

## **State Water Infrastructure Authority**

**Meeting Date: August 23, 2017**

### **Agenda Item D – CDBG-I Funds for Critical Water and Sewer Needs at Public Schools**

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#### **Division of Water Infrastructure Staff Report**

##### **Background**

The Governor's Disaster Recovery Office has requested that the Division of Water Infrastructure (Division) work with the State Water Infrastructure Authority (Authority) to prioritize up to \$10 million of the \$21 million available under the CDBG-I program this fall for the 46 lesser-impacted disaster counties associated with Hurricane Matthew. The 46 lesser impacted counties do not include Cumberland, Edgecombe, Wayne, or Robeson counties, which have already received significant assistance. The CDBG-I program provides grant funding for water and sewer infrastructure in non-entitlement areas of the state.

The Authority has integrated in the CDBG-I priority system the ability to consider other information related to a project that is not included or specifically addressed in the priority point system, but reflects the overall intent of the priority system. This gives the Authority the ability to adjust ranking of projects based on the priority as presented by staff.

Funding prioritization under Section 7 "Additional Information for Consideration" of the Division Application, would include such issues as:

- The project will replace / rehabilitate water infrastructure directly damaged by Hurricane Matthew but FEMA has indicated the project is ineligible for federal funding (full or partial).
- The project will replace / rehabilitate water infrastructure in a floodplain making the water infrastructure more resilient to future flooding events.
- The applicant's enterprise fund was impacted by Hurricane Matthew.
- The project will make the utility more financially or physically resilient to future flooding events.

The Authority could also potentially consider previous funding awarded to applicants from the CDBG-I program.

##### **Staff Recommendation**

Division staff recommend the Authority approve the use of the "Additional Information for Consideration" to specifically allow the prioritization of \$10 million of the CDBG-I funds available this fall for the 46 lesser-impacted disaster counties associated with Hurricane Matthew.