



GEMA



FEMA

News Release

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\$11 MILLION IN FEMA GRANTS WILL REMOVE FLOOD-DAMAGED PROPERTIES

ATLANTA – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved Hazard Mitigation grants totaling \$11,283,802 to fund the acquisition and demolition of properties that were damaged by historic September 2009 flooding. Georgia Emergency Management Agency will manage the grants for the state of Georgia.

“We are delighted that the first round of hazard mitigation grants has been approved,” said Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security Director Charley English. “This is good news for many homeowners who have had repeated flooding. We expect that additional property buyouts will soon be approved so that more property owners can rebuild their lives.”

The grants include funding for the following acquisition and demolition projects:

- \$4,429,136 to buy 34 residential properties in unincorporated Cobb County.
- \$3,299,667 to buy 30 residential properties in Douglas County.
- \$1,789,950 to buy flooded apartments in the city of Woodstock (Cherokee County).
- \$1,765,049 to buy 16 residential properties in the city of Powder Springs (Cobb County).

These properties are located in Special Flood Hazard Areas, and are highly vulnerable to flooding. Once the properties are acquired by local government, the buildings will be demolished. The resulting vacant land will remain green space, and no future construction will be allowed on the properties.

“By buying and demolishing these homes, we are making people safe from future flooding,” said Region IV Administrator Phil May. “This funding to Georgia shows FEMA’s commitment to reduce flood damages.”

The \$11.3 million in grants represent the federal share of the total project cost of \$15 million. The remainder will come from non-federal sources.

(MORE)

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The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. The HMGP is authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

FEMA leads and supports the nation in a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation, to reduce the loss of life and property and protect the nation from all hazards including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

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