

Mississippi Development Authority

Homeowner Assistance Program

Modification 10

**Local Government Building Inspector
and Permitting Assistance Program**

MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MODIFICATION 10 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING INSPECTOR AND PERMITTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Background and Scope

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) submits this Homeowner Assistance Program Partial Action Plan Modification 10 of the Final Plan approved by HUD on April 1, 2006. MDA has determined that this represents a major modification to the plan requiring formal submission to HUD and submittal for public comment. Homeowner Assistance Program's policies on Phase I and II and other Programs in the Partial Action Plan are not changed by this modification.

Overview and Program Purpose

Due to the significant amount of construction taking place on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the need to adequately plan and inspect construction activities, MDA established a \$5 million grant pool for grants to local governments in Hancock, Harrison, Jackson and Pearl River Counties for costs of additional permitting and building inspector officials.

MDA has implemented the Small Rental Assistance Program and is currently receiving comments for a Long Term Workforce Housing Program. In addition, MDA has disbursed over \$1.4 billion in homeowner grants and has begun closings of Elevation Program grants. These programs and continued long term recovery on the Mississippi Gulf Coast create a continued need for building inspectors and permitting in excess of the pre-Katrina level. This modification provides for additional funding of \$4.5 million from the Homeowners Assistance Elevation Grant Program for the Local Government Building Inspector and Permitting Assistance Program to address this continuing need.

Eligibility for Assistance

Grantees' requests for additional funding will be evaluated based on staffing levels and projected workloads to meet the continuing needs throughout the coastal counties of Hancock, Harrison, Jackson and Pearl River. MDA anticipates that funding will be provided to grantees through June 30, 2010.

Public Comments

MDA is publishing this draft modification to solicit public comment. Copies of the modification are available on the Internet at www.mississippi.org or upon request to MDA via the following public comment submission process. Written comments regarding this proposed modification may be mailed to MDA, Post Office Box 849, Jackson, MS 39205, Attention: Disaster Recovery, or sent via facsimile to 601-359-9280. Comments may also be submitted online to hoacomment@mississippi.org. Comments that are received by May 20, 2008 will be considered. Changes may be made at that time and then the final modification will be submitted to HUD for approval.

Substantial Amendments

The State recognizes that any change, which changes the nature, purpose, or scope of the programs contained herein, will constitute a substantial amendment requiring public comment and approval by HUD. Additions or deletion of program activities or changes in beneficiaries would also constitute the need for a program amendment requiring public comment and HUD approval.

Waivers

All waivers received from the original action plan are considered to be effective for this modification.