



FEMA

January 23, 2021

Samantha Phillips
Governor's Authorized Representative
Director, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
400 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01702

Re: FEMA-4496-DR-MA
Public Assistance Program
Assistance Listing #97.036
Emergency Feeding Extension Authorization

Dear Director Phillips:

I am responding to your request dated January 21, 2021, in which you requested that the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") extend the period of authorization for emergency feeding under major disaster declaration FEMA-4496-DR-MA. The current period of authorization is from April 27, 2020 to January 23, 2021 and you have requested that FEMA approve an extension. Based on my review of your justification of the continuing need for emergency feeding, I am approving your request and revising the period of authorization for emergency feeding for FEMA-4496-DR-MA from April 27, 2020 until the earlier of February 24, 2021 or the termination of the Public Health Emergency declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

This authorization is subject to and conditioned by the terms outlined in my approval letters dated April 27, 2020 (initial approval), May 28, 2020 (first extension), June 27, 2020 (second extension), July 27, 2020 (third extension), August 27, 2020 (fourth extension), September 25, 2020 (fifth extension) October 27, 2020 (sixth extension), November 27, 2020 (seventh extension), and January 4, 2021 (eighth extension).

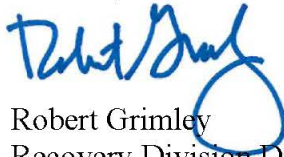
This authorization of emergency feeding also does not comprise a final eligibility determination or award of federal funding for any specific emergency feeding activities, as FEMA will make such determinations and award funding as part of the Public Assistance project development and approval process after receiving the applications for financial assistance from eligible applicants and ensuring adequate documentation to support eligible costs.

State, local, and tribal governments should exercise efforts to prioritize the most vulnerable populations in its emergency feeding operations and then work to register those needing assistance into more traditional nutrition assistance programs. This will work to stabilize the situation and help provide a source of feeding assistance for those populations beyond the limited period of authorization for emergency feeding under the Public Assistance Program.

Furthermore, state, local, and tribal governments should collaborate with various stakeholders to ensure that emergency feeding for which it seeks financial assistance under the Public Assistance Program is not already provided to populations already receiving assistance from existing nutrition assistance programs. I also recommend collaboration with non-governmental organizations to identify non-governmental resources for feeding populations in need. It is important for state, local, and tribal governments to develop plans to conduct any necessary feeding operations after the period of authorization for emergency feeding ends.

If you request another extension to the period of authorization, you must include in your request a re-assessment and detailed justification for the continued need for emergency feeding support.

Sincerely,



Robert Grimley
Recovery Division Director
FEMA Region I