



Board of Aldermen

Issue: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP 4393): Designated Agent Resolution (Update)

Department: Planning

Prepared by: Deborah J. Hill MPA AICP CFM CZO

Presentation: Yes

BACKGROUND In response to Hurricane Florence, under major disaster declaration FEMA-4393-DR-NC signed by the President on September 14, 2018, and as amended through October 14, 2018, FEMA is authorized to provide Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding for actions taken to prevent or reduce long term risk to life and property from natural hazards.

Based on data indicating properties that had suffered significant flood losses, property owners were notified by mail, the Town's website and legal notice published on September 29, 2019 and October 15, 2019 of the possible assistance for the: 1) **elevation of** homes above required flood protection elevation (RFPE) and retrofit the home's foundation; 2) **acquisition** of homes at current fair market value, or 3) **reconstruction** of homes to current building code on the existing site.

Of all the applications received by the Town for either elevation or acquisition, only one property owner remained interested and met FEMA's cost benefit analysis for elevation. In February 2023, the state's rehab specialist conducted an inspection of the structure and found structural issues. In April 2023, the state evaluated and then later submitted all supporting documentation for a Change of Scope of Work from Elevation to a Mitigation Reconstruction (MT Recon), after considering possible solutions to meet codes for the open foundation in a V- Zone. In January 2024, the Town was notified that an environmental assessment was almost complete. On April 8, 2024, the Town was notified that FEMA has approved changes to execute a Mitigation Reconstruction. June 12, 2024, the Town was notified that the State's legal team had completed final revision of the IFB (Invitation For Bids) with the hopes of having a contractor by mid-

September. In August 2024, the state's legal team was still working on the legal documentation for project at North Topsail Beach as well as other locations that were still waiting for a Mitigation Reconstruction. Our state's Hazard Mitigation Project Manager was working to combine other locations to advertise construction for several projects at the same time. October 23, 2024, the project 4393-0027 Town of North Topsail Beach Mitigation Reconstruction that an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the reconstruction project of several properties included 6910 12th Av. North Topsail Beach NC is officially posted. In December 2024, the State received and reviewed all bids and proposals. In January 2025, a contractor was selected, however, the bid offer for North Topsail Beach was higher than anticipated, requiring the State to submit a request to FEMA for additional funding.

CURRENT STATUS The State must have an updated Designated Agent Resolution and updated complete execution of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to be able to work on behalf of the Town executing project 4393-0097 Town of North Topsail Mitigation Reconstruction.

RECOMMENDATION The Planning Director requests that the Board of Aldermen adopt the Resolution of Applicant's Agent (attachment 1) and that one of the designated agents execute the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

ATTACHMENTS

1. Designated Agent Resolution (updated)
2. Designated Agent Resolution (original executed)
3. State Centric MOA (updated)
4. State Centric MOA (original executed)