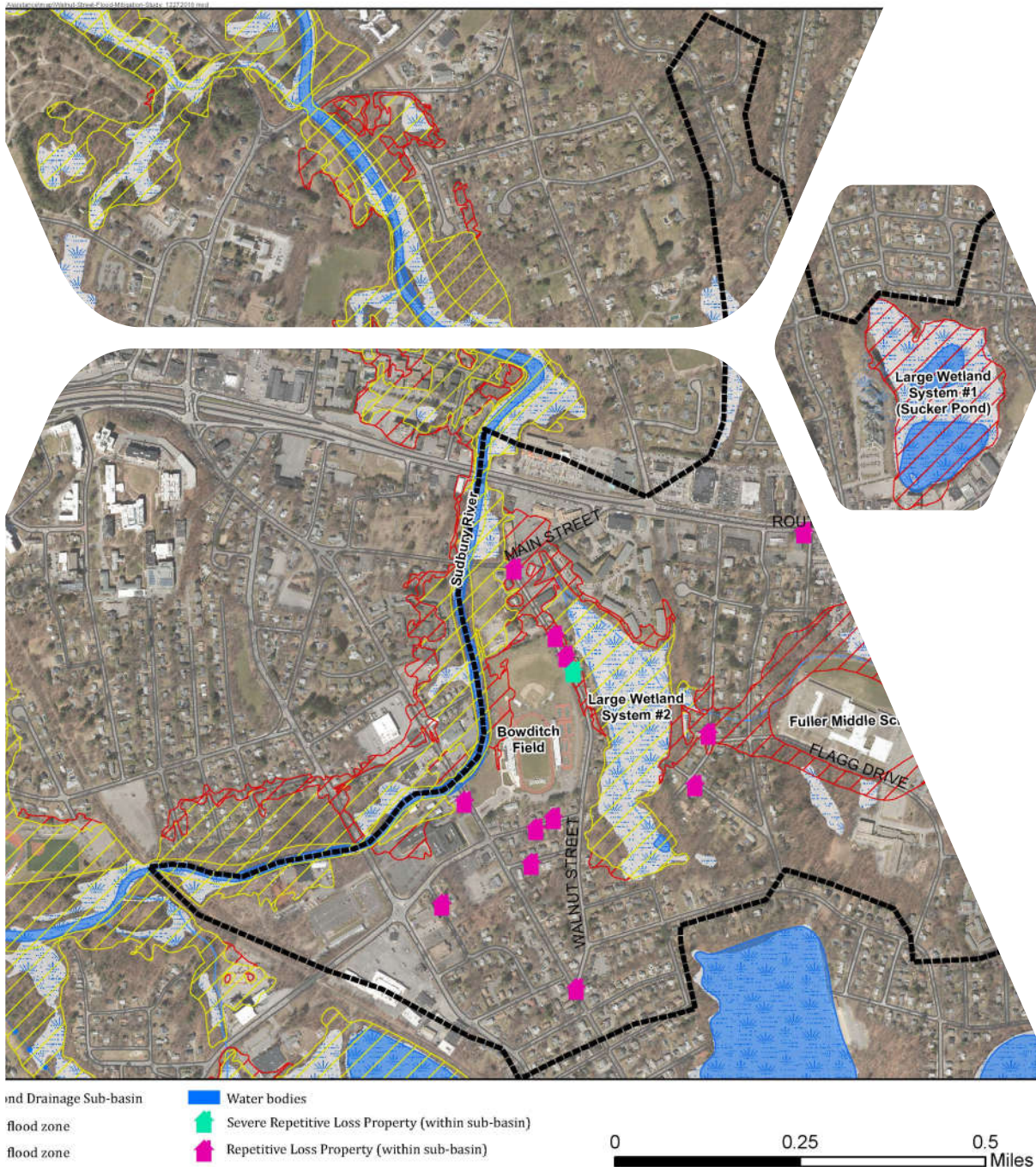
- Localized Flood Control
  - Floodwater Storage and Diversion
  - Community Rating System (CRS) Participation
  - Floodplain and Stream Restoration
  - Stormwater Management
  - Wetland Restoration / Creation
-

# Structure Elevation: Scituate

- Structure elevation is identified as a hazard mitigation strategy.
- Homes must be structurally sound in order to elevate.
- Must meet NFIP, MSBC & ASCE 24-14 standards.
- Funded through FMA







# Project Scoping: Framingham

Flood Mitigation Study Project Includes:

- Data collection
- Topographic survey
- Hydrologic modeling
- Alternatives Analysis
- Permitting Assessment

# Repetitive Loss (RL) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Properties

For detailed data on properties in your community, please contact:

Garrett Fish

Emergency Management Specialist

FEMA Region 1

202-957-4109

[garrett.fish@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:garrett.fish@fema.dhs.gov)



**Technical  
Assistance**

# **FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Workshop**

**\*Coming Soon\***

**Check MEMA Website  
for Details**

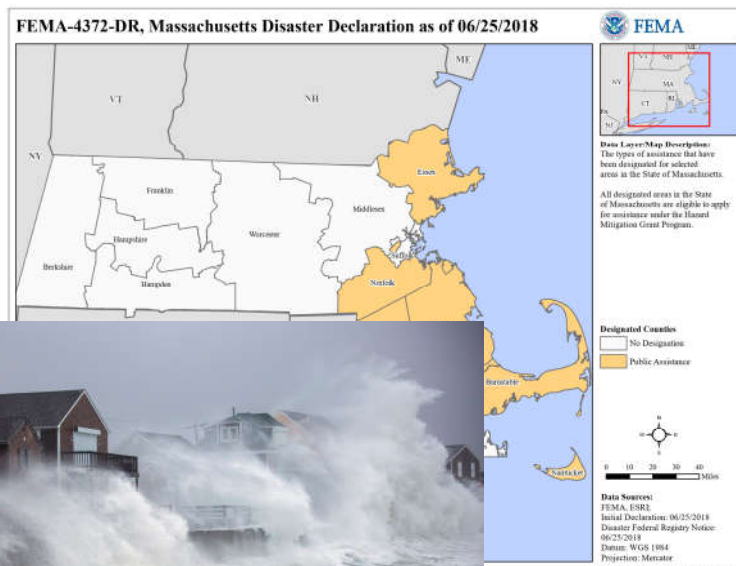
# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- Funding to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures following a major disaster
- Submitted to FEMA Region Office
- Within 12 months of a Presidential Disaster Declaration

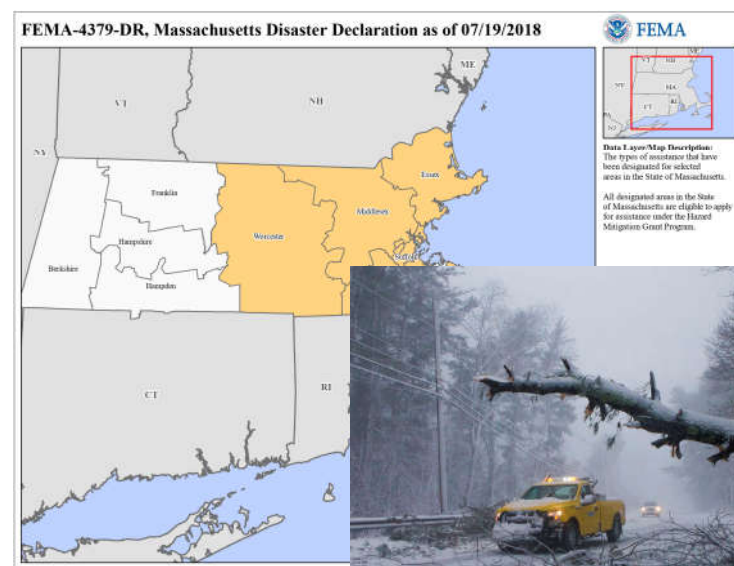


# Massachusetts – Recent HMGP

- DR 4372
- Severe Winter Storm Flooding
- March 2-3, 2018



- DR 4379
- Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm
- March 13-14, 2018



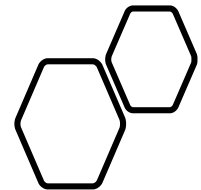


## Pump Station Electrical Controls Relocated: Shelburne Falls

Pump station electrical controls were relocated and a new generator was installed.

Project was funded through the HMGP program. Fire District built new building to house controls out of harm's way.

Completed Fall 2018.





# Soil Stabilization: Chelmsford

Merrimack River Bank Stabilization project that focused on the protection of a critical sewer line.

Project was funded through the HMGP program.

Completed Summer 2019.



# Flood Resiliency Retrofit: Hull

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This project will elevate critical electrical assets at the Hull Wastewater Pollution Control Facility above current flood elevation levels as well as considering future sea level rise.

Project is underway and being funded through the HMGP program.

Project is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2022.



# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Post Fire

- Funding to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures following a Fire Management Assistant Grant (FMAG) declaration.
- Application period is within six months of the end of the Federal Fiscal Year following the FMAG declaration

# Questions on HMA Programs



# Eligible Activities

	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Post Fire	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities	Flood Mitigation Assistance
<b>1. Mitigation Projects</b>				
Property Acquisition	•	•	•	•
Structure Elevation	•	•	•	•
Mitigation Reconstruction	•	•	•	•
Flood Risk Reduction Measures	•	•	•	•
Stabilization	•	•	•	•
Dry Floodproofing Non-Residential Buildings	•	•	•	•
Tsunami Vertical Evacuation	•	•	•	
Safe Rooms	•	•	•	
Wildfire Mitigation	•	•	•	
Retrofitting	•	•	•	•
Generators	•	•	•	
Earthquake Early Warning Systems	•	•	•	
Innovative Mitigation Projects	•	•	•	•
<b>2. Capability and Capacity Building</b>				
New Plan Creation and Updates	•	•	•	•
Planning-Related Activities	•	•	•	•
Project Scoping/Advance Assistance	•	•	•	•
Financial Technical Assistance				•





# What is not Eligible for HMA?

- Projects that do not reduce the risk to people, structures, or infrastructure.
- Projects that are dependent on another action to be effective.
- Projects which are considered repair, deferred maintenance, or replacement of existing infrastructure.
- Preparedness measures and response equipment.
- Projects where actual physical work has already started.
- Projects located in Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) Units or in otherwise protected areas (OPAs), other than property acquisition.
- Projects that involve land that is contaminated with hazardous waste.
- Projects that primarily address ecological or agricultural issues.



# Also not Eligible

- Repair of buildings
- Addressing deferred maintenance
- New construction
- Building new offices or public buildings

# Questions on Eligibility



# HMA Project Requirements



Mitigate a Natural Hazard



Improved Level of Protection (LOP)



Feasible to Implement

Regulatory  
Design  
Construction



Cost Effective



Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP)

# Application Elements

Applicant Information

Hazard Mitigation Plan  
Information

Scope of Work

Project Schedule

Detailed Budget

Source of Local Cost  
Share

FEMA Benefit-Cost  
Analysis (BCA)

Environmental  
Considerations

Additional  
documentation may be  
required depending on  
the specific project  
type.

# Scope of Work Considerations



DESCRIBE THE NEED FOR THE ACTIVITY. WHY DOES IT NEED TO BE COMPLETED?



WHO WILL THE PROJECT BENEFIT OR IMPACT?



HOW WILL THE PROJECT BE IMPLEMENTED?



DESCRIBE HOW THE PROJECT IS TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE.



INCLUDE WHO WILL MANAGE AND BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING THE PROJECT.



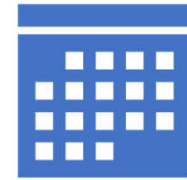
WILL THE PROJECT ADDRESS THE HAZARDS IDENTIFIED AND WHAT RISKS WILL REMAIN AFTER IMPLEMENTATION?



PROVIDE INFORMATION ON MAINTENANCE THAT WILL BE REQUIRED ONCE THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE.


# Project Schedule

- Develop an estimated project schedule with time periods that include all important "Go/No-Go Milestones".
- Schedule should reflect duration in number of months to complete each task.
- All tasks identified in the SOW and cost estimate should appear in the schedule.



## Environmental and Historic Preservation Considerations (EHP)

EHP refers to FEMA's review process for ensuring the protection and enhancement of environmental, historic, and cultural resources, as required by law.



The EHP review process ensures project compliance with 44 C.F.R. Parts 9, Floodplain Management and the Protection of Wetlands and Part 10, Environmental Considerations, and with all applicable EHP laws including but not limited to:

National  
Environmental  
Policy Act  
(NEPA)

National  
Historic  
Preservation  
Act (NHPA)

Endangered  
Species Act  
(ESA)

E.O. 11988  
(Floodplain  
Management)

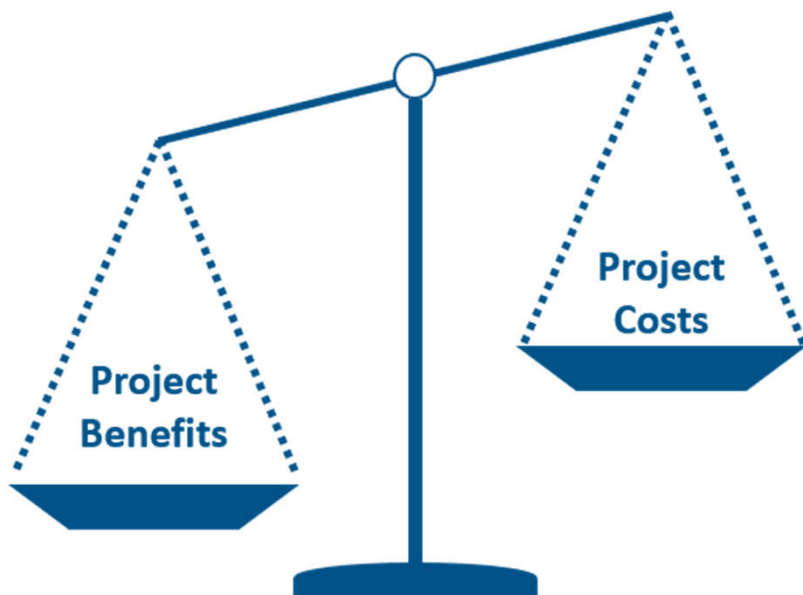
E.O. 11990  
(Protection of  
Wetlands)



# Non-Federal Cost Share



- Cost share is typically 25% of the total project for Community Flood Mitigation Projects cost.
- Individual Flood Mitigation Projects often have no federal cost share if the home is Severe Repetitive Loss or Repetitive Loss.
- Non-Federal cost share may include:
  - Local, state, or private cash payments (MVP Funding, Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Funding, etc...)
  - For private homes, if there is a cost share, it would come from the homeowner
  - In-Kind Contributions (labor, equipment, materials, etc...)



## What is a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) ?

- Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) is a method that quantifies the benefits of a mitigation project compared to its costs.
- Establishes Cost Effectiveness

Goal: break the cycle of damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage

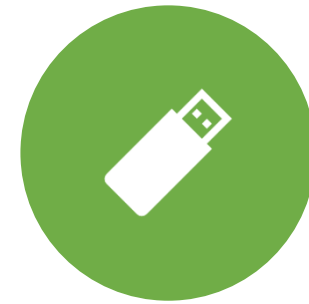
# Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) REQUIRED



DON'T WAIT TO START THINKING ABOUT THE BCA. THIS SHOULD BE USED AS A PROJECT SCREENING TOOL.



THE BCA LOOKS AT DAMAGES BEFORE AND AFTER MITIGATION AND CALCULATES THE BENEFIT-COST RATIO WEIGHING THE PROJECT COST AGAINST BENEFITS AND AVOIDED DAMAGES.



FEMA BCA V6.0 MUST BE USED. OLDER VERSIONS ARE NO LONGER SUPPORTED.

**Technical  
Assistance**

# **FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Workshop**

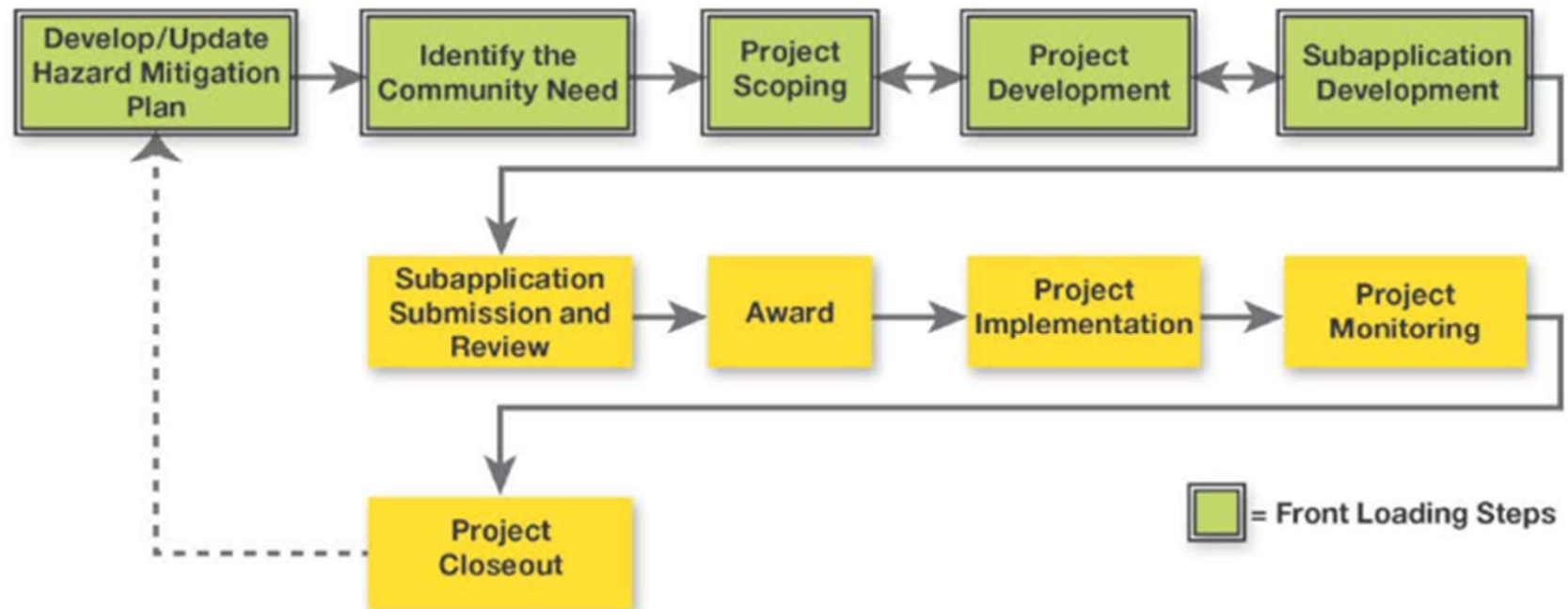
**Wednesday April 28  
1 pm – 2pm**

**Check MEMA Website  
for Details**

# Questions on Application Elements



# Hazard Mitigation Project Lifecycle



# Procurement (2 CFR 200)

All applicants must adhere to federal, state, and local procurement standards, whichever is most stringent.

Procurement methods must be documented and submitted to MEMA, along with all contracts between the community and their contractors.

Key areas to review for requirements: 2 CFR Part 200 sections 317-326.

Pre-award costs must also comply in order to be eligible.



# What you need to know about FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants:



MEMA is the conduit for applications and funding to and from FEMA. MEMA manages the State Contracts/Grant Awards.



The process from grant application to grant award can take several months to a year (or longer) - please be prepared.



It is the sub-applicant's responsibility to maintain, and keep current, their local hazard mitigation plan for eligibility.



It is the sub-recipient's responsibility to ensure that proper procurement is undertaken for projects which use federal funds.

# Grant Funding Terms & Conditions



All FEMA HMA grants are managed on a reimbursement basis.



FEMA will award the grant to MEMA and MEMA will execute a state contract with the community.



Quarterly reporting is required.



Any changes to the project must be approved to MEMA and FEMA prior to implementation.



All environmental conditions imposed by FEMA must be strictly followed.



All bids, specifications, permits, procurement, sub-contracts, and as-built plans must be submitted to MEMA.

Any Other  
Questions on  
HMA?





# Program Support Materials

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[MEMA Hazard Mitigation Website](#)

MEMA Statement of Interest

[BRIC State Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

[Benefit-Cost Analysis \(BCA\) Download](#)

[Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance](#)

[FEMA BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

[FEMA GO Portal](#)

[FEMA BRIC Webinars](#)

[FEMA Mitigation Action Portfolio](#)

BCA Helpline – [BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov) - 855-540-6744

EHP Helpline – [EHPHelpline@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:EHPHelpline@fema.dhs.gov) - 866-222-3580

# Contact MEMA



## Shelly O'Toole

MEMA Region 1 & 3

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(508) 820-1443

## David Woodbury

MEMA Region 2 & 4

[David.Woodbury@mass.gov](mailto:David.Woodbury@mass.gov)

(508) 820-2034

[MEMA Hazard Mitigation Website](#)