Deadline for Submission: April 19, 2019 at 5 p.m. Central Time

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) is seeking proposals from local units of government in Mobile and Baldwin Counties to address flooding resilience and enhance local floodplain management activities. This competitive funding opportunity is administered by the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program utilizing federal funds provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) pursuant to Section 309 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

Purpose of Funding Opportunity
The overall goal of this funding opportunity is to help communities take action to address flooding vulnerabilities and mitigate flood impacts through non-structural measures. Funds may not be used for construction, maintenance, or land acquisition.

Funding Opportunity Objectives
- Identify possible measures and initiate implementing measures that will reduce flooding in a community and/or improve the effectiveness of local floodplain management programs
- Increase community dialog about flood risk and preparedness
- Encourage communities to take action beyond the National Flood Insurance Program's minimum standards, including implementation of activities outlined in the 2017 Community Rating System Coordinator's Manual
- Assist communities not already enrolled in the Community Rating System program to evaluate what additional actions (if any) are needed to meet the program's minimum requirements

Funding Amount: The preferred minimum funding amount is $10,000, and the preferred maximum is $25,000. Match is encouraged but is not required. **Funds may not be used for construction, maintenance, or land acquisition.** Funds may be used to hire a consultant or provide staff support to complete all or a portion of a community's project.

Eligible Applicants: Coastal units of government including Mobile County, Baldwin County, and municipalities or tribal governments within Mobile and Baldwin counties are eligible to apply for and receive funds through this request. Selected communities must agree to participate in the South Alabama Flood Engagement Team (SAFE-T) during the project period.

Example Project Types – *The following project types are provided as examples. Communities may submit proposals for other project types that meet the funding opportunity objectives.*
- **Enhance Floodplain Management Program:** Projects that strengthen the effectiveness of a community's existing floodplain management program, such as
  - taking steps to join the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

- o taking steps to join the NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) program, including completing the [CRS Quick Check tool](#) for documenting current activities and calculating possible credit points
  - o developing and implementing new procedures for permit reviews in the Special Flood Hazard Area
  - o hiring a consultant to identify areas for improvement in your local floodplain management program
- **Review or Update Standards and Other Management Measures:** Projects to develop, amend, and implement local ordinances, bylaws, planning standards, and other management measures to reduce flood damages and impacts. Projects intended to result in formal local adoption are strongly encouraged. Examples include:
  - o adopting the Alabama model flood damage prevention ordinance for coastal communities
  - o amending current subdivision regulations or zoning ordinance to address flooding
  - o adopting regulations that encourage developers to set aside flood-prone areas as flowage easements
  - o requiring freeboard above the base flood elevation
  - o prohibiting installation of new septic systems in the floodplain
  - o adopting and implementing a department standard to inspect and regularly maintain natural channels within the community
  - o prohibiting the dumping or disposal of debris throughout the community's drainage system
- **Public Education and Communication:** Projects that increase public understanding of flood risk and develop support for management measures and other actions to address flood impacts, including the purchase of flood insurance. Creative communication products that provide ongoing benefits and can be adopted by other communities (or are developed in coordination with multiple communities) are strongly encouraged. Examples include:
  - o working with real estate agencies or realtor associations to provide flood hazard information to prospective buyers
  - o working with property owners' associations to provide flood hazard information to current property owners
  - o conducting a flood insurance coverage assessment and implementing an outreach plan to improve coverage
- **Flood Damage Reduction and Preserving Natural Floodplain Functions:** Projects that strengthen a community's ability to acquire or relocate existing buildings out of the flood hazard area and preserve a floodplain's natural functions through the preservation of open space and green infrastructure approaches. Examples include:
  - o identifying and mapping buildings in the regulatory floodplain that could be considered for acquisition, relocation, and/or removal
  - o identifying and mapping flood-prone areas to consider for open space preservation
  - o identifying and planning for non-structural (or green infrastructure) approaches that enhance natural floodplain functions and provide flood damage protection

Submission: Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on April 19, 2019. Application forms must be submitted electronically to Will Underwood (will.underwood@dcnr.alabama.gov) using the application form located at www.alabamacoastalprograms.com

Funding for selected projects will be provided in two rounds. Projects selected in the first round will begin on July 1st, 2019 and must be completed by March 31st, 2020. Projects selected in the second round will begin on October 1st, 2019 and must be completed by September 30th, 2020.

Timeline:

April 19, 2019   Proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. Central Time
June 1, 2019   Applicants will be notified of their selection status

Applicants should be prepared to discuss their proposals and how it relates to improved floodplain management at any time during the review period. A meeting or conference call may be arranged if the review panel has additional questions for the applicant.

Questions: Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact staff if assistance or guidance is needed.

        Mike Shelton   251-928-9792 mike.shelton@dcnr.alabama.gov
        Will Underwood   251-621-1216 will.underwood@dcnr.alabama.gov

Projects will be viewed favorably if they:
- Involve implementation of permanent measures with ongoing benefits (for example, adopting enhanced regulatory standards in a new or updated flood damage prevention ordinance)
- Have strong support from city/county officials, local organizations, and/or other relevant boards and commissions within the community as demonstrated by a letter of support, dedicated staff time to the project, and/or leveraged funding

Application Form: Improving Floodplain Management in Mobile and Baldwin County Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on April 19th, 2019 and should be submitted electronically to will.underwood@dcnr.alabama.gov or by mail to:
State Lands Division Coastal Section
c/o Will Underwood
31115 Five Rivers Blvd. Spanish
Fort, AL 36527

1. Project Title:

2. Community Name:

3. Contact Name:

    Title:

    Address:

    Telephone:

    Email:

4. Has your community received a grant(s) to address flooding in the past 3 years? If so, please describe.

5. Communities selected for funding are required to participate in the newly established South Alabama Flood Engagement Team (SAFE-T), where community officials will come together to share best practices and challenges related to flooding and other coastal hazard issues. If selected, do you agree to participate in the South Alabama Flood Engagement Team (SAFE-T)   during the grant period?
    Yes   No

6. Amount of funds requested:
The preferred funding amount is $10,000 to $25,000.

7. Provide a brief summary of the proposed project and how it will help your community address flooding vulnerabilities, mitigate flood impacts, and/or improve the effectiveness of your local floodplain management program. Please include any foreseeable ongoing or permanent benefits that would result from the project.

8. Briefly describe how requested funds will be used. *Note that funds may not be used for construction, maintenance, or land acquisition.*

9. Include a brief timeline for completion of activities. July 1, 2019-March 31, 2020 for Round 1 funding or October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020 for Round 2 funding.

10. Describe how the project will increase community dialog about flood risk and preparedness? For example, will the public, other departments, or other organizations be engaged as part of the project? If so, how?

11. Will other communities be engaged as part of this project? If so, how?

12. [Optional] Attach letters of support from city/county officials and/or other relevant boards and commissions within the community(ies).

13. PROPOSED BUDGET

Please provide a categorized budget summary in the table below. Round to the nearest dollar; no cents. The total value of non-federal match must equal or be greater than the federal funds requested. Project costs will be evaluated for reasonability.

Category	Federal Funds Requested	Value of Non-Federal Match	Is Match Cash or In-kind?	Total Project Value
Salary	$	$		$
Fringe Benefits	$	$		$
Travel	$	$		$
Equipment *Non-expendable item that costs over $5,000 per unit*	$	$		$
Supplies/Materials *Item less than $5,000 per unit. (e.g. office supplies,)*	$	$		$
Sub-Contractual[1] *Services to be completed by a third-party*	$	$		$
Other	$	$		$
Total	$	$		$

[1]Grant applicants may choose to utilize a subcontractor or third-party to complete some or all of the proposed work. If any portion of the proposed project will be completed through a sub-contract, NOAA now requires a separate budget for that subcontract to be completed for transparency purposes. See the Sub-Contract Budget Supplement table on the following page.

In the following table, please provide a brief justification for the expenditures in each category above.

Category	Budget Justification
Salary	
Fringe Benefits	
Travel	
Equipment *Non-expendable item that costs over $5,000 per unit*	

Category	Budget Justification
Supplies *Item less than $5,000 per unit. (e.g. office supplies, construction materials)*	
Sub-Contractual *Provide a description of work to be performed by a third-party and identify the sub-contractor, if known. Indicate whether the contractor will be selected through a competitive process. If completing this section, you must also complete the Sub-Contract Budget Supplement below.*	
Other	

Sub-Contract Budget Supplement
Please complete the following table ONLY if a portion of the proposed project will be completed by a sub-contractor. The total value in this table must match the "Total Project Value" listed in the Sub-Contractual category above. If a sub-contractor will not be selected until the grant is awarded, please indicate this in the budget justification above and estimate sub-contractual budget amounts to the best of your ability.

Sub-Contract Category	Value
Salary	$
Fringe Benefits	$
Travel	$
Equipment	$
Supplies/Materials	$
Sub-Contractual[1]	$
Other	$
Total	$

[1]*If a sub-contractor will sub-contract additional work, please include a separate budget for that subcontract with the application package.*

14. DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

If geospatial data will be collected and/or created as a part of the proposed project, NOAA requires that applicants complete a Data Management Plan section on the following page. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that data produced with federal funds are easily available and discoverable for public benefit and to provide notice of your intent to collect geospatial data to facilitate collaboration and avoid duplication of effort. The guidelines for development of the plan are listed below. Please contact Coastal Section Staff as 251-621-1216 if you have any questions related to this requirement.

1. Environmental data and information collected or created under NOAA grants or cooperative agreements must be made discoverable by and accessible to the general public, in a timely fashion (typically within two years), free of charge or at no more than the cost of reproduction, unless an exemption is granted by the NOAA Program. Data should be available in at least one machine-readable format, preferably a widely-used or open-standard format, and should also be accompanied by machine-readable documentation (metadata), preferably based on widely-used or international standards.

2. Proposals submitted in response to this announcement must include a Data Management Plan of up to two pages describing how these requirements will be satisfied. The contents of the Data Management Plan (or absence thereof), and past performance regarding such plans, will be considered as part of proposal review. A typical plan should include descriptions of the types of environmental data and information expected to be created during the course of the project; the tentative date by which data will be shared; the standards to be used for data/metadata format and content; methods for providing data access; approximate total volume of data to be collected; and prior experience in making such data accessible. The costs of data preparation, accessibility, or archiving may be included in the proposal budget unless otherwise stated in the Guidance. Accepted submission of data to the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) is one way to satisfy data sharing requirements; however, NCEI is not obligated to accept all submissions and may charge a fee, particularly for large or unusual datasets.

3. NOAA may, at its own discretion, make publicly visible the Data Management Plan from funded proposals, or use information from the Data Management Plan to produce a formal metadata record and include that metadata in a catalog to indicate the pending availability of new data.

4. Proposal submitters are hereby advised that the final pre-publication manuscripts of scholarly articles produced entirely or primarily with NOAA funding will be required to be submitted to NOAA Institutional Repository after acceptance, and no later than upon publication. Such manuscripts shall be made publicly available by NOAA one year after publication by the journal.

Data Management Plan

To be completed by applicants who will be collecting or creating geospatial data as part of the proposed project.

1. **Describe the types of geospatial data and/or information to be created during the course of the project.**

2. **Describe the type of data collection method(s) (e.g. aircraft, ship, satellite, GPS, survey grade GPS, etc.).**

3. **Provide the tentative date by which data/metadata will be shared/stored.**

4. **Describe the standards to be used for data/metadata format and content. Note that metadata for your geospatial data must be compliant with the Federal Geographic Data Committee's (FGDC) Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM).**

5. **Describe your program's policies addressing data stewardship and preservation.**

6. **Outline the procedures for providing access to data and prior experience in publishing such data**