



FEMA

**HMA**  
Hazard Mitigation  
Assistance

# **Moving Mitigation Forward: The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program**

Hazard Mitigation Assistance, Mitigation Directorate | Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA

# Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA)



- The most significant opportunity in decades to focus on investing year-in and year-out on mitigation measures that will reduce losses from future disaster events
- Establishes more than 50 new authorities and requirements across FEMA
- Designed to address the rising costs of disasters and reform Federal disaster programs

# DRRA Section 1234: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

**FEMA's goal is to reduce costs and loss of human life from natural hazards by building a national culture of preparedness, encouraging investments to protect our communities and infrastructure, and building mitigation capabilities to foster resilience.**

## BRIC Guiding Principles



**Support communities through capability & capacity building**



**Encourage and enable innovation**



**Promote partnerships**



**Enable large projects**

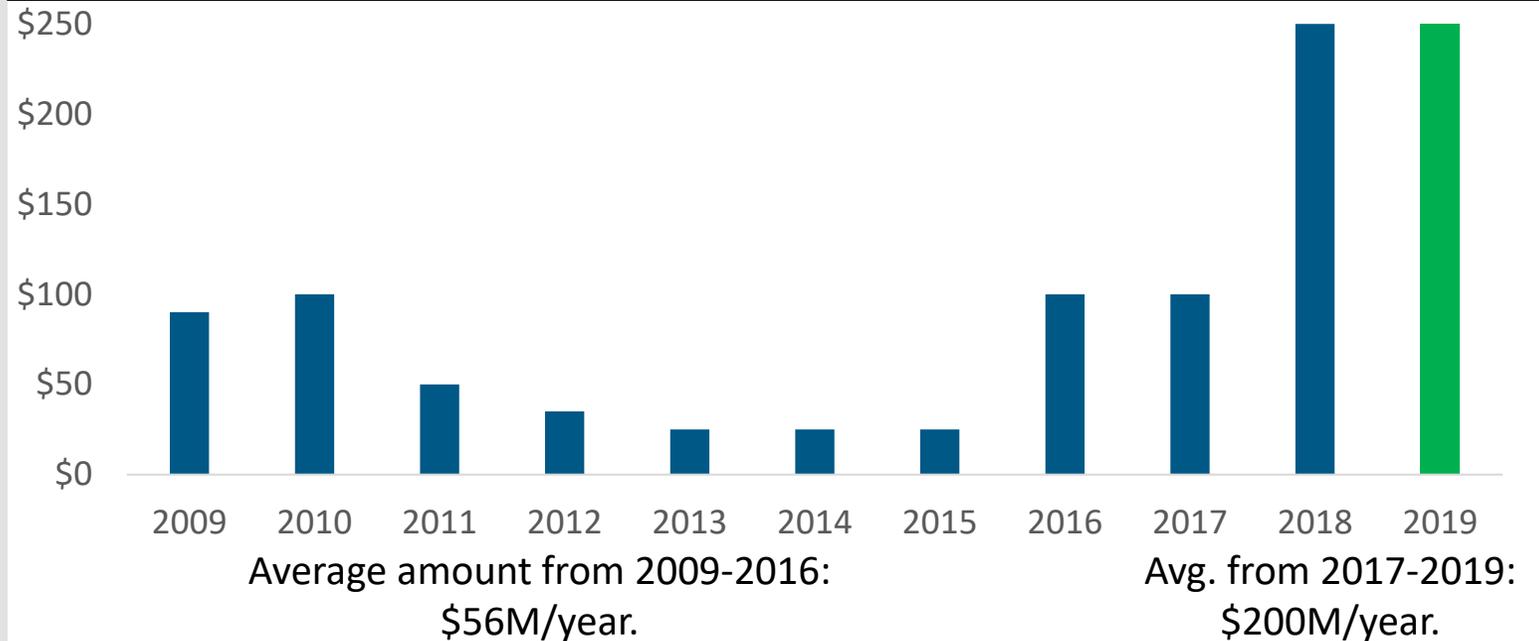


**Maintain flexibility**



**Provide consistency**

*Since 2009, FEMA has received approximately \$1 billion in Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant appropriations, of which 48% has been in the last 2 years.*



*Funds will vary based on disasters. FIMA estimates that annual funds will average \$300M-\$500M per year, with significantly greater amounts following years with catastrophic disasters.*

# PDM and BRIC: Path Forward

## PDM FY18

Total amount available: \$249.2 million  
Resilient Infrastructure: New competitive funding project type with a maximum Federal share of \$10 million

## PDM FY19

Total amount available: \$250 million  
Follows same application timeline as FY18  
Resilient Infrastructure competitive funding will continue

## BRIC FY20

Total amount available: TBD  
Target application period is October 2020 – January 2021

## BRIC FY21 & beyond

Will ensure continuous improvement as the program evolves  
FEMA will communicate annual changes through the Notice of Funding Opportunity and program implementation documents



Research



Policy Development



Public Comment through Federal Register



NOFO Development



Grant Application Period Opens



FEMA

# BRIC Program Design Process and Estimated Timing

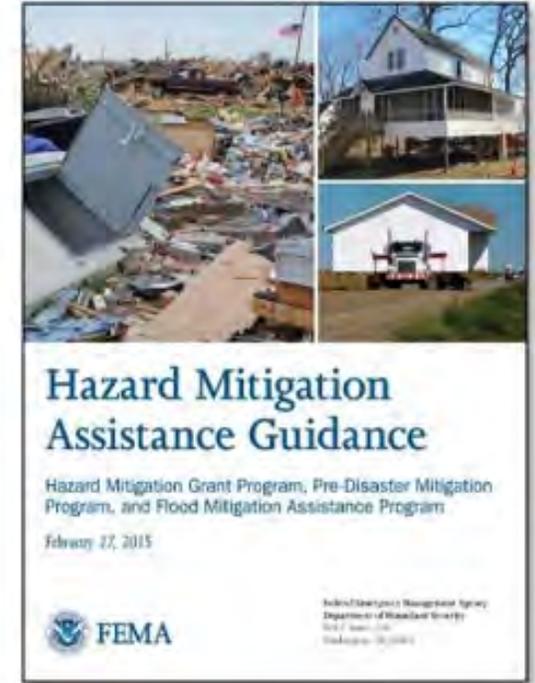
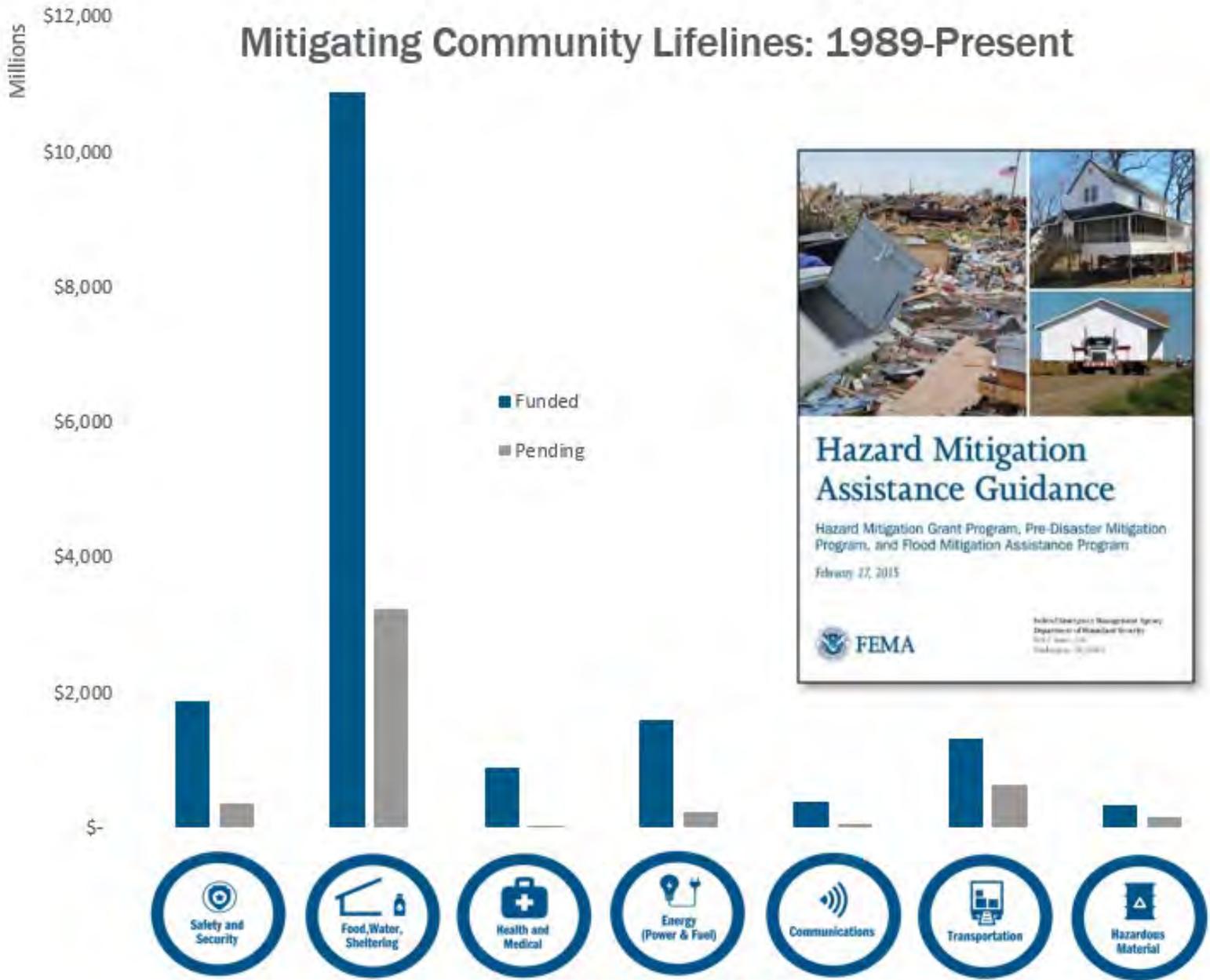


\* Timing is estimated as of September 2019 and subject to change.

# Infrastructure and Lifeline Considerations

- ✓ Project types
- ✓ Period of Performance
- ✓ Advance Assistance opportunities
- ✓ Private sector ownership
- ✓ New technical considerations
- ✓ Role of planning
- ✓ Technical assistance needs
- ✓ Funding amounts and caps
- ✓ Nature-based infrastructure

Mitigating Community Lifelines: 1989-Present



\*DRAFT DATA – NOT YET FINAL

# Resilient Infrastructure: Example

**6-acre underground resiliency park** in NJ offers outdoor public recreation amenities such as a natural oasis, athletic fields, play areas, fitness stations, and event space:

- Lowered basketball court provides green stormwater storage
- Rain gardens for capture and filtration
- ✓ Provides significant mitigation of fluvial and flash flooding for multi-story residential, commercial, and industrial properties
- ✓ Reduces economic, environmental, and social impacts



**8** Drainage areas



**7** Landscape types



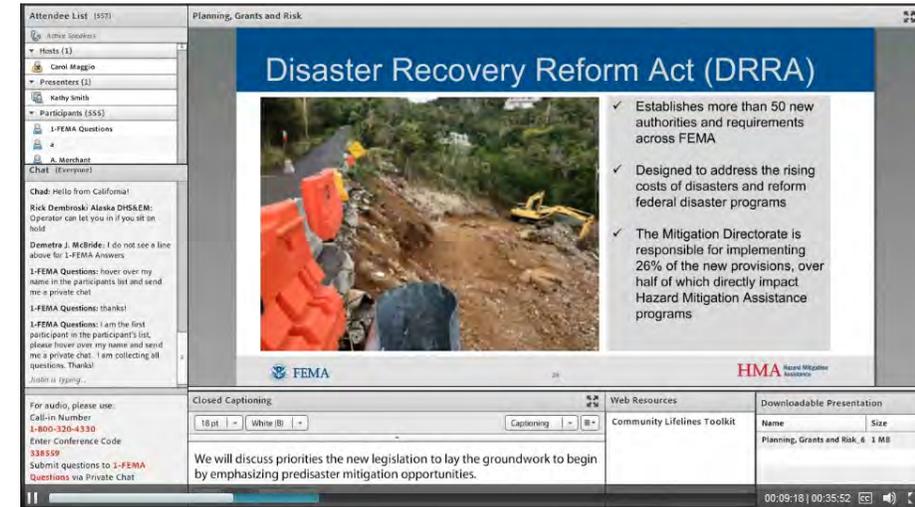
**1.75<sup>M</sup>**  
Gallons of stormwater storage

**\$10<sup>M</sup>** FED SHARE  
+  
**\$47<sup>M</sup>** MATCH

# Stakeholder Engagement

Since the passage of the DRRR FEMA has conducted extensive stakeholder engagement through:

- ❖ In-Person Meetings
- ❖ Webinars
- ❖ Open Inbox
- ❖ Ideascale Platform
- ❖ Formal Letters



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# Formal Comment Letters



FEMA does not endorse any non-government entities, organizations, or services.

# Commonly Supported Ideas

## Generally, stakeholders expressed support for:



Increased funding for technical assistance and capability and capacity-building activities



Evaluation and performance monitoring of BRIC-funded projects



Adoption and enforcement of recent building codes while allowing for flexibility



Lesson sharing of successful projects at various scales



Collaboration with other agencies and organizations to develop and support BRIC-related activities



Large and small mitigation activities



Simplifying the process for shifts to budgets, processes, and work schedules that result in no changes to scope of work – especially necessary for large projects



Expansion of pre-calculated benefits



Consistency across pre-existing mitigation programs

# BRIC Supports FEMA's Priorities

**Build a culture of preparedness**



**Prepare the nation for catastrophic disasters**



**Reduce complexities**



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