

**Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Rebuild Florida Hurricane Sally Program Grant Funding**

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's (DEO) has been allocated a total of \$187,383,000 in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to address unmet disaster recovery needs related to Hurricane Sally damage. Eligible programs include Infrastructure Repair Program, Voluntary Home Buyout, Housing Repair and Replacement, Hometown Revitalization, and Workforce Recovery Training.

The Hometown Revitalization Program (HRP) was allocated \$13,513,850 in funding to address unmet disaster recovery needs related to damage from Hurricane Sally and to support the recovery of economic activity in commercial areas of impacted towns and cities, facilitating the return and recovery of businesses, jobs, and provision of goods and services to the community. The submission deadline is May 1, 2023. The City of Milton can submit up to three (3) infrastructure projects for a minimum of \$500,000 up to \$5,000,000. Projects must meet a CDBG-DR National Objective such as:

- Benefit Low- and Moderate-Income (LMI) Individuals,
- Aid in the prevention or eliminations of Slum and Blight, or
- Address an Urgent Need.

The City of Milton proposed projects pending community comments and Council approval include the following:

Stewart Street Facility Revitalization Project – The City of Milton, FL plans to purchase the State of Florida surplus property located at 5500 Stewart Street and convert the 63,000 square foot hospital into a training facility. Through partnerships with educational institution(s), this critical training facility would include training in high demand, high paying positions with existing labor force shortages. Examples of training provided at the facility could include but are not limited to utility worker certifications (water, wastewater, and natural gas), airframe and powertrain certifications, and/or aviation maintenance and repair training. The intent of this project is to support its low- and very low- income citizens looking for new employment in the post-disaster economy by providing a community facility that can deliver vocational training opportunities.

Estimated CDBG-DR Request: \$5,000,000

For each activity that is proposed, at least 70% of the funds must benefit low and moderate-income individuals. In developing a CDBG-DR application, the City of Milton plans to minimize displacement of persons due to these activities. It is not anticipated that any proposed activities will result in displacement but if this occurs, the City of Milton will develop a plan to assist displaced persons.

The City of Milton values citizen and stakeholder engagement and will provide a 14-day public comment period about the use of these funds from **April 14 to April 28, 2023**. Please submit comments in writing to swoodbery@miltonfl.org, OR deliver to City Hall, 6738 Dixon Street, Milton, Florida OR mail to City Hall, Grants Department, P. O. Box 909, Milton, Florida 32572. Call Sandra Woodbery at 850-983-4704 for a copy of the proposed application and if special accommodation is required to comment.