FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO



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BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 19, 2020

Ms. Iris Santos Díaz Executive Director Office of Management and Budget Government of Puerto Rico

Re: FOMB Response to 2020-20982 Reapportionment Request

Dear Ms. Santos Díaz,

This letter is in response to a budgetary reprograming request submitted by the Department of Housing ("DH") through the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") to the Financial Oversight and Management Board ("FOMB") in the amount of \$50M from the fiscal year 2020 cost share reserve to fund reconstruction and revitalization projects for five municipalities in the Southwest region of the Island.

After review and pursuant to FOMB's authority, FOMB approves the use of \$9 million requested for the required first steps of demolition and debris removal, which are a prerequisite for redevelopment of the Southwestern region. We urge you to determine what incremental efforts of this type are necessary in other municipalities (e.g. Ponce and Yauco) that have suffered from the earthquakes, and that these incremental requests be submitted for FOMB approval as soon as possible.

Municipality	Amount		
Guánica	\$	4,176,000	
Guayanilla		1,000,000	
Peñuelas		3,824,000	
Total	\$	9,000,000	

These projects are FEMA reimbursable in a 75/25 percent cost share, so it is important to ensure all documentation, procurement and other federal reimbursement requirements are ensured in the process.

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Beyond the first steps of demolition and debris removal, FOMB believes the next step should be the development of an integrated and comprehensive plan for the long-term economic reconstruction of the Southwest region focusing on rebuilding with resiliency, taking into account the changes in the economy in a post-COVID world, the patterns of migration from the area, the potentially permanent risks to populations from the earthquakes and erosion after the hurricane and much more. This plan, of course, should be coordinated to some extent with FEMA and other relevant agencies. If helpful, we suggest a meeting with the affected municipalities, COR3, and FEMA, to outline a path forward. We are prepared to work with you, to the extent necessary, to develop such a plan and a management mechanism, if you do not intend to use COR3 to manage the redevelopment of the region.

This transaction will be recognized as an Intra-Governmental transfer request as presented in the table below. The approved amount considered does not modify the Commonwealth's total budgetary spending amount. OMB should communicate to the Department of the Treasury the availability of said funds, as well as notify the agency of their granted access to the balances. The transfers should be completed at a cost object level in Appendix A as included.

			Transfers 000 s			
General Fund (GF)		From		То		
Request	Decision	Agency	OpEX	Payroll	OpEX	Payroll
20982	Partial	Assignments under custody of OMB (017)	\$ (9,000)			
		Department of Housing (DH-078)			\$ 9,000	

Furthermore, OMB should allocate the above-mentioned amounts to the appropriate PRIFAS accounts and communicate to the agency their current budgetary allocations by cost object.

We look forward to continuing our work together for the benefit of the people of Puerto Rico.

Sincerely,

Natalie A. Jaresko

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CC: Mr. Omar Marrero Díaz

Appendix A: Reapportionments tables

Included is the budgetary transfers to be completed by OMB. The agency should notify the governmental agencies of the approval of petitions, the completion of budgetary transfers and their available budgetary resources as allocated after the transfers.

General Fund Transfers:

2020	0-20982 Assignments under custody of OMB (017)				
		Certified	FY20	FY20	Revised
Cost	C4 Oh:4	FY20	Budget	Requested	FY20
Code	Cost Object	Budget	As Is	Transfer	Budget
		(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$ 000's)
82	Total Federal Fund Matching	100,000	92,500	(9,000)	83,500
82	i.Cost of share of public assistance	100,000	92,500	(9,000)	83,500

2020-20982 Department of Housing						
		Certified	FY20	FY20	Revised	
Cost Code	Cost Object	FY20	Budget	Requested	FY20	
		Budget	As Is	Transfer	Budget	
		(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$ 000's)	
700 Total Otl	her	-	-	9,000	9,000	