

FEMA approves additional \$4 million for Franklin County Hurricane Michael recovery

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PANAMA CITY, Fla. — FEMA has approved an additional \$4,187,647 to reimburse Franklin County for repair of Alligator Drive after Hurricane Michael.

The funds will reimburse FDOT for replacing 1,160 feet of asphalt on the two-lane road and rebuilding the shoulder, both of which were damaged by a nine-foot storm surge during the storm. The road also was damaged by Hurricane Hermine in 2016.

FEMA previously approved nearly \$2.5 million for Franklin County's Hurricane Michael-related expenses, bringing the total to \$6.6 million.

This grant is funded by FEMA's Public Assistance program, an essential source of funding for communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency. The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) works with FEMA during all phases of the PA program and reviews projects prior to FEMA final approval.

Applicants work directly with FEMA to develop projects and scopes of work. FEMA obligates funding for projects after final approval.

Once a project is obligated by FEMA, FDEM works closely with applicants to finalize grants and begin making payments. FDEM has implemented new procedures designed to ensure grant funding is provided to local communities as quickly as possible.

FEMA's Public Assistance program provides grants to state, tribal and local governments, and certain private nonprofit organizations, including houses of worship, so communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies.

