

CDBG-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Community Meeting Summary October 25, 2023



Taft Community Center - 6 p.m.
9450 S. Orange Ave.
Orlando, FL 32824

Persons in attendance:
19

Comments/Concerns/Clarifications

- **Areas impacted:** Lake Underhill, Deerwood Community, Rio Pinar, Ensenada Dr., Chickasaw Trail, Goldenrod Rd., Dean Rd., Little Econ River Basin.
- **Infrastructure:** Power outages, especially due to fallen trees; drainage issues caused by new construction /new development on wetlands; flooding due to failed pump station (Madeira Ave./Ensenada Dr. pump station - County aware since 2001 but did not address issue). Poor maintenance of canals and drainage pipes.
- **Funding requirements:** CDBG-DR funds can be used to expand and/or improve infrastructure and facilities, but can not be used to provide continuous and on-going maintenance.
- **Mitigation:** Preservation of wetlands is important to allow for natural drainage to occur. Elevation of structures; up-grades to the stormwater management system; and automation of water pump system are important parts of mitigation.
- **Pre-disaster:** Need more shelters in the Taft area and sufficient transportation to get to those shelter(s).
- **Post-disaster:** 60 homes in the Rio Pinar community flooded. Insurance and FEMA did not cover the full cost of rehab.
- **Housing:** New housing construction near Rio Pinar is unaffordable. Will VISION 2050 work with CDBG-DR funding? Response: it is a separate funding and focus. CDBG-DR funding is tied to Hurricane Ian long-term disaster recovery and can fund development of affordable/special needs housing.
- **Funding:** Monetary assistance needed for homeowners who do not meet CDBG-DR income limits; insurance/FEMA funds did not completely cover the cost of rehab.
- **Public services:** Special services for elderly who lost food, medicine, and equipment. Generators for nursing homes and public housing complexes. Resiliency hubs can provide daily living supplies, resources, counseling, and shelter information. Need for medical services (a variety of), to include mental health.
- **Homeless services:** Need a way to communicate to homeless persons about where they can be sheltered ahead of storm.

Priorities Identified

HOUSING - 11

- New construction - 1
- Homeownership assistance - 1
- Rental assistance - 2
- Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - 6
- Property buyout - 1

INFRASTRUCTURE - 7

- Public facilities - 1
- Drainage/Utilities - 5
- Water and wastewater facilities - 1

ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION - 1

- Business retention program(s) - 0
- Loans and grants to businesses - 1

PUBLIC SERVICES - 5

- Legal assistance - 2
- Housing counseling - 0
- Mental/Health services - 3
- Housing stability services - 0
- Job training/Placement - 0

