

This Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) is published by the County of Hawai‘i Planning Department and will discuss progress as of **March 30, 2024**. The County of Hawai‘i qualified for receipt of \$6.862 million in Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Funds through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In the CDBG-MIT Federal Register Notice [FRN] (85 FR 45838), HUD defines mitigation as those activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to or loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters. To receive said funds, the County prepared a CDBG-MIT Action Plan that functions as an implementation mechanism for the County Civil Defense Agency Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP). The MHMP was adopted in 2020 and is the most recent FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Activities identified:

**ArcGIS System** purchase and installation to benefit the county civil defense agency. At a cost of \$388,050.00, this system will allow direct, real-time, input from the incident site(s) into the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Data can then be categorized, filtered, and configured to present a comprehensive common operating picture (COP) to responding agencies and the public. This means real time information on road closures, incident impacts, and response actions will be available to responders, decision makers, and the public. The project is currently underway, with implementation in 2023 under the UNM objective.

*Quarterly Progress: Civil Defense is in the process of circulating an MOU through the County contract routing process. This will allow the project to move forward with a timeline to begin in Q2, 2024. Civil Defense continues to work toward obtaining cost figures that will inform the future progression and timeline of the project. Credits from an ESRI collaboration with COH have been identified that could allow a cost/benefit analysis to identify how the proposed ArcGIS system will be integrated into existing County infrastructure.*

*Environmental Review has determined this activity as exempt under 24 CFR Part 58..*

*Quarterly Expenditure: \$0*

**Water Emergency Power Transfer Switches** to benefit The Department of Water Supply. At a cost of \$876,750.00, Energy: The transfer switch and supporting infrastructure will make it easy and safe to connect portable emergency generators to power the potable water facilities during a prolonged power outage. Potable water supply can continue, for food preparation and safe drinking water, during a power outage. Safety and Security / Health and Medical: These potable water facilities can continue to serve population centers, health care facilities, shelters, and fire protection systems (hydrants and sprinklers) during power outage. This project is currently underway. Procurement to commence in 2023 under the Low/Mod objective.

*Quarterly Progress: The MOU between County of Hawai‘i Department of Water Supply and County of Hawai‘i Planning Department has been signed and the implementation process has begun. In Q4, 2023, Architectural and Engineering procurement documents were created and*

*published, with bid submittals due December 31, 2023. A responding A&E firm has been identified to move the project forward in Q2. The County is working to draw down funds for this service. This drawdown will likely be reflected in Q2 reporting.*

*Environmental review is ongoing with consultation of USFWS to identify any critical habitat that will need mitigation procedures. At this point, no measures are expected.*

*Quarterly Expenditure: \$0*

### **County Fire Department Projects:**

**LMA Wildfire** purchase to benefit the county's fire department. At a cost of \$525,000, A Mobile Service trailer would support much needed in-service routine maintenance for responding apparatus at emergency incident scenes. By providing on-scene refueling of vehicles and equipment, compressed air to clean filters and cooling system components, lubrication supplies to keep the equipment in service. This would minimize breakdowns and alleviate the need to take the apparatus out of service to conduct the required maintenance and keep them available at the incident. Procurement to commence in 2023 under the Low/Mod objective.

**UNM Wildfire** purchase to benefit the county's fire department. At a cost of \$1,375,500.00, special designed Brush Trucks would enhance Fire incident response capabilities with vehicles that are able to access areas with rough terrain that normal apparatus cannot. Increased effectiveness and efficiency in Fire Fighting capabilities. A Mobile Command Post (MCP) would enhance the on-scene incident management capabilities for the Hawaii Fire Department (Fire, Search & Rescue, Hazmat, and EMS response) and partnering agencies (County, state, and Federal). With enhanced multi-agency incident communications, support for multi-agency unified command structure, logistical support functions utilizing current technological equipment and resources such as ArcGIS, record keeping and documentation, Internet access/WIFI, Remote dispatching capabilities, mobile office space, etc. This would greatly enhance our Wildland response management capabilities. Procurement to commence in 2023 under the UNM objective.

**Installation of Water Storage Tanks** to benefit the county fire department. At a cost of \$210,000.00, the tanks will support firefighting efforts in remote areas, assisting the department by increasing the speed of response in those areas. This project is still in the planning stages under the Low/Mod objective.

*Quarterly Progress: An MOU has been approved and signed by both CoH Planning Department and Fire Department. Specifications for equipment purchase and procurement documents have been drafted. Ongoing timeline adjustments will be made based upon the lead times required by manufacturers. We are still expecting a substantial amendment as costs of the projects have increased and it is likely that the water tank storage project will be eliminated from the scope of work. While we anticipated the substantial amendment to occur in Q3 of 2023, it has been delayed until the costs of the purchases are determined. We are still waiting of Fire to determine the timeline moving forward.*

*Quartely expenditures: \$0*

### **Parks and Recreation Projects**

**Kea‘au Armory Improvements** to benefit citizens of the county by offering increased shelter capabilities at a cost of \$1,470,000.00. The facility is opportunely located at the junction of primary roadways connecting/serving upper Puna, lower Puna and Hilo and can serve (and already has) as a long-term shelter or center of operations for recovery efforts. It is the only County-operated facility with reasonable sheltering square footage in the area and the County’s neighboring Shipman Park facility supplements its ability to serve various support functions during post-disaster operations. This project is currently in the planning stages under the Low/Mod objective.

**Hisaoka Armory Improvements** to benefit citizens of the county by offering increased shelter capabilities. At a cost of \$840,000.00, this project will assist in fortification efforts so the facility can be used as a long-term shelter and command post in the event of an emergency in the area. The project is in the planning stages under the Low/Mod objective.

*Quartely Progress: CoH Parks and Recreation Department is reviewing the proposed MOU. Once Corporate Counsel has approved the MOU, it will be routed for signature and architectural and engineering procurement can begin. We expect this to happen in Q2, 2024.*

*Quarterly Expenditures: \$0*

### Planning Projects

**Revisions to Zoning and Subdivision Codes.** At a cost of \$420,000.00, This project would have less direct benefit to incident response. However, proper benefit to hazard risk reduction can decrease risk and the need for disaster response. Updates to the Zoning and Subdivision Codes that incorporate hazard mitigation can reduce the risk of exposure to natural disasters. This project is in the planning phase.

*Quarterly Progress: The scope of the proposed Zoning and Subdivision project has changed and will no longer be using CDBG-MIT funds. The reallocation these funds to support other projects within the planning department is an ongoing discussion. Opportunities have yet to be identified and would require a future substantial amendment. Meetings will be ongoing to identify opportunities for CDBG-MIT funding.*

*Quarterly Expenditures: \$0*

### Department of Public Works

**Flood Studies: Puna District, \$200,000.00, North Kona District, \$113,700.00, South Kohala District, \$100,000.00.** Minimizes public and private losses, promotes protection of human life and health, minimizes expenditure of public money, minimizes the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the public, provide information on flood-prone areas, provides framework for future development, etc. These projects are in the planning phases under the UNM objective.

*Quarterly Progress Report: We are currently in discussion to see if CDBG-MIT funding will be used as a match with USACE funds in the next funding cycle. These discussions are ongoing and there is no timeline set yet.*

*Quarterly Expenditures: \$0*