



CDBG-DR Briefing Sessions: Planning

Participants Questions and Comments

February 2021

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QUESTION OR COMMENT	PRDOH RESPONSE
<p>Are the 3 options still available for municipalities to choose?</p>	<p>Yes, municipalities can still choose or change their contracting selection if they haven't signed their Sub recipient agreement with the Department of Housing. Nevertheless, some bigger municipalities, with option 1 preference, have been invited to a meeting where we will be discussing additional details about their selection and the prequalified services availability.</p>
<p>That plan where land use is included, will it include a classification and calification analysis? In that case, will it be submitted to the Planning Board?</p>	<p>The Municipal Recovery individual plan may use information contained in previously prepared plans. Once the municipality completes all the basic documentation required, and starts the Subrecipient Agreement process, they will receive attachments with the Scope of Work and timelines for the deliverables, that include details regarding the plans content.</p>
<p>Which are the municipalities with signed subrecipient agreements and what option did they choose?</p>	<p>Four (4) municipalities have signed their Agreements. Dorado, Hatillo, San Germán and Villalba. Each of them chose option 1.</p>



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<p>HH studies may be performed with this funding?</p>	<p>The individual Municipal Recovery Plan includes that and many other basic components, as well as other studies required for the municipalities.</p>
<p>The amount of Planning companies available in P.R. is limited. Will municipalities be in a competitive process with the agency? As agency contracted company will subcontract professionals, therefore limiting municipalities who choose options 2 or 3.</p>	<p>Municipalities will not participate in a competitive process with the Department of Housing, because once municipalities start their procurement process, the Department of Housing will have their services agreement completed. The Department of Housing will complement municipalities independent option procurement process by offering workshops to potential firms, to guarantee their capacity and compliance with activities, according to the agreement.</p>
<p>For auditing reasons, municipalities are required to keep a hard copy of each program document.</p>	<p>The municipality may purchase printing services to keep copies of work done. Nevertheless, we want to avoid purchases of equipment that will not have an essential program use, because purchased equipment's must be returned to the Department of Housing once the municipality completes its agreements with the Department.</p>

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<p>The Municipality of Guayama has projects under COR3 Mitigation 404 in process, which require planning processes and activities that must be attended even if this plan is not completed. An example of this is a project for coastal erosion.</p>	<p>Each program or agency approaches similar matters differently. Our interest is to support and collaborate with municipalities to successfully complete their Municipal Recovery Plans, and to create an official document which sustains the municipality's projects and future funding requests.</p>
<p>Why are there municipalities which can't choose option 1?</p>	<p>The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) has invited some municipalities to a discussion meeting in which the negotiation process with different firms to acquire planning services will be discussed. We urge those invited municipalities to participate in that meeting to answer their questions, doubts, and concerns.</p>
<p>Isabela, new administration, Can we talk about what's missing to sign our agreement?</p>	<p>For specific Municipality matters, you may send us an email at PlanningCDBG@vivienda.pr.gov and we will gladly coordinate a reunion.</p>



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<p>How are there municipalities which can change the selected option, and others which the agency has denied option 1 after one year, and what are the reasons?</p>	<p>The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) has invited some municipalities to a discussion meeting in which the negotiation process with different firms to acquire planning services will be discussed. We urge those invited municipalities to participate in that meeting, so we can answer their questions, doubts, and concerns.</p>
<p>If there's still opportunity to choose option 1, why has the Municipality of Guayama been excluded, even though participation was in progress since a year ago approximately?</p>	<p>The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) has invited some municipalities to a discussion meeting in which the negotiation process with different firms to acquire planning services will be discussed. We urge those invited municipalities to participate in that meeting, so we can answer their questions, doubts and concerns.</p>
<p>During the pre-planning phase, can we bill employees who are attending meetings hours?</p>	<p>Yes, there can be a reimbursement for the time they incur training during the pre-planning phase.</p>



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<p>Training for the procurement and contracting process are for groups (workshops for more than one municipality) or directly for the municipality that requires it?</p>	<p>Procurement process and contracting trainings will be offered once municipalities complete their previous workshops. It can be for just one municipality or small groups of municipalities.</p>
<p>When will required online trainings be available? What date approximately?</p>	<p>Initial trainings are recorded and are available once the Municipality signs its agreement. Trainings regarding finances, procurement, and plan components will be coordinated with the municipality once they reach that requirement.</p>