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Disaster

- Declared Counties
- Disaster Federal Register Notices
- Disaster Assistance

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FEMA Public Assistance Program Rebuilds New York

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For Complete Coverage of this Disaster

New York, NY -- In the nearly one year since the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved more than \$4.5 billion to New York through its public assistance program to reimburse state and city agencies for repair and recover. Long-term recovery is expected to continue over the next several years, and anticipates that many additional project requests will be prepared and submitted for funding throughout this process.

"FEMA's public assistance program will continue to provide the much needed funding to help New York City and the state of New York with critical long-term recovery projects that will repair infrastructure and replace lost buildings and services," FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh said.

FEMA's public assistance program reimburses local and state government agencies and nonprofits providing government-like services for eligible disaster-related losses and costs. An eligible for reimbursement are debris removal, emergency response measures, and repair replacement or restoration of disaster-damaged public facilities.

In the wake of the attack, FEMA and the New York State Emergency Management Office have partnered to administer the program. FEMA provides public assistance grants directly to the state, which in turn reimburses agencies directly responsible for carrying out the projects.

"The sheer size and scope of the public assistance program attest to FEMA's diligence and commitment to New York," said SEMO Director Edward F. Jacoby, Jr. "From the initial response to the clean-up of Ground Zero to the long-term infrastructure restoration, the agency has proven that it is a true partner with the state of New York and New York City."

The funding process, which involves several steps, begins at the city level with the development of project plans that qualify for public assistance funding. FEMA and SEMO work closely with the New York State Office of Management and Budget throughout the process, which involves a multi-part review at the city level and a final review by FEMA.

Typically, the federal share of total eligible costs is 75 percent, with the state and local government providing 25 percent. In the case of the World Trade Center disaster, FEMA is funding 100 percent of costs eligible under the public assistance program, relieving the state of New York and New York City of any cost share.

Over 1,000 public assistance grants have been prepared to date, including:

Lower Manhattan Transportation Infrastructure

* \$2.75 billion to revamp lower Manhattan transportation infrastructure (in addition to \$1.8 billion contributed by U.S. Department of Transportation for a total of \$4.55 billion)

Debris Removal

- \$437 million for debris removal
- \$90 million for landfill operations and debris disposal
- \$96 million for costs associated with insurance coverage obtained for debris removal

Emergency Transportation

- \$33 million for emergency ferry service
- \$15 million for additional emergency train service
- \$9.1 million for road repairs
- \$5.2 million for temporary pedestrian bridge and walkway
- \$1 million for emergency bus service
- \$315,000 for emergency traffic operations

Cleaning and Air Monitoring

- \$80 million for indoor residential cleaning
- \$10 million for exterior building cleaning
- \$2.9 million for air quality testing in schools (see Board of Education)
- \$4.1 million for environmental cleaning in City schools (see Board of Education)

Fire Department of New York

- \$105.6 million for Ground Zero overtime costs
- \$28.3 million for destroyed vehicles and related equipment
- \$103.9 million for death benefits
- \$1.5 million for restoration of Engine 10 / Ladder 10 Firehouse
- \$2.3 million for cleaning fire apparatus

New York Police Department

- \$295.4 million in overtime at Ground Zero, Fresh Kills landfill, and incident command
- \$5 million for destroyed vehicles

NYC Board of Education

- \$2.9 million for air quality testing in schools
- \$4.1 million for environmental cleaning in City schools
- \$3.4 million for school relocation and transportation
- \$716,000 for textbooks

Private Not-for-Profit

- \$5.9 million for New York University for air monitoring, environmental cleaning and educational supplies/services
- \$400,000 for Pace University air quality testing, emergency supplies and equipment and materials

Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

- \$28.8 million for overtime
- \$4 million for replacement of destroyed rail cars
- \$11.8 million for operating costs for emergency commuter ferry service

Other Direct Aid to New York City

- \$56 million for DNA testing, forensic analysis, equipment, and other tools for victim identification
- \$7.5 million for NYC Family Center

- \$12.9 million for emergency supplies, equipment and services
- \$2.6 million for pedestrian walkway, mold remediation, and emergency response
- \$8 million to NYC for cancelled elections
- \$43.8 million to NY State Police for Ground Zero security operations
- \$20 million to NY State Military and Naval Affairs for activation of National Guard
- \$17 million for temporary relocation of CUNY's Fitterman Hall

In addition to \$4.5 billion in Public Assistance funding for the World Trade Center recovery FEMA has provided \$317.3 million for emergency response activities, such as Urban Search and Rescue, and approved more than \$260 million in assistance for individuals and families.

In all, \$5.5 billion has been approved to date for FEMA, SBA and New York state recovery programs.

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