MEMORANDUM

TO: Potential Applicants
FROM: Leslie Mahoney, State Mitigation Officer
DATE: June 30, 2011
RE: Availability of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funds

On May 4, 2011, Kentucky received Presidential Disaster Declaration FEMA-1976-DR-KY as a result of Severe Storms, Flooding, and Tornadoes occurring between April 12, 2011 and May 20, 2011, which affected seventy-six counties.

In conjunction with this declaration, federal funds are now available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for eligible projects which will reduce damages from future events.

HMGP funds will cover 75% of the eligible costs of an approved project with the non-federal share typically split between the state (12%) and the local applicant (13%). The local share may be applicant funds, in-kind services directly related to the project, or funds received from other sources which can be used to match federal funds.

HMGP projects must demonstrate a permanent reduction in disaster damages, pass a benefit/cost analysis test (if required), and avoid undue harm to the project’s environmental and historical surroundings.

Typical REGULAR eligible projects include the acquisition/demolition or elevation of flood-prone or landslide-prone structures, engineered storm water control projects (NOT including levees and dams), residential or community tornado safe-rooms and tornado shelters, flood-proofing of non-residential buildings, seismic retrofits, and utility protective measures.

Up to 10% of the HMGP funding may be used for projects whose benefit/cost analysis is difficult or impossible to do. Typically, this category of INITIATIVE funding has been awarded for outdoor warning sirens, NOAA weather radios, other types of warning systems, and mitigation educational outreach projects.
Also, up to 7% of the available HMGP funding may be awarded for **MITIGATION PLANNING** projects. This funding be used for both the State Hazard Mitigation Plan and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans.

HMGP funding received after a disaster declaration may be spent on eligible projects anywhere in the state. However, the current State Hazard Mitigation Plan gives first priority to funding projects in the declared areas.

Eligible applicants for HMGP project funds include state agencies, counties, cities, and certain quasi-governmental and non-profit agencies. Individual citizens are not eligible to apply for these funds. Eligible applicants must also have a FEMA approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The Kentucky Division of Emergency Management requires that interested applicants complete the attached Pre-Application Letter of Intent to declare their interest in applying for HMGP funds and submit the completed form to the following address no later than **July 31, 2011** to:

Leslie Mahoney, State Hazard Mitigation Officer  
Kentucky Division of Emergency Management Recovery Branch  
100 Airport Road – Third Floor  
Frankfort, KY  40601

All Applicants and sub-applicants must be participants in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) if they have been mapped through the NFIP with a Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM) or Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and have been identified as having a Special Flood Hazard Area. In addition, the Applicant/Sub-applicant must not be on probation, suspended, or withdrawn from the NFIP. Applicants and sub-applicants that are not mapped under the NFIP are eligible.

If you have any questions about the HMGP program please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at (502) 607-5768 or by email at leslie.mahoney@us.army.mil.