



Pinellas Recovers

Hurricane Help That Puts People First

Pinellas County Action Plan for Disaster Recovery

Hurricanes Idalia, Helene & Milton

4/23/2025



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Executive Summary

Overview

In 2023 and 2024, Hurricanes Idalia, Helen, and Milton impacted the west coast of Florida, causing extensive damage throughout Pinellas County. In response to this devastation, federal disaster declarations were issued (FEMA Disasters DR-4734-FL, DR-4828-FL, and DR-4834-FL), which allowed for the use of federal funds in Pinellas County. As a result of the substantial destruction—including loss of housing, damaged infrastructure, and economic challenges—Pinellas County was awarded \$813,783,000 in Community Development Block Grant–Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This funding, made available through the American Relief Act of 2025, is aimed at supporting long-term recovery in communities that were most affected and are facing significant obstacles to recovery. The Action Plan lays out the County's proactive strategy for deploying these funds effectively to meet urgent needs, facilitate efficient recovery, and enhance community resilience. Through careful planning and investment, we aim to rebuild and strengthen our community for the future.

Disaster-Specific Overview

Pinellas County was hit by three major disasters in 2023 and 2024: Hurricane Idalia (DR-4734-FL), Hurricane Helene (DR-4828-FL), and Hurricane Milton (DR-4834-FL). **Hurricane Idalia (DR-4734-FL)** made landfall on August 30, 2023, approximately 20 miles south of Perry, Florida, as a Category 3 hurricane. It brought heavy rainfall, powerful storm surges, and maximum sustained winds of 130 miles per hour. Idalia was a large storm that caused significant flooding along Florida's western coast, particularly in Pinellas County.

The most severe impacts were felt in coastal areas, including Shore Acres, Riviera Bay, Johns Pass to St. Pete Beach, and regions north of Dunedin. The storm surge and heavy rainfall resulted in catastrophic flooding in Pinellas County, affecting more than 1,500 homes and damaging businesses and infrastructure. Damage estimates have reached \$23.4 million, with 10 structures destroyed, 45 inaccessible, 811 sustaining major damage, 1,016 suffering minor damage, and 822 affected. Power outages impacted 27,000 residents.

Hurricane Helene (DR-4828-FL) made landfall on September 26, 2024, near the mouth of the Aucilla River in the Big Bend area as a Category 4 hurricane, with maximum sustained winds of 140 miles per hour and became the deadliest mainland hurricane since Katrina in 2005. Due to Helene's fast-forward motion and its distance from the coast, it did not produce significant heavy rainfall in central or south Florida. However, the storm's forward momentum and outer bands generated strong onshore winds, pushing large amounts of water ashore into Tampa Bay and along the Gulf coast. Wind gusts peaked at 75 mph in some areas of Pinellas County. This resulted in record-high storm surge levels of 7.2 feet. Along rivers and waterways, storm surge was pushed up to 24 miles inland, with a depth up to eight feet. The catastrophic surge resulted in 12 fatalities in Pinellas County, as well as extensive damage to homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure,

which rendered the Pinellas barrier islands inaccessible. The storm eroded nearly all the coastal dunes along Pinellas County's coast and shifted monumental quantities of sand. Almost 1.2 million Florida power customers were without electricity during and after the storm, with Pinellas County reporting over 85,000 power outages.

Hurricane Milton (DL-4834-FL) made landfall in Siesta Key, Florida, in Sarasota County on the evening of October 9, 2024, as a major Category 3 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 120 mph. This powerful storm struck just two weeks after Hurricane Helene had already ravaged the area. While Pinellas County managed to avoid the devastating storm surge that inundated regions south of Tampa Bay, it was not spared from hurricane-force winds. At St. Petersburg Albert Whitted Airport, a wind gust of 101 mph was recorded, leaving a trail of chaos in its wake. The storm unleashed a deluge, with an astonishing 18.54 inches of rainfall measured, nearly tripling the record set in September 2001 (Tropical Storm Gabrielle), turning streets into rivers, and overwhelming drainage systems. The storm caused widespread power outages in Pinellas County that lasted for days.

Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) Areas

Pinellas County will spend 100% of its allocation within Pinellas County except for the incorporated area of the City of St. Petersburg, which received its own CDBG-DR allocation. Additionally, no less than 70% of the total allocation will be expended to benefit Low- to Moderate-Income persons. Proposed programs will include disaster recovery related mitigation initiatives and stand-alone mitigation activities to ensure that Pinellas County is resilient against future storms.

Residential, Business, and Infrastructure Impacts: The qualifying disasters, Hurricane Idalia (DR-4734-FL), Hurricane Helene (DR-4828-FL), and Hurricane Milton (DR-4834-FL), caused widespread devastation in Pinellas County, primarily impacting residential areas with severe flooding, structural damage to homes, and significant infrastructure disruption, leaving a lasting impact on the community with the most pressing unmet needs currently focused on long-term housing repairs, critical infrastructure restoration, and economic recovery for small businesses, particularly in the hardest-hit neighborhoods around the Pinellas coastline. With an estimated \$5.2 billion in damages overall, Pinellas County sustained damage, including roof breaches, flood intrusion, compromised walls, rendering many uninhabitable due to storm surge, heavy rainfall, and hurricane force winds. Despite initial FEMA assistance and insurance proceeds, many residents still require substantial funding for reconstruction of their homes, or permanent repairs, including roof replacements, foundation repairs, and electrical rewiring, particularly for low-income families who may not qualify for FEMA assistance or lack sustainable income for full coverage insurance.

Pinellas County received extensive damage to powerlines, roads, bridges, coastal dunes and beaches, and critical infrastructure. There were also prolonged power outages County-wide. These storm impacts severely hindered access to essential services, further exacerbating recovery efforts in Pinellas County.

While emergency repairs have been completed, significant funding needs remain to fully restore damaged infrastructure, including bridges, drainage systems, coastal resources and public utilities to pre-disaster functionality.

Businesses in Pinellas County, especially around Pinellas County Coastline, suffered significant losses due to flooding and business interruption, leading to job losses and economic instability. The breadth of impact across the business community is extensive.

Supporting the recovery of small businesses through grants, loans, and technical assistance is crucial to jumpstart economic activity and restore employment opportunities in the affected areas.

Long-Term Impacts: The aftermath of flooding, storm surge, wind damage, and beach erosion caused by Hurricanes Idalia, Helene, and Milton will have lasting effects. The recovery process will require extensive efforts to rehabilitate damaged properties, restore and improve infrastructure, and support affected individuals and businesses. To mitigate future flood risks and enhance resilience in Pinellas County, comprehensive planning, infrastructure improvements, and community engagement will be essential in minimizing the impact of similar disasters in the future.

The flooding in Pinellas County resulting from these hurricanes highlights the urgent need for coordinated response efforts, effective resource allocation, and long-term planning for a robust recovery. It is vital to focus on implementing resilience-building measures to reduce future risks, including improved drainage systems, flood-resistant infrastructure, and community-based disaster preparedness initiatives.

Summary and Unmet Needs

The table below provides an overview of the \$813,783,000 in CDBG-DR funding allocated to Pinellas County to support recovery from Hurricanes Idalia, Helene, and Milton. Because Pinellas County’s unmet recovery needs exceed the available CDBG-DR resources, Pinellas County has prioritized use of funds to achieve the greatest impact in communities with the fewest resources to recover. All program activities will be carried out within Pinellas County, which is the HUD-designated Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) area.

Disaster Summary	
Qualifying Disaster:	Hurricanes Idalia, Helene and Milton with FEMA Disaster (DR-4734-FL) (DR-4828-FL) (DR-4834-FL)
HUD-identified MID Areas:	Pinellas County
Grantee-Identified MID Areas:	Pinellas County

Table 1: Disaster Overview

CDBG-DR Allocation Overview:	
CDBG-DR Allocation:	\$ 707,637,000
CDBG-DR Mitigation Set Aside:	\$ 106,146,000
TOTAL ALLOCATION:	\$ 813,783,000

Table 2: CDBG-DR Allocation Overview

As required by HUD, **at least 70% of the funds will benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) individuals and households.** The priorities in this Action Plan reflect both the quantitative damage and unmet needs assessments and extensive input from residents, local organizations, and stakeholders.

Sector	Disaster Impact	Assistance	Unmet Needs	% of Unmet Needs
Housing	\$3,523,861,474	\$435,466,952	\$3,088,394,522	78%
Economy	\$596,833,908	\$71,560,775	\$525,273,133	13%
Infrastructure	\$770,258,979	\$577,694,235	\$192,564,745	5%
Public Services	\$335,195,358	\$172,683,097	\$162,512,261	4%
Total	\$5,226,149,719	\$1,257,405,059	\$3,968,744,660	100%

Table 3: Summary of Unmet Needs

Housing Needs: The Housing sector faces the most significant disaster impact and unmet need in the MID area of Pinellas County, only excluding the City of St. Petersburg. With more than \$3.5 billion in estimated damages, \$435 million in assistance has been provided, leaving an unmet need of over \$3.08 billion, accounting for 78% of the total remaining need. Homeowners made up most of the FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) applicants at 57%, while renters accounted for 43%. This distribution aligns with the higher total loss amounts for owners, as property damage tends to have a larger financial impact than personal property losses alone.

The data on FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) for homeowners in Pinellas County underscores significant gaps in disaster recovery support. Despite 107,726 homeowners applying for assistance, only 27% of applications led to an inspection, and even fewer — 16% of applicants — had verifiable damage. Ultimately, only 9% of homeowners received assistance, despite FEMA verifying \$219.2 million in property losses.

This low assistance rate suggests that many applicants were either deemed ineligible, lacked sufficient damage verification, or faced insurance-related barriers. Given the previously identified \$3 billion in unmet needs, FEMA assistance alone is insufficient to meet the recovery needs of homeowners in Pinellas County. To bridge this gap, additional funding sources, expanded eligibility criteria, and policy adjustments are needed to provide more homeowners with the support they need for full recovery.

Infrastructure Needs: Hurricanes Idalia, Helene, and Milton caused flooding and damage infrastructure systems throughout Pinellas County, including but not limited to roadways, stormwater, and wastewater treatment systems. Many neighborhoods' streets throughout the coastal areas and flood zones along the Gulf Coast were severely impacted, driving residents and businesses away from their flooded homes and businesses.

Infrastructure impacts appear to be sufficiently addressed with currently available assistance, coupled with planned mitigation set-aside funding.

Infrastructure has a lower unmet need of \$192 million, out of \$770 million in total impact, with \$577 million in assistance received. This represents 5% of the total unmet needs.

Economic Revitalization Needs: The local economy represents the next highest portion of unmet need in Pinellas County, accounting for more than an estimated \$525 million in unmet need. Local businesses realized an estimated \$596 million in disaster impact to business contents and property and received an estimated \$71 million in assistance, representing 13% of total remaining need.

Public Service's Needs: Public services are direct expenditures that assist people in need, such as programs that provide meals or transportation for the elderly. The impact to Public Services represents approximately 4% of total unmet needs. Pinellas County estimates more than \$335 million in disaster impacts to residents, resulting in housing instability and employment losses, indicating the need for support and services. Pinellas County estimates that only approximately \$172 million was available for assistance, leaving more than \$162 million in unmet need.

Mitigation Needs Assessment

The Mitigation Needs Assessment is a risk-based assessment that summarizes the natural threats and hazards in Pinellas County. The Mitigation Needs Assessment informs the use of Pinellas County 15% minimum CDBG-DR mitigation set-aside and helps build resilience and mitigation measures into recovery programs and projects.

This assessment does not look only at flood risk. It also considers other natural hazards likely to threaten Pinellas County, including tropical cyclones, severe thunderstorms, wildfires, erosion, extreme heat draught, geological events, winter storms, seismic events, tsunami, and red tides. These hazards were identified in Pinellas County's Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) as well as the State of Florida's State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP).¹

In addition to current hazards posed to Pinellas County, the Mitigation Needs Assessment considers future threats, particularly as severe weather events become more frequent and intense. In this way, Pinellas County can ensure that it minimizes vulnerabilities to the impacts of future extreme events through its recovery and mitigation projects and programs.

¹ <https://flshmp-floridadisaster.hub.arcgis.com/>

As part of this assessment, Pinellas County also sought to identify and address risks to indispensable services, or those services that enable continuous operation of critical business and government functions and/or are critical to human health and safety and economic security.

Pinellas County estimates that there is an estimated total of \$3,968,744,660 in unmet recovery needs across the presidential declaration disasters (DR-4734-FL) (DR-4828-FL) (DR-4834-FL) that impacted 24 municipalities and unincorporated areas of Pinellas County.

This Mitigation Needs Assessment highlights that Pinellas County faces significant risks from at least twelve natural hazards. Among these, flooding, tropical cyclones, and severe storms are the most frequent and pose the **highest risk**. By analyzing these hazards in terms of their frequency and Pinellas County's vulnerability, Pinellas County and its recovery partners can utilize this assessment to identify current and future risks in their communities. This will enable them to target CDBG-DR funds toward cost-effective solutions for long-term mitigation.

At least 15% of the CDBG-DR funds will be dedicated to mitigation efforts as required by law. For housing-related activities, these funds will be used to reduce risks to people and property through measures such as elevating structures, flood proofing in high-risk areas, as well as promoting the use of high-quality, durable building materials. Proposed infrastructure projects will aim to mitigate flood risks in Coastal County by implementing water and land use management strategies.

CDBG-DR Mitigation Set-Aside Needs				
Mitigation Category	Project Count	Total Need	Financial Assistance Budgeted and Obligated	Unmet Need
Airport	2	\$ 290,110,000	\$ 105,360,000	\$ 184,750,000
Facilities	4	\$ 237,221,000	\$ 23,821,000	\$ 213,400,000
Flood Control	2	\$ 15,302,000	\$ 1,404,000	\$ 13,898,000
Housing	1	\$ 148,000,000	\$ 98,000,000	\$ 50,000,000
Other Transportation	1	\$ 34,232,000	\$ 6,901,000	\$ 27,331,000
Parks & Recreation	6	\$ 102,200,000	\$ 8,200,000	\$ 94,000,000
Road & Street Facilities	8	\$ 266,629,000	\$ 107,679,000	\$ 158,950,000
Sewer Services	24	\$ 308,809,000	\$ 53,227,000	\$ 255,582,000
Water-Sewer Combination	3	\$ 28,288,000	\$ 17,556,000	\$ 10,732,000
GRAND TOTAL	51	\$ 1,430,791,000	\$ 422,148,000	\$ 1,008,643,000

Table 4: CDBG-DR Mitigation Set-Aside Needs Assessment

Unmet Needs and Proposed Allocations

Before Pinellas County can commit to using CDBG-DR funds, it must submit a detailed plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This plan needs to specify the eligibility criteria and explain how the funds will support long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure and housing, promote economic revitalization, and implement mitigation efforts in the most impacted and distressed areas. In this context, Pinellas County includes all its municipalities, except for the City of St. Petersburg, which has its own allocation of funds. Pinellas County has been identified as the most impacted and distressed area (MID). Pinellas County will act as the administering agency for these recovery funds.

Furthermore, all activities funded by CDBG-DR must meet the minimum requirements set by the program. Specifically, each activity must:

- Be an eligible CDBG activity,
- Meet a National Objective of the CDBG program, and
- Address a direct or indirect impact resulting from the major disaster in a Presidentially declared area (specifically Hurricane Idalia, Helene, and Milton).

To comply with these requirements, Pinellas County has developed this CDBG-DR Action Plan for disaster recovery. As demonstrated by the following bar chart, the greatest unmet need is housing at 78%, and the proposed funding for this activity closely mirrors this need at 74%. There is a larger disparity between economic development unmet need and funding, but this is in large part due to the difficulty of using CDBG DR funds to address storm-related economic hardships.

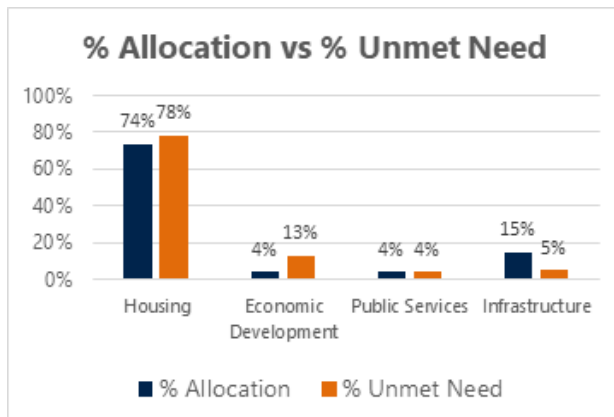


Figure 4: Allocation vs Unmet Need Bar Graph

Based on the identified unmet needs and the county's allocation of CDBG-DR funds, the following budget is proposed in this Action Plan to implement strategies and activities that address these needs and mitigation efforts. This will help ensure the long-term recovery of Pinellas County from the effects of Hurricane Idalia, Helene, and Milton.

Eligible Cost Category	CDBG-DR Allocation Amount	% of CDBG-DR Allocation	Estimated % to CDBG-DR Mitigation Set-aside	Estimated % to HUD identified MID Areas	Estimated % to LMI
Administration	\$ 20,689,150	3%			
Planning	\$ 24,000,000	3%	0%		
Housing	\$ 598,653,065	85%	0%	100%	78%
Infrastructure (CDBG-DR Mitigation Set-aside)	\$ 106,146,000	0%	100%	100%	50%
Economic Revitalization	\$ 32,147,393	5%	0%	100%	80%
Public Services	\$ 32,147,392	5%	0%	100%	100%
TOTAL	\$ 813,783,000	100%	15%	100%	75%

Table 5: Proposed allocation of Funding

The proposed allocation of funding described in this Action Plan includes housing, economic revitalization infrastructure, and public service activities, as well as the required minimum set aside for mitigation activities and funds for planning and administration.

Proposed Programs: The proposed programs and methods of distribution include a county-wide homeowner’s Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program, Strategic Relocation and Revitalization Program, Homeowner Reimbursement Program, Small Rental Rehabilitation/Reconstruction program (local Landlord program), and Homebuyer Assistance program. For Economic Development, the County will implement a People First Small Business and Community Recovery Program, Non-profit Community Recovery program, and Local Infrastructure Mitigation Planning and Mitigation Programs.

For detailed descriptions of each program, please refer to the Action Plan.

People First Housing Recovery Initiative

Eligible Cost Category	CDBG-DR Allocation Amount	% of CDBG-DR Allocation for LMI Benefit
Homeowner Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program	\$490,000,000	80%
Strategic Relocation and Revitalization Program	\$10,000,000	100%
Homeowner Reimbursement Program	\$20,787,758	30%
Small Rental Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program (Local Landlord Program)	\$57,865,307	100%
Homebuyer Assistance Program	\$20,000,000	30%
Housing Programs Total	\$ 598,653,065	

Table 6: People First Housing Programs Overview

Housing Programs Overview

Pinellas County’s **“People First Housing Recovery Initiative”** is structured around a comprehensive set of programs designed to address disaster-related damage, prevent long-term displacement, and increase the availability of safe, code-compliant, and affordable housing. This suite of programs was developed in direct response to the unmet needs identified through Pinellas County’s damage assessments and public engagement process and are tailored to meet the needs of both homeowners and renters across the most impacted areas.

The **Homeowner Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program** aids owner-occupants through repair, reconstruction, and, where necessary, relocation support to ensure households can return to safe and habitable homes.

A complementary **Homeowner Reimbursement Program** allows eligible homeowners who have completed repairs using personal resources to recover eligible expenses.

For households residing in high-risk areas or in structures not suitable for rehabilitation, the **Strategic Relocation and Revitalization Program** supports voluntary relocation to safer, more resilient housing outside the 100-year floodplain.

To address the critical shortage of affordable rental units, Pinellas County will implement the **Small Rental Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program (Local Landlord Program)**, which focuses on restoring and preserving small-scale rental housing, including manufactured homes and single-family units.

Finally, the **Homebuyer Assistance Program** is designed to help low- to middle-income first-time homebuyers and current renters transition to homeownership, expanding housing stability and affordability in the long term.

These coordinated housing efforts will ensure that disaster recovery investments contribute to a more resilient, and sustainable housing landscape in Pinellas County.

Economic and Community Revitalization

Eligible Cost Category	CDBG-DR Allocation Amount	% of CDBG-DR Allocation for LMI Benefit
People First Small Business and Community Recovery Program	\$ 22,147,393	75%
Non-Profit Community Recovery Program	\$ 10,000,000	90%
Economic and Community Revitalization Total	\$ 32,147,393	

Table 7: Grantee Economic Revitalization Programs Overview

Economic and Community Revitalization Programs Overview

The recovery of Pinellas County’s economy and communities depends not only on rebuilding physical structures but also on restoring the community-serving ecosystem of small businesses and nonprofit organizations that anchor local stability. Small businesses, particularly those operating in coastal and low- to moderate-income areas, suffered extensive damage and economic disruption due to Hurricanes Idalia, Helene, and Milton, contributing to significant job loss and commercial instability. Simultaneously, nonprofit organizations, many of which provide essential services to vulnerable residents, faced operational and financial challenges that threaten their continued ability to serve disaster-impacted populations. Pinellas County’s Economic and Community Revitalization Programs are designed to address these dual challenges by supporting the reactivation of small businesses and the restoration of nonprofit capacity. Together, these efforts aim to revitalize the local economy, protect community infrastructure, and promote equitable recovery for all residents, particularly those most dependent on locally rooted services and employment opportunities.

The devastation caused by the hurricanes extended beyond housing and infrastructure, deeply impacting Pinellas County’s small businesses. Many small businesses suffered significant physical and operational damage and continue to face barriers to accessing the capital necessary for recovery, growth, and job creation.

Pinellas County recognizes that true community recovery and resilience are not possible without the return and revitalization of its small businesses. **The Small Business Community Recovery Program** is designed to provide targeted financial assistance to small businesses and microenterprises impacted by the disaster.

Through grants and forgivable loans, the program aims to:

- Support the recovery and stabilization of small businesses
- Create and retain jobs for residents
- Revitalize neighborhood economies
- Foster long-term resilience and sustained economic growth and the revitalization of low- and moderate-income communities.

The program is structured to meet the specific recovery needs of small businesses by providing flexible funding that can support a range of eligible expenses. It is designed to ensure broad access across Pinellas County’s small business sectors, including those most affected by disaster-related damage or disruption. By supporting the restoration of business operations, the program contributes directly to economic stabilization, commercial activity, and the retention and creation of jobs for residents in the impacted areas. This investment in small business recovery plays a key role in driving long-term economic revitalization throughout the county.

The Nonprofit Community Recovery Program is designed to provide targeted financial assistance to community-based nonprofits that serve low- and moderate-income areas or predominantly low- and moderate-income populations.

Through grants and/or forgivable loans, the program aims to:

- Support the recovery and stabilization of nonprofits that serve low- and moderate-income areas and populations-
- Create and retain jobs for residents
- Revitalize neighborhood economies
- Foster long-term resilience and sustained economic growth and the revitalization of low- and moderate-income communities-

The program is structured with flexibility to meet the specific recovery needs of Pinellas County’s nonprofit community that provides services to predominantly low- and moderate-income areas or predominantly low- and moderate-income populations. The program is designed to ensure access to funding across Pinellas County’s many communities. By empowering nonprofits through this assistance, the program supports a robust economic recovery and a renewed community revitalization effort in response to the disaster. This funding will not only support physical and operational recovery but also contribute to job creation and retention for residents in impacted areas.

Disaster Relief Reimbursement Program

Eligible Cost Category	CDBG-DR Allocation Amount	% of CDBG-DR Allocation for LMI Benefit
Disaster Relief Reimbursement Program	\$ 32,147,392	100%

Table 8: *Public Services Disaster Relief Reimbursement Program*

Part of the People First Housing Initiative, this program will provide reimbursement to eligible LMI residents of Pinellas County, for documented expenses incurred as a result of a qualifying disaster, including expenses such as rent, mortgage and utility payments and other eligible subsistence-based expenses resulting from the qualifying disaster for a period of up to six consecutive months.

To be eligible, the beneficiary must demonstrate that they have a financial need resulting from expenses and losses resulting from the qualifying disaster(s) and have used all Federal assistance that was made available for losses suffered as a result of the disaster that qualified for CDBG-DR assistance.

Local Mitigation Planning Program

Eligible Cost Category	CDBG-DR Allocation Amount	% of CDBG-DR Allocation
Local Mitigation Planning	\$ 24,000,000	3%

Table 9: Grantee Planning Activity(ies) Overview

The Local Mitigation Planning Program provides funding to Pinellas County and eligible local governments to support the development and enhancement of mitigation strategies that reduce risks identified in the mitigation needs assessment and strengthen resilience to future disasters. This program enables Pinellas County and its municipalities to conduct comprehensive mitigation planning, feasibility studies, outreach efforts, and needs assessments—fostering informed decision-making and the strategic allocation of resources for long-term hazard reduction.

Local Mitigation Infrastructure Program

Eligible Cost Category	CDBG-DR Allocation Amount	% of CDBG-DR Allocation for LMI Benefit	Does this Program have tie back to the disaster?
Local Mitigation Infrastructure Program	\$ 106,146,000	50%	No

Table 11: Local Mitigation Infrastructure Program

Pinellas County will award funds to eligible mitigation infrastructure projects that are identified through the Local Mitigation Planning Program or through other approved hazard mitigation plans. All projects must demonstrate a clearly defined mitigation need and cannot supplant or duplicate other federal, state, or local funding sources.

Pinellas County will promote sustainable and resilient infrastructure by incorporating principles such as water and energy efficiency, resilient infrastructure, and hazard resistance into all rehabilitation, reconstruction, or new construction activities.

Prioritization factors will be established in the program guidelines but may include the following:

- Shovel readiness (e.g., permitting and design status)
- Cost-effectiveness and favorable cost-benefit analysis
- Availability of other leveraged funds (e.g., state hazard mitigation or FEMA BRIC funding)
- Alignment with critical and urgent needs as defined in program guidelines
- Impact on populations vulnerable to hazards and ability to reduce risks to LMI residents

Pinellas County and any designated subrecipients will be responsible for ensuring that mitigation principles and preparedness measures are embedded throughout project design and implementation. By integrating hazard mitigation and resilience planning into recovery, the Program ensures that communities are able to build back safer and stronger.

Administration

Administration funding is allocated to the County to cover the cost of administering the CDBG DR program in accordance with Federal and local guidelines.

Eligible Cost Category	CDBG-DR Allocation Amount	% of CDBG-DR Allocation
Administration	\$ 20,689,150	3%

Table 12.1 Grantee Administration Activity(ies) Overview

A detailed description of each of these programs is found in the Action Plan.

Citizen Participation



To ensure that the disaster recovery action plan is comprehensive, addresses Pinellas County's unmet needs, and aligns with regional redevelopment plans, Pinellas County consulted with stakeholders, citizens, local municipalities, and other entities to solicit feedback in the development of this plan. A complete listing of citizen participation consultations is in appended to the Action Plan.