



Homeland Security  
and Emergency Services

# Cultural Heritage at Risk: **Disaster Recovery 101**

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# Learning Objectives

- Gain a better understanding of:
  - The disaster recovery process & associated programs
  - How State, Tribal & local governments & certain Private Non-Profits can use these programs to protect lives, make communities more resilient, and preserve significant cultural artifacts for future generations

# Disaster Recovery

- All disasters generally have some degree of recovery in which emergency management agencies, community groups and others help individuals and jurisdictions respond and recover
- With pre-event planning and post-event coordination, these activities offer opportunities to increase the community's resilience for the physical, emotional and economic well-being of all

# Robert T. Stafford



Vermont Attorney General	1955-1957
Governor of Vermont	1959-1961
U.S. House of Representatives	1961-1971
U.S. Senate	1971-1989

Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
Emergency Assistance Act 1988

Robert T. Stafford Guaranteed Federal  
Student Loan Program 1988

# The Stafford Act

- Establishes a federal process for declaring disasters, determining appropriate response, and dividing the costs among federal, state, and local governments
- Provides federal assistance to address economic losses from disasters
- Articulates the need for state and local governments to create disaster preparedness plans and mechanisms to prepare for coordination during times of crisis

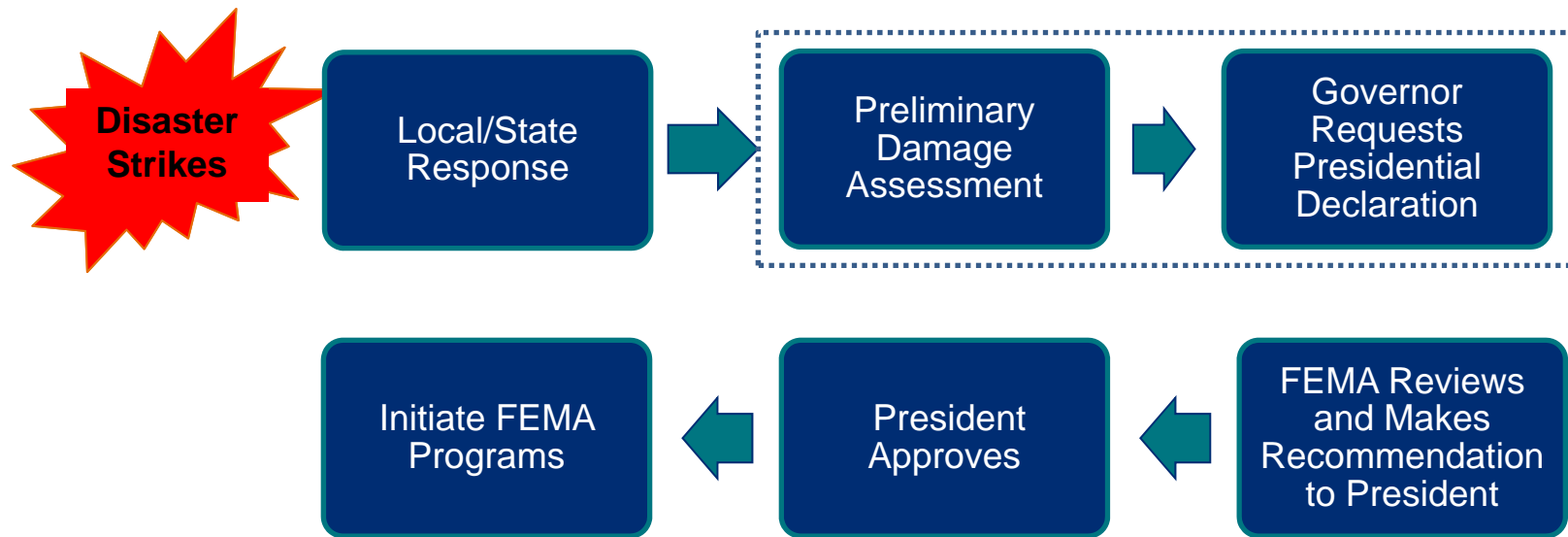
# The Stafford Act

- Authorizes federal disaster assistance.
- Two basic types of assistance:
  - Direct Federal Assistance (DFA)
  - Financial assistance (public & individual assistance, hazard mitigation)
- *Limited Assistance* may be provided in anticipation of the disaster

# FEMA Disaster Recovery Programs

- FEMA recovery assistance is only available if a Stafford Act declaration is granted, either an Emergency Declaration or a Major Disaster Declaration
- Public Assistance (PA), Individual Assistance (IA), & Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Other federal programs may be available depending on the scope and magnitude of the event

# Disaster Declaration Process





# Federal Emergency Declaration

- Declared by President at Governor's request
- Federal assistance and funding may be provided to meet specific emergency needs or to help prevent a catastrophe from occurring
- A Federal Emergency Declaration allows for specific types of Federal assistance (i.e., debris removal and emergency protective measures), but it is much more limited than a Major Disaster Declaration

# Major Disaster Declaration

- Declared by the President at Governor's request
- Can make a variety of Federal programs available to the State, Tribal and local governments, and individuals impacted by the disaster for emergency relief and reconstruction assistance
- Not every disaster receives a Disaster Declaration; not every declaration includes all types of assistance - depends on the scope and magnitude the event

# FEMA Recovery Programs

- **Public Assistance (PA)**
- Individual Assistance (IA)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

## Public Assistance (PA)

- **Program Goal:** To restore damaged public infrastructure to pre-disaster conditions and add effective mitigation measures to reduce future damage in similar events. FEMA will reimburse up to 75% of eligible costs related to emergency response and damages to structures, infrastructure, and equipment.

# Public Assistance (PA)

- Who is eligible?
  - *Local* Government Agencies
  - *County* Government Agencies
  - *State* Government Agencies
  - *Tribal* Nations
  - *Private Not-for-Profits (PNPs)* providing government-like critical/essential services (volunteer fire depts., schools, museums, libraries, etc.)

## Public Assistance (PA) – What is eligible?

### Emergency Response

- Debris Removal
- Protective Measures
  - Sheltering
  - Equipment
  - Food & water
  - Evacuation

### Repair/Replace Infrastructure

- Roads & bridges
- Government buildings
- Hospitals
- WTPs & WWTPs
- Municipal Utilities
- Primary & Secondary Public & Private Educational Facilities

## Public Assistance (PA)

- The PA Program also encourages protection of facilities from future events by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures to reduce impacts of similar events.
- This is referred to as “Section 406 Mitigation” and may be applied only to facilities damaged by the declared event.

## Public Assistance (PA)

- **What is the Process to get a PA Declaration?**
- Preliminary Damage Estimate
  - **Local** - City/Town/Village information to County
  - **County** - Roll up & submit to NYSOEM Region
  - **NYSOEM** - Submit to DHSES Recovery
  - **DHSES Recovery** - Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) with FEMA if damage approaches thresholds



## Public Assistance (PA)

- Both the State and individual Counties must meet a *per capita* damage threshold to obtain PA funding.
- As of October 1, 2016:
  - New York State damages of \$1.43 *per capita* equals \$27,710,686 in total damage
  - Affected County damages of \$3.61 *per capita*



## Public Assistance (PA)

- Be prepared to take PDA Teams to areas with greatest damages (worst first).
- Coordinate with PNPs and public/private schools.
- Document and photograph damages, secure/maintain records for all repairs/emergency actions.
- Notify DHSES of any damage discovered after the PDA.
- Don't wait for FEMA-DHSES PDA to begin repairs.
- Keep good records.

# FEMA Recovery Programs

- Public Assistance (PA)
- **Individual Assistance (IA)**
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

## Individual Assistance (IA)

- **Program Goal:** To ensure that disaster survivors and their families have the resources and support they need to recover from disasters.

## Individual Assistance (IA)

- Individual Assistance funding is provided directly to New York residents by FEMA. Individuals apply for assistance directly with FEMA
- FEMA funding is only available for those in FEMA declared counties.
- DHSES staff advocates for individuals and coordinates with voluntary organization to address urgent and unmet needs.

## Individual Assistance (IA)

- States must be approved for Individual Assistance (IA) as part of the Major Disaster Declaration in order to receive IA funding.
- There is no threshold or exact criteria for an IA declaration, although it generally depends on the disaster magnitude and number of individuals impacted.

## Individual Assistance (IA)

- **Disaster Case Management Program (DCM):** DCM involves a partnership between a case manager and a disaster survivor (also known as a “client”) to develop and carry out a Disaster Recovery Plan.
- States need to receive an IA declaration and apply for DCM funding; it is not guaranteed for every disaster.



# FEMA Recovery Programs

- Public Assistance (PA)
- Individual Assistance (IA)
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)**

# Hazard Mitigation

## Program Goal:

- Makes safer communities, saves lives and reduces property damage, financial drain and emotional stress.
- Allows communities to rebuild quickly.
- Saves money: every \$1 spent on mitigation avoids \$4 in future damages on average.

# Hazard Mitigation

- FEMA makes resiliency available three ways:
  - Public Assistance (PA) repairs (406)
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program or HMGP (404)
  - Annual FEMA nationwide grant cycles (Pre-Disaster Mitigation and Flood Mitigation Assistance programs)

# Hazard Mitigation

- FEMA requires that projects:
  - Reduce the loss of life and damage to improved property due to natural disasters.
  - Provide a cost-effective, long-term solution to a problem, for example, elevation of a home to reduce the risk of flood damages as opposed to buying sandbags and pumps to fight the flood.

# Hazard Mitigation

- FEMA requires that projects:
  - Show cost-effectiveness: future damages avoided over the life of the project must exceed the total cost
  - Occur in communities covered by a FEMA-approved all-hazards mitigation plan

# Hazard Mitigation

- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)** is a post-disaster award to NYS, which establishes priorities for the in-state grant cycle.
- HMGP funds HM plans & projects at 75%.
- Governments and PNPs eligible for the PA program are automatically eligible for HMGP.
- Businesses and individuals cannot apply, but eligible applicants can apply on their behalf.

# Hazard Mitigation

- **Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM):** annual nationwide grant cycles; PDM funds hazard mitigation plans & all eligible project types at 75%.
- **Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA):** reduces flood claims by mitigating National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) insured properties; generally funds projects at 75%, may increase to 90% and 100% for structures with multiple claims.

## The scope and magnitude of the event...

- Will generally dictate the type of programs available.
- Elected officials should work closely with their local and county emergency management agencies and DHSES Recovery Office to understand the types of recovery programs that may be available after a disaster.



# Non-Disaster Resiliency Measures

## NYS Standard Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Required to access PA recovery funds, 406 mitigation, HMGP, PDM & FMA assistance
- Verifies progress in identifying risks, mitigating natural hazards, and reducing damage to state infrastructure
- Serves as a reference for local governments developing their own mitigation plans and strategies

# Non-Disaster Resiliency Measures

## The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):

- Model local ordinance to manage development in floodplains
- “Substantial” triggers for full compliance with the law
- Community Assistance Visits (CAVs)
- Impacts through Federally-insured mortgages
- Bolstered by NYS Uniform Fire Prevention & Building Code

# Non-Disaster Resiliency Measures

## Community Risk and Resiliency Act (CRRA):

- DEC adopts official sea-level rise projections
- Applicants demonstrate sea-level rise, storm surge and flooding have been considered
- Criteria above part of NYS Smart Growth considerations
- DEC & DOS guidance on natural resiliency measures
- DOS & DEC develop model local laws concerning climate risk

# Non-Disaster Resiliency Measures

## Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Policy Act

- Part of the Environmental Conservation Law
- Sensible, planned, efficient growth that considers economic development and quality of life by preserving and enhancing the natural & built environments
- Minimizes unnecessary cost of sprawl development
- State infrastructure agencies evaluate projects against 11 Smart Growth criteria

# Non-Disaster Resiliency Measures

## NY Energy Research & Development Authority

- Responding to Climate Change: ClimAID
- Climate change projections
- Environmental Research
- Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Certification

## Non-Disaster Resiliency Measures

- **State University of New York Research Foundation**
- Mesonet 125-station weather monitoring system
- measure temp, humidity, wind speed/direction, pressure, radiation & soil saturation every 3 to 30 seconds
- 17 sites provide data 2 miles up, flux (heat & moisture exchange near the ground) & snow depth information
- Has life safety, emergency management, research and economic benefits

## Questions...?

- Rick Lord
- State Hazard Mitigation Officer
- NYS Division of Homeland Security  
Emergency Services