

Hurricane Katrina

A Decade of Progress through Partnerships

Biloxi Water and Sewer System

Applicant: City of Biloxi FEMA Funding: **\$363 million**
Harrison County



BACKGROUND: Katrina damaged the city's water and sewer system, putting it out of operation for weeks. It was brought back into working condition with generators and temporary bypass pumps capable of transferring wastewater to treatment plants.

THE DAMAGE: The day after the storm, all the city's wastewater pump stations were out of service. Two of the three water treatment plants sustained damage. Repairing the system has taken time because the city decided to consolidate and harden the pump stations along the beachfront. In order to be effective, the pumps must be at the lowest point, which unfortunately is near the water. The project also required city officials to obtain easements from private property owners.



FEMA FUNDING: This is Mississippi's largest Public Assistance project for the Katrina recovery. A grant of **\$344 million** was obligated toward repairing and rebuilding the city's water distribution system, sewer and storm drainage. An additional **\$17.6 million** paid for project management which included pre-design

surveying and geotechnical services to repair and consolidate sewer lift pump stations. The lift stations will be protected by a hardened outer shell to withstand future storms. Another **\$1.5 million** went toward purchasing easements. The majority of the project is expected to be completed mid-2016.



FEMA

