

FEMA Awards More Than \$17 Million for North Carolina to Mitigate Future Flood Loss

Release Date: June 27, 2018

A total of eight projects will elevate, remove or reconstruct residences in Lumberton, Smithfield, Fair Bluff, and in Edgecombe and Robeson counties.

ATLANTA – The State of North Carolina will receive more than \$17 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to fund eight mitigation projects that will pay to elevate, remove or reconstruct residences in Lumberton, Smithfield, Fair Bluff, and in Edgecombe and Robeson Counties. All of the communities were affected by flooding caused by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016.

FEMA will pay 75 percent or \$17,599,146 of the \$23.4 million cost of these projects. The federal share of the funds comes from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

The funding represents three acquisition and demolition projects, three elevation projects and two mitigation reconstruction projects funded under the major disaster declaration as a result of Hurricane Matthew.

The City of Lumberton will use a total of \$12.8 million to remove or minimize future flood loss to 101 residences located in the special flood hazard area: 47 residences will be acquired and demolished, 20 residences elevated, and 34 residences reconstructed and elevated, in accordance with Robeson County's



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Floodplain Damage Prevention Ordinance.

The Town of Fair Bluff will use a total of \$4.6 million to remove or minimize future flood loss to 37 residences located in the special flood hazard area: 17 residences will be elevated, and 20 residences will reconstructed and elevated, in accordance with Columbus County's Floodplain Damage Prevention Ordinance.

The Town of Smithfield will use nearly \$1.8 million to acquire and demolish eight residences located in the special flood hazard area. Once the structures are removed, the sites will be left open as green space in perpetuity.

Edgecombe County will use more than \$1.7 million to elevate 15 residences that were flooded by the Tar River after Hurricane Matthew. Per Edgecombe County's Floodplain Damage Prevention Ordinance, the homes will be raised to two feet above the Base Flood Elevation.

Robeson County will use more than \$2.4 million to acquire and demolish 18 residences located in the special flood hazard area. The homes were damaged due to flooding from the Lumber River caused by Hurricane Matthew. Once the structures are removed, the sites will be left open as green space in perpetuity.

To date, FEMA has provided \$40.3 million in HMGP funds to the state as a result of Hurricane Matthew. The goal of these projects is to eliminate future flooding and reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters. HMGP provides grants to states, and tribal and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures that reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters. The grants enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the recovery from a disaster.



Learn more about FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant program online at www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program.

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