

**JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL
PUBLIC NOTICE
December 3, 2024**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and Florida Division of Emergency Management have received the following application for Federal grant funding. Final notice is hereby given of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) consideration to provide funding in the form of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Funds will be provided in accordance with Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990 FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority or low-income populations.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

Applicant:

Lee County

Project Title:

HMGP-4673-(060) Lee County, Multiple County Facilities, Wind Retrofit-Generators

Location of Proposed Work:

The area affected by this project consists of public structures in the following locations:

Facility Name	# of Buildings	Address
County/City Annex	1	1825 Hendry St , Fort Myers, FL 33901
Hough St. Warehouse	1	1953 Hough St, Fort Myers, FL 33901
Human & Veteran Services Building	1	2440 Thompson Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901
Ash House Building	1	10500 Buckingham Rd. Ft. Myers, FL 33905
Fleet Garage	1	10460 Buckingham Rd. Ft. Myers, FL 33905
Recycling Building (Materials Recovery Facility)	1	10550 Buckingham Rd. Ft. Myers, FL 33905
Resource Recovery Building (includes Fire Pump Bldg 1 &2, Electric Building)	3	10500 Buckingham Rd. Ft. Myers, FL 33905
Scale House A (Buckingham)	1	10540 Buckingham Rd Ft. Myers, FL 33905
Transfer Station (Buckingham)	1	10450 Buckingham Rd. Ft. Myers, FL 33905

Water Treatment Building (Waste-to-Energy)	1	10500 Buckingham Rd. Ft. Myers, FL 33905
Compost Shop - Original Building	1	5500 Church Rd. Felda, Florida 33930
Generator/Storage (Lee Hendry Landfill)	1	5500 Church Rd. Felda, Florida 33930
Maintenance Bldg (Landfill Operations Shop)	1	5500 Church Rd. Felda, Florida 33930
Operations & Maintenance (Landfill Offices and breezeway)	1	5500 Church Rd. Felda, Florida 33930
RO Building	1	5500 Church Rd. Felda, Florida 33930
Scale Building (Lee Hendry Landfill)	1	5500 Church Rd. Felda, Florida 33930
Truck Wash	1	5500 Church Rd. Felda, Florida 33930
Solid Waste Topaz Recycling Facility Warehouse	3	6441 Topaz Ct, Fort Myers, FL 33931

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The project proposes to provide protection by installing impact resistant doors and windows, and new frame connections and reinforcements to eighteen (18) facilities within Lee and Hendry Counties. Additionally, the current roofs will be removed and replaced with ones in compliance with current codes. Strengthening the building envelopes will reduce the potential for structural and content damages. The project also proposes to provide one (1) 250kW permanent diesel generator at the City/County Annex and one (1) 500kW permanent diesel generator at the Human & Veteran Services Building, or the adequate sizes determined by the vendor and/or an electrical engineer during the bid process to appropriately support the facility. The project also includes installation of a concrete pad, fuel tank, ATS, and appurtenances for each of these generators. The County/City Annex serves as the County's Emergency Operating Center (EOC), which if out of service would dramatically reduce the County's ability to respond to emergency conditions. The Human & Veteran Services Building is a hub for resources designated to aid vulnerable populations following disaster events including financial assistance and food to vulnerable populations and the homeless. The remaining facilities are crucial to the operations of The Lee County Facilities and Construction Management, and Solid Waste Departments which provides essential services to the community, including waste management, electrical repair, detention centers, and environmental health and safety, and loss of these services could significantly slow the County's ability to recover from disasters.

The generator(s) and electrical components shall be protected against a 500-year (0.2% annual chance) flood event by implementing specific activities or by locating the generator(s) outside the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), comply with applicable National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements and shall be protected against wind with a rated enclosure and appropriate anchoring based on its location requirements per ASCE 7 standards effective at the time of permitting. The selected site shall provide sufficient space to maintain and fuel the generator(s) and shall comply with the National Electrical Code working clearance requirements. Activities shall be completed in strict compliance with Federal, State and Local applicable Rules and Regulations.

Wind protections shall be provided on any other opening such as vents, louvers and exhaust fans. The project shall conform with the design criteria found in ASCE 7 standards effective at the time of permitting, and, and all installations shall be in strict compliance with the Florida Building Code or Miami Dade Specifications. All materials shall be certified to meet wind and impact standards. The local municipal or county building department shall inspect and certify installation according to the manufacturer specifications.

Wind protection activities must follow the recommendations from a Hurricane Retrofit Building Assessment conducted by a professional engineer or licensed architect, utilizing the methodology provided in Chapter 3 of FEMA P-804. This methodology determines whether a structure is a good candidate for a wind retrofit and identifies the retrofits to be performed on the structure. A copy of the Hurricane Retrofit Building Assessment shall be provided to the Florida Division of Emergency Management within 12-months of the FEMA award date.

The project shall provide protection against 174 MPH winds for Risk Category IV buildings and structures, or the wind speed protection and impact requirements indicated by the effective Florida Building Code at the time permits are issued. Wind protection activities supporting a critical action shall also be protected to a height at or above the 500-year (0.2% annual chance) flood elevation. Wind retrofit projects representing Substantial Improvement in flood hazard areas must comply with the applicable Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS).

Project Alternatives:

The alternatives to the project that have been considered are 1) the no action alternative and 2) to install storm shutters over windows and doors, to reduce the hazard of wind-borne debris. These alternatives to the proposed project are not viable because under Alternative 1) the identified buildings will remain vulnerable to high winds which could potentially damage them to the point that County personnel will have to relocate, and Alternative 2) unprotected portions of the buildings could still be damaged, resulting in loss of operational capacity and additional repair costs.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to the Florida Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Mitigation, 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100. These are due within 15 days of this notice. The State will forward comments to applicable regulatory agencies as needed. Interested people may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

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Florida Division of Emergency Management

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