Improving Mitigation Implementation

ASFPM Annual Conference
Managing Floods Where Mountains Meet the Desert

Manny Perotin, P.E., CFM
perotinma@cdmsmith.com

Disclaimer - Opinions expressed are solely my own and do not express the views or opinions of my employer or clients.

The process for this presentation started Thursday 6/14 when a presenter had a conflict and had to dropout.
Agenda

- Perspective/ Background
- Common Challenges
- Gaps
- Ideas

Encourage audience participation – questions, lessons learned, recommendations, etc.
Perspective/Background

- 30 years of Hazard Mitigation
- Projects Approval
  - < 90 days and 10+ years
- Return on investment
  - Mitigation Saves Studies
  - Loss Avoidance Studies
- Newer versus Older Construction Performance
- Program Administration by State
Almost Three-Quarters of FEMA’s Disaster Relief Fund Supports Its Grants Programs

Inflation-adjusted DRF expenditures by category, federal FY 2005-14

73% FEMA grants and other direct financial assistance
10-year total: $81.5 billion

41% public assistance grant program

26% individual assistance programs

5% Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

1% Fire Management Assistance Grant Program

19% administration
10-year total: $21.3 billion

8% mission-assignment reimbursements (agencies outside of FEMA)
10-year total: $8.5 billion

Notes: When possible, figures reflect actual expenditures, rather than amounts obligated, with the exception of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program ($5.9 billion), which reported only obligations because of data limitations.

Source: Pew’s analysis of data from Government Accountability Office, “Federal Disaster Assistance” (September 2016)
© 2017 The Pew Charitable Trusts
Perspective/Background

- 1988-2018 $15 billion in hazard mitigation grants, $0.5b per year
- Over $75 billion in PA from 1998-2018, $3.5 billion per year
Common Challenges

- Inconsistent Implementation and Policy
  - Differences in Programs
  - Each community, state, region, agency have different approach/priorities
  - NOT one size fits all
- Insufficient/Inconsistent Funding
- Timeline
- Culture
- Other?
Gaps

- Guidance
  - FEMA PAPPG, HMA, Guidance Publications
  - FWHA-ER Manual
- How to actually implement at local level
  - Encourage elected officials, interface with public, finance, procure
- Resource constraints
- Education/curriculum
- Other?
Ideas

- Increase HMGP ceiling and/or 5% initiative if/when funding is obligated within a certain period of time
- Pre-approved projects based on approved hazard mitigation plan
- Rebate/reimbursement project
  - SOW and criteria clearly spelled out
- Base SD on first floor of non-elevated building OR area below and the lowest floor of an elevated building
- Increase awareness and make poor performance unacceptable
Improving Mitigation Implementation

ASFPM Annual Conference
Managing Floods Where Mountains Meet the Desert

Manny Perotin, P.E., CFM
perotinma@cdmsmith.com

June 20, 2018

Disclaimer - Opinions expressed are solely my own and do not express the views or opinions of my employer or clients.

The process for this presentation started Thursday 6/14 when a presenter had a conflict and had to dropout.

June 17-21, 2018 | Phoenix, AZ