

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant Application

DATE OF MEETING: January 8, 2024

Work
Session/Regular
Session

BUDGET IMPACT: Total project cost is \$36,268.00. Because Lowndes County's cost share will be met with in kind funding there will be no direct budget impact.

FUNDING SOURCE:

- Annual - \$4,200 (In Kind Funding)
- FEMA - \$27,201
- GEMA - \$4,867
- SPLOST
- TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Approval of Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant Application

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: The Lowndes County Hazard Mitigation Plan is currently approved through January 2027. In order to gain funding to assist with the planning and update process, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency has advised Lowndes County to submit an application for funding through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) which was recently made available to eligible counties in Georgia. Normally, under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant program, funding is provided on a cost share basis with the federal share making up 75 percent of the funding and Lowndes County providing the remaining 25 percent. By applying now under the HMGP, we will be able to leverage not only the Federal funding, but also reduce the local cost share due to the State of Georgia's contributions under this particular grant program. As a result, even though the contractual costs are estimated to be higher during the next revision, the local cost share is actually lower. Because the time staff spends in attending planning meetings, gathering information, and otherwise participating in plan development is an allowable expense, Lowndes County's cost share can be met by documenting this time and submitting it as part of the reimbursement process of the grant. This will allow Lowndes County to meet the terms of the grant guidance without an actual cash allocation being required. Once Lowndes County receives notice of funding approval, they can begin the process of selecting a qualified consultant and begin the plan update process to ensure we maintain our compliance status and eligibility for federal disaster related funding in the future.

- OPTIONS: 1. Authorize Chairman to sign the grant application.
2. Board's Pleasure

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

DEPARTMENT: Emergency Management

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Ashley Tye

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: