

RESOLUTION 2023-142

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DESIGNEE TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO MANAGE, ADMINISTER, ALLOCATE, EXPEND, AND MAKE AND IMPLEMENT DECISIONS CONCERNING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDING; AND AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - DISASTER RECOVERY APPLICATIONS, AGREEMENTS, AND RELATED PROGRAM DOCUMENTS.**

BOARD RECORDS  
FILED FOR RECORD  
2023 JUL 12 PM 2:10  
KAREN E. FUSCO, MC  
CLERK OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

**WHEREAS**, on September 28, 2022, Hurricane Ian, a Category 5 hurricane, struck Sarasota County, causing extensive damage to public and private property; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 29, 2022, President of the United States, Joseph Biden, issued a major disaster declaration under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq. (the “Stafford Act”); and

**WHEREAS**, on May 18, 2023, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) allocated \$3,391,220,000 in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (“CDBG-DR”) funds from the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Pub. L 117-180 and 117-328 known as the “2022 Appropriations Act”) for disasters occurring 2022 and Sarasota County was identified as a grantee recipient of \$201,535,000 of CDBG-DR funding based on this allocation; and

**WHEREAS**, the HUD CDBG-DR funds are for necessary expenses for activities authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the “most impacted and distressed” (“MID”) areas resulting from a qualifying major disaster in 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the entirety of the geographical boundaries of Sarasota County (the “County”) has been identified as a MID area due to the ongoing threats, impacts, and unmet needs experienced by the community due to Hurricane Ian, a qualifying major disaster in accordance with the CDBG-DR allocation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that funds provided pursuant to the HUD CDBG-DR allocations are necessary expenditures to incur due to the substantial and ongoing direct and indirect impacts from Hurricane Ian to the citizens of Sarasota County and public and private property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that it is of great public importance and public purpose to advance recovery efforts of Hurricane Ian through the allocation of HUD CDBG-DR to include incorporation of any resiliency and mitigation measures where appropriate to protect its citizens

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against future impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board recognizes that a delegation of authority regarding the management, administration, allocation and expenditure of CDBG-DR programs and projects is necessary given the exigency of the circumstances and appropriate for the effective and efficient operations of Sarasota County Government; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the magnitude of CDBG-DR afforded to the County, the ongoing needs of the community, and the time-restrictive nature with which to initiate and conclude the County's CDBG-DR programs and projects, the Board wishes to delegate authority to the County Administrator or designee to take all actions necessary to manage, administer, allocate, expend, and make and implement decisions concerning CDBG-DR; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that the delegation of authority to the County Administrator or designee on CDBG-DR matters as set forth herein is in the best interest of the County and would allow for the allocation, expenditure and administration of funding in a more expeditious manner and would eliminate delays caused by such items needing to be brought before the Board.

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that permitting CDBG-DR program applicants to sign and submit initial CDBG-DR applications for assistance electronically, and allowing such applicants, subrecipients, vendors, and other community partners to sign other CDBG-DR-related agreements, awards, and documents electronically, will assist in expediting funding distribution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds it in the best interest of the public to make CDBG-DR program participation and partnership as convenient and easy as possible for applicants, subrecipients, vendors, and other County CDBG-DR partners.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:**

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are expressly incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.
2. The County Administrator or designee is hereby delegated the authority to approve all CDBG-DR program awards, reports, plans, policies, and agreements (including but not limited to interagency and interlocal agreements, program management agreements, contractual agreements with private vendors) and any amendments, restatements and extensions thereof and any ancillary documents thereto.
3. Without further prior approval of the Board, the County Administrator or designee is also hereby authorized to:
  - A. identify, add, replace, and remove individual CDBG-DR programs and projects as part of the implementation, administration, expenditure, and closure of the programs and projects funded through the CDBG-DR allocation; and
  - B. reappropriate CDBG-DR funds, where such funds are incorporated into the budget as

adopted by the Board, amongst the individual CDBG-DR programs and projects authorized by the Board or the County Administrator or designee.

- C. implement, apply, and interpret the County's CDBG-DR program eligibility requirements, as established by the County Administrator or designee;
  - D. establish, implement, and interpret CDBG-DR program policies, procedures, and guidelines.
4. The Board hereby authorizes the use of electronic signatures for the submission and signature of CDBG-DR program applications by program applicants and agreements between the County and program applicants, subrecipients, subcontractors, or vendors.
  5. The Board hereby authorizes the use of electronic signatures for any CDBG-DR related documents other than those mentioned in paragraph 4 above.
  6. Pursuant to Section 668.006, Florida Statutes, the Board hereby authorizes and instructs the County Administrator or designee to write and implement a policy concerning the use of electronic and digital signatures for the CDBG-DR program documents.
  7. The County Administrator is to report regularly to the Board concerning the CDBG-DR program.
  8. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota County, Florida on this 11 day of July

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Tim Cutsing  
Chairman

ATTEST:

Karen E. Rushing, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
and Comptroller and Ex-Officio Clerk of the  
Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota  
County, Florida

By: Kathleen Johnson  
Clerk