

City of Macclenny, Florida
CDBG-MIT General Infrastructure Program
Public Notice

The City of Macclenny will be applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding through the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program. A total of \$475,000,000 is being made available through a competitive application process for eligible local governments. Eligible applicants can submit project applications for a minimum of \$2,000,000 per application. A maximum of \$175,000,000 per application is available for eligible activities. Eligible activities include projects that demonstrably increase community resilience. Examples of eligible activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Restoration of critical infrastructure (such as water and sewer facilities, streets, drainage, bridges, etc.).
- Renourishment of protective coastal dune systems and state beaches.
- Building or fortifying buildings that are essential to the health, safety and welfare of a community.
- Rehabilitation or construction of stormwater management systems.
- Improvements to drainage facilities.
- Reconstruction of lift stations and sewage treatment plants.
- Road repair and improvement and bridge strengthening.

The City will be requesting up to \$175,000,000 in CDBG-MIT funding to undertake projects that will enhance the resiliency of both the City's Water System and Wastewater System, as well as restore and improve critical infrastructure within these systems.

The Water System project is expected to include major upgrades at one of the City's Water Treatment Plant (WTP), which will provide improved fire protection, adequate system pressures, and increased capacity system-wide. The project will also replace deteriorating and undersized water mains throughout the distribution system, extend distribution system lines to provide potable water and fire protection to previously unserved homes and account for near-term growth, and connect existing water mains to "loop" the system and eliminate dead-end lines. The goal of this project is to provide improved accessibility and much needed redundancy to this critical infrastructure to all proposed beneficiaries in the event of a major disaster.

The Wastewater System project is expected to include the full rehabilitation and/or replacement of existing gravity sewer and associated components, much of which is deteriorated, cracking, collapsing, or has exceeded its useful life. Restoration of this existing critical infrastructure is paramount to avoid collapsing roadways and sewer backups and/or overflows, which the City has continued to battle in recent years. The collection system is even more at risk during major disasters, as condition of the pipes allow for significant stormwater infiltration, overwhelming the system's capacity. The project will also fully rehabilitate and upgrade existing lift stations, as well as construct new force mains, to increase capacity and maintain the ability to serve existing and new customers south of I-10. The new force mains will either connect to existing force mains or connect directly to the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) so that the rehabilitated lift stations are not reliant on other lift stations or gravity sewer lines to transmit wastewater to the WWTF. This is essential, particularly during disaster scenarios when certain areas lose power or sewer collapses occur. Together, the goal for this wastewater system project is to mitigate public health and safety concerns related to a failing and undersized collection system, increase and restore system capacities, and to allow for new connections, mitigating flood conditions on existing septic tank systems.

A public comment period running from August 27, 2021, through September 13, 2021 (17 days) will be held for all members of the general public regarding this grant opportunity and how it can be utilized by the City. Additionally, the City will host a virtual public meeting to provide all members of the general public an opportunity to participate within the public comment period on September 13, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. Persons wanting to submit written comments within the public comment period should send them to Melissa K. Thompson, Finance Director, at (904) 259-0972 or by email at melissa@cityofmacclenny.com or by mail to City Hall, 118 E Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063 by no later than September 13, 2021.

A draft copy of the application will also be available for review during normal business hours at City Hall, 118 E Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063 by noon on August 27, 2021. Persons wanting to submit written comments on the application should send them to Melissa K. Thompson, Finance Director, at (904) 259-0972 or by email at melissa@cityofmacclenny.com or by mail to City Hall, 118 E Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063 by no later than September 13, 2021.

A copy of the final application will be available for review at City Hall, 118 E Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063 no later than September 13, 2021. The application will be submitted to DEO on or before September 15, 2021. To obtain additional information concerning the application and the virtual public meeting, contact Melissa K. Thompson, Finance Director, at (904) 259-0972 or by email at melissa@cityofmacclenny.com.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate within the public comment period and/or the virtual public meeting is asked to advise the City at least five days prior to the public comment period deadline and/or the date of the virtual public meeting by contacting Melissa K. Thompson, Finance Director, at (904) 259-0972 or by email at melissa@cityofmacclenny.com. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the City using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800) 955-8770 (Voice).

Any non-English speaking person wishing to participate within the public comment period and/or the virtual public meeting should contact Melissa K. Thompson, Finance Director, at (904) 259-0972 or by email at melissa@cityofmacclenny.com at least five days prior to the public comment period deadline and/or the date of the virtual public meeting and an interpreter will be provided.

To connect to the virtual Public Meeting on Monday, September 13th, at 5:00PM please call our City's conference line at 904-259-0973. Please provide your name, address, and phone number.

The City of Macclenny is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer, Section 504, Fair Housing Jurisdiction. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.