HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 10, 2019

9:00AM-12:00PM

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITTY DEVELOPMENT

600 E MAIN ST RICHMOND, VA 23219

About the Workshop

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), in its capacity as the State Administrative Agency for the distribution of FEMA funding, manages two different types of mitigation grants.

The first type of grants are annual grants that are made available to take actions before a disaster strikes in order to reduce risk to individuals, property, and infrastructure, and to reduce reliance on federal funding in future disasters. These annual grants include the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant programs.

The second grant type is the post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), which is available to help communities implement hazard mitigation measures following a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

Regardless of the type of grant, the applications are evaluated based on FEMA eligibility requirements and guidelines, state, regional, and local priorities, and peer review.

On October 10, 2019 VDEM hosted an annual stakeholder workshop. Workshop objectives were to 1) provide stakeholders with the grant overview and grant evaluation process, 2) conduct open discussion of grant topics, and 3) refine project peer review scoring criteria.

Approximately 20 participants representing multi-disciplinary stakeholders across the Commonwealth's seven regions attended the workshop. Invited participants included two emergency managers, two non-emergency managers, one planning district commission, and one VDEM planner from each region.

The results of the workshop reflect the values, judgment and experience of the stakeholders and would not have been possible without the energetic and engaged input from the participants. The following sections provide an overview of the workshop proceedings including funding guidance, grant process, stakeholder recommendations, peer review criteria decisions, and next steps.