

Putnam County Department of Public Works

P. O. Box No. 310 223 Putnam County Boulevard East Palatka, FL 32131 Phone: (386) 329-0346 Fax: (386) 329-0340

<u>PUBLIC NOTICE</u> CDBG-MIT GENERAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM – ROUND II

County Wide Bridge Strengthening Project ApplicationAugust 31, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

In April 2018, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that the state would receive \$633,485,000 in funding to support long-term mitigation efforts (following Hurricanes Hermine, Matthew and Irma) through HUD's Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Program. The Federal Register Vol. 84, No. 45838, which delineates all program requirements, was released on August 30, 2019.

On February 02, 2021, HUD announced an additional \$46.9 million in federal mitigation funding for communities impacted by Hurricane Michael. (86 FR 561), for a total CDBG-MIT allocation of \$680,411,000. To access this additional funding, DEO is working with state agencies and community partners to draft a substantial amendment to the existing State Action Plan for CDBG-MIT funding. The amendment will be posted for a 30-day public comment period in June 2021.

The Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program (GIP) administered by the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). This Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) allocation as described in Public Law 115-123.

The GIP program is designed to provide funding to units of general local government (UGLG) such as municipalities and counties, state agencies, non-profits and non-governmental organizations to implement innovative, collaborative, multi-jurisdictional and/or large-scale mitigation activities that reduce previously-identified hazard risks for local communities to better withstand emergency-related challenges. These regional investments include, but are not limited to, upgrading of water, sewer, solid waste, communications, energy, transportation, health and medical and other public infrastructure projects. DEO has allocated \$475,000,000 in CDBG-MIT funding for the GIP program. DEO will use a sub recipient model to deliver funding for approved projects. Funding will be awarded to selected sub recipients through a request for applications (RFA) process in accordance with established application guidelines and evaluation criteria. This is not a direct grant program.

The GIP program will be implemented in two rounds: Round I provided an initial allocation of resources to units of local government (UGLG), state agencies and entities that apply in partnership with their UGLG (such as a county or municipality) or state agency. \$150 million was available and awarded in Round I. The state anticipated that regional coalitions and local governments or local public entities would act as partners in the implementation of this program.



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Round II commences on June 16, 2021. \$175 million and any remaining unobligated funding from Round I is being made available in this Round. Round III will commence in 2022. All remaining funding, including unobligated funds, will be made available to fund projects submitted for the \$150 million allocation for Round III.

Three application can be submitted for this funding opportunity. The maximum amount of funding that can be requested is \$175,000,000 and the minimum amount is \$2,000,000.

The application submission cycle for Round II of the GIP program will open on June 16, 2021 and will close on September 17, 2021, 5pm EST. \$175 million and any remaining unobligated funding from Round I is being made available in this Round. Following an approved project list for the proposed applications, it is required that project information be posted on the County website to allow for a 14 day public comment period.

During The Board of County Commissioners' Transportation Workshop held on July 27, 2021 and August 24, 2021, Public Works presented the County Wide Bridge Strengthening Project proposal for review and prioritization. The project's intent is to protect bridges throughout the County from future scouring and erosion. Anticipated outcomes of the strengthening of these bridges will promote the protection of the health, safety and welfare of Putnam County residents by providing safe routes for emergency vehicles throughout the County. This proposed project will mitigate property damage and adverse economic impacts, environmental degradation and other hazards that may result if the bridges are not addressed. The proposed project application will request funding in the amount of \$22,000,000.

The Board unanimously provided approval for Public Works to move forward with the application process and for the Chairman to sign a letter of support.

The following board members concurred with the approval:

Commissioner Bill Pickens – Putnam County Board of County Commissioners District 1 Commissioner Jeff Rawls – Putnam County Board of County Commissioners District 2 Chairman Terry Turner – Putnam County Board of County Commissioners District 3 Commissioner Larry Harvey – Putnam County Board of County Commissioners District 4 Commissioner Paul Adamczyk – Putnam County Board of County Commissioners District 5

Any Public Comments or requests for a copy of the proposed application must be sent to Michael Rodriguez at Mike.Rodriguez@putnam-fl.com or mailed to the following address by September 15, 2021, 5pm EST:



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Michael Rodriguez

Putnam County Public Works 223 Putnam County Boulevard P.O. Box 310 East Palatka, FL 32131

The Putnam County Public Works Department appreciates your consideration in the above mentioned project for the CDBG- Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program Round II funding opportunity.

Thank You For Your Support,

Míchael Rodríguez, EI, PMP

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