

# **Mississippi Development Authority Economic Development Program Amendment 4 Modification 7 Program Funding Reallocation**

## **Overview**

The Mississippi Development Authority (“MDA”) submits this Substantial Modification to the Economic Development Program Action Plan Amendment 4. A copy of the Action Plan Amendment 4 and all modifications to it in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese can be found at:

[http://www.msdisasterrecovery.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=59&Itemid=60&lang=us](http://www.msdisasterrecovery.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=59&Itemid=60&lang=us)

MDA has determined that this change does represent a substantial modification to both the Community Revitalization Action Plan and the Hancock County Long Term Recovery Program requiring public comment and formal submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”). The nature, purpose, and scope of both Action Plans remain the same subsequent to the modification.

This modification pertains to the reprogramming of portions of the \$5.058 billion allocation in Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) as part of the \$5.48 billion federal appropriation through the Emergency Supplemental Appropriation Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery, 2006 (Public Law 109-148). These monies have been designated by Congress for “necessary expenses related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, and restoration of infrastructure in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Katrina. These funds are being administered by the Mississippi Development Authority (“MDA”) for the State of Mississippi.

## **Background**

Since receipt of its portion of CDBG funds after Hurricane Katrina, the State of Mississippi’s overall recovery plan focused on three overall priorities: recovering housing stock, retaining and recruiting jobs within the storm impacted counties, and rebuilding and strengthening public infrastructure/facilities in designated disaster areas, including transportation routes which contribute to better traffic flow, particularly in the event of future disasters. As Mississippi’s long-term recovery needs continually evolve and are reevaluated KCDBG funds designated for infrastructure needs, including those related to transportation routes, must be reallocated to service Post-Katrina population and development trends. As Mississippi’s “Community Revitalization Program” funds may be applied within a broad area of the Hurricane Katrina impact, the state reserves the right to reallocate available funds from more geographically specific programs, such as the Hancock

County Long Term Recovery Program, and into the further reaching Community Revitalization Program.

**Purpose**

The Economic Development Program provides activities for Economic Development, Community Revitalization, and Planning. This modification will reallocate \$34,964,710 million in available Hancock County Long Term Recovery Program funds into the Community Revitalization Program. These funds will come from a single highway project (the 603 Project) whose start date is several years away and for which other federal funds have been committed for the Highway 603 project by the Mississippi Department of Transportation. The reallocation will move funds into a “shovel ready” evacuation route which will specifically facilitate and compliment major transportation improvements now underway along the congested I-110 and I-10 corridor in Harrison County. Since Hurricane Katrina and the subsequent construction of a four-lane State Highway 67 this critical coast access point has evolved into one of the busiest intersections along the coast, particularly for south and north access linking Mississippi’s Coastal communities and inland Mississippi.

Prior Allocation      Re-allocated Amount Revised Allocation

***Hancock County Long Term Recovery (Ground Zero) Program:***

\$188,431,390	(\$34,964,710)	\$153,466,680
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***Community Revitalization Program:***

\$249,966,779	\$34,964,710	\$284,931,489
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**Substantial Amendments**

MDA recognizes that adding or deleting an activity or changing the planned beneficiaries of an activity will constitute a substantial change requiring an amendment to the action plan.

**Citizen Participation**

This Amendment was submitted for public comment in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese versions to the website at [www.msdisasterrecovery.com](http://www.msdisasterrecovery.com) for public comments. The 15 day public comment period ended on March 26, 2013 and no public comments were received.