

FEMA Awards Brevard County More Than \$4 Million For Hurricane Irma Expenses

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ORLANDO, Fla. – FEMA has approved \$4,035,986 for the State of Florida to help Brevard County defray the cost of restoring the South Beach and Mid-Reach Beach dunes to pre-disaster condition following Hurricane Irma. These funds are made available under FEMA's Public Assistance Program.

FEMA will reimburse contractors to put more than 110,000 cubic yards of sand on the engineered dunes located at South Beach and Mid-Reach Beach in Brevard County. In addition, more than 451,000 sea oat plants will be planted on the dunes as an erosion control measure.

During severe weather events, dunes provide an important barrier against storm surge and extreme winds. Both dunes were damaged during Hurricane Matthew in 2016 but only the South Beach dune had been repaired when Irma struck. Both Irma and Matthew repairs will be done simultaneously on the Mid-Reach dune.

Funding for this Public Assistance (PA) project is authorized under Sections 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Act for Florida to cover Hurricane Irma-related expenses, reimbursing eligible applicants for the cost of debris removal; life-saving emergency protective measures; and the repair, replacement or restoration of disaster-damaged facilities like buildings, roads and utilities.

FEMA's Public Assistance grant program is an essential source of funding for communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency. The Florida Division of Emergency Management works with FEMA during all phases of the PA program and conducts final reviews of FEMA-approved projects.



Applicants work directly with FEMA to develop project worksheets and scopes of work. Following approvals by FEMA and FDEM, FEMA obligates funding for the project.

FEMA's Public Assistance program provides grants to state, tribal, and local governments, and certain types of private non-profit organizations including some houses of worship, so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies.

The federal share for Public Assistance projects is not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost. The state determines how the non-federal share of the cost of a project (up to 25 percent) is split with the sub-recipients like local and county governments.

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FEMA's mission: Helping people before, during, and after disasters.

