FLORENCE AND MICHAEL ESHPF HURRICANE DISASTER RELIEF SUBGRANTS

FORMAL SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS

Application Deadline: August 14, 2020, 4PM EDT

The North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) is soliciting applications for historic preservation projects providing relief from damages to National Register of Historic Places-listed or -eligible properties resulting from Hurricanes Florence and Michael. The application package can be requested by sending an email to hurricane.grants@ncdcr.gov.

Applications, which may only be submitted electronically, must be received by August 14, 2020, with a timestamp of 4PM EDT or earlier. Submit your application and attachments by email to hurricane.grants@ncdcr.gov. If your submittal package is larger than 25MB, contact the grants program in advance of the deadline for instructions.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

PROGRAM FUNDING SOURCE AND AMOUNTS

Funding for this program is provided by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior (NPS) pursuant to its Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund (ESHPF): Florence, Yutu, and Michael (FYM) Recovery Grant Program, CFDA: 15.957. FY2019 Public Law 116-20 appropriated $50 million from the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) for historic preservation projects providing relief to damages in areas that have received a major disaster declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 USC 5121 et seq.) as a result of 2018 Hurricanes Florence, Yutu, and Michael. The HPF uses revenue from federal oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf to assist a broad range of preservation projects without expending taxpayer dollars.

Pursuant to Grant Number P20AP00012, NPS awarded the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO), $17,070,769 from the ESHPF, of which $9,250,000 is available as subgrants for recovery, repair, and disaster mitigation activities directed at historic properties damaged during Hurricanes Florence and Michael, incident period starting dates of September 7, 2018 and October 10, 2018, respectively.

The North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office receives federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in federally assisted departmental programs on the basis race, color, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, or reprisal for protected EEO activity in its federally assisted programs. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should contact the Equal Opportunity Program Office, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Mail Stop 7360, Washington, D.C. 20240; visit https://www.doi.gov/pmb/eeo or phone (202) 208-5693.
ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS
Eligible Applicant Organizations are either a public entity (non-federal) or a nonprofit with proof of 501(c)(3) status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service. Non-profits must demonstrate active status for the three years prior to their storm incident date.

AWARD AMOUNT AND MATCH REQUIREMENTS
Minimum award amount: $25,001.
Maximum award amount: No maximum amount.
Match requirement: No match requirement for grants up to $750,000. Requests for funding greater than $750,000 must provide a minimum 20% cash match.

APPLICATION RESTRICTIONS
An Applicant Organization may submit any number of applications under this program, provided that applications do not address the same facility, project, property, or site. Projects must be located in counties with FEMA disaster declarations for Florence (DR-4393) and/or Michael (DR-4412).

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ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES
The allowable costs for this grant program are specific to damage directly related to Hurricanes Florence and Michael and include the following activities:
- Recovery and repair of archeological and architectural historic properties in areas that received a major disaster declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) and that were damaged by one of the named storms.
- Preparation of historic structure reports, architectural plans and specifications, site-specific disaster and resiliency plans, elevation studies, and/or floodproofing plans.
- Creation of updated design standards, and community disaster preparation and response plans for historic resources within the statewide disaster planning framework, in communities with National Register-listed and/or -eligible properties and a local preservation program.
- Mitigation measures, including elevating historic buildings in conformance with federal Guidelines on Flood Adaptation for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (November 2019) and updated local design standards.
- Phase I archeological survey to determine degree of damage and Phase II testing to determine National Register eligibility of sites damaged by Hurricanes Florence and Michael. Phase III is allowed only for projects where both the damage and continued threat are severe enough to warrant salvage archeology.
- Survey and Inventory of multiple historic properties to assess degree of storm damage, determine National Register eligibility, and provide preparedness for future disasters.
- Projects must substantially mitigate the threat and include steps to mitigate future damage.
Regardless of project type, the following requirements must be met to receive FYM funding:

- Eligible properties include historic districts, buildings, sites, structures and objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or Tribal Register.
- Eligible, but not listed, properties that receive funding must complete and submit a nomination to the National Register or Tribal Register as part of the project.
- All work must meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.

Ineligible activities include:

- Acquisition of real property.
- Work that does not conform to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Archeology and Historic Preservation.
- Architectural salvage.
- Additions.
- Total or major reconstruction. Allowable minor reconstruction activities are limited to portions of a historic property that still retain (prior to reconstruction) sufficient significance and integrity to remain listed on the National Register, and for which adequate historical documentation is available.
- Curation. The placement in a museum and subsequent care of artifacts and records associated with those archeological resources recovered with grant assistance is not allowable. Immediate curation costs may be allowed for artifacts discovered as part of an eligible awarded project. Curation costs for this circumstance are not allowed beyond the grant end date.

APPLICATION REVIEW AND PROJECT SELECTION

Your application must include a detailed and specific list of the final products to be accomplished with the subgrant and provide a detailed line-item budget that includes all major work elements. While no match is required for most projects, the use, donor, source, kind, and amount of any additional funding contributed to any project must be identified. HPO hurricane grants staff will conduct a threshold review to determine project eligibility. Eligible applications will be reviewed by an HPO multi-disciplinary staff committee according to these criteria:

1. Project is well-planned, proposes sound methodology, has an appropriate budget, will be completed in a reasonable time frame, and will use qualified personnel. Applicant demonstrates satisfactory record of previous performance on similar projects and grant awards. Projects that provide a model for disaster planning and resiliency for future events that can be transferred to other properties and jurisdictions will score higher. Projects with grant requests greater than $750,000 that exceed the minimum 20% cash match will score higher relative to other large projects that have lesser matches. Bonus points will not provide an advantage over smaller projects. (Maximum 50 points + up to 5 point bonus)

2. Project involves historic or prehistoric resources damaged by Hurricane Florence and/or Michael and continues to be threatened as a result of storm-related damage. (Maximum 25 points)

3. Project demonstrates historic or prehistoric resources significant at the local, state or national levels, with greater significance scoring higher. Resources significant for African American or Native American historical association, and/or resources significant for being among the last remaining examples of their type score higher. (Maximum 25 points + potential 10 point bonus)

Award Decisions: Projects as ranked by the HPO staff committee will receive peer review from the North Carolina Historical Commission. The Commission will make award recommendations to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The final award decision will be made by the SHPO in his Federal role as outlined in the National Historic Preservation Act. Both the Commission and the SHPO reserve the right to add, subtract, and balance project awards from the ranked staff list based upon project schedules, geographic distribution, and significance/rarity/types of resources represented in the list.

Applications selected for funding approval will be submitted to NPS for final review. Following final review and approval by NPS, all applicants will be notified in writing of the award decisions.
RELEASE OF FUNDS
To receive grant funds for a project approved by NPS, grantees will be required to sign a Grant Award Funding Agreement with the HPO containing specific administrative responsibilities and other terms and conditions for receiving funding. No project procurement or work may begin until the Grant Award Funding Agreement is executed. Any unexpended balance of grant funds will revert on September 30, 2023.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
(a) Applicability.
   (1) This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.
   (2) In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the conflict of interest provisions in 2 CFR 200.318 apply.
(b) Notification.
   (1) Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR 200.112.
   (2) Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by subrecipients.
(c) Restrictions on lobbying. Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR part 18 and 31 U.S.C. 1352.
(d) Review procedures. The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.
(e) Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR part 180).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

All project activities and deliverables must be completed by September 30, 2023.

Projects receiving development (brick and mortar) repair assistance will be required to execute a preservation covenant/easement. The length of the covenant depends on the amount of HPF funds invested into the project. The HPF Manual lists the amounts and time periods required by NPS:
- $25,001 to $50,000: 10-year minimum covenant recorded on the property deed.
- $50,001 to $100,000: 15-year minimum covenant recorded on the property deed.
- $100,001 to $500,000: 20-year minimum covenant recorded on the property deed.
- $500,001 and above: 40-year minimum covenant recorded on the property deed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
If you have any questions regarding proposed projects or the application form, please contact HPO at hurricane.grants@ncdcr.gov (preferred) or 919-814-6591.