

Memorandum



Date: March 20, 2026
To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor
Subject: Status Report on FEMA Reimbursements for Hurricane Irma - Directive No. 222706

Agenda Item No. 2(B)(2)
April 21, 2026

Executive Summary

This report is in response to a directive made during consideration of Resolution R-1157-18 adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) on November 8, 2018, requiring the Administration to provide a report on the status of reimbursements for Hurricane Irma related expenses from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Subsequently, Resolution R-315-23 sponsored by Commissioner Rene Garcia and adopted as amended by the Board on April 4, 2023, directed that the reports be provided biannually.

Miami-Dade County (County) has submitted 224 projects for reimbursement through FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) grant program totaling \$280 million of projected Hurricane Irma expenses. As of December 31, 2025, the County anticipates receiving reimbursement of \$268.4 million from FEMA and the State of Florida. The County's match will be approximately \$11.7 million out of the \$280 million spent on this incident. So far, reimbursements of \$263.4 million have been approved, of which \$243.5 million has been collected by the County for PA program eligible expenses. The amounts approved and collected will continue to change until FEMA and the State fully obligate and validate the County's projects.

Background

On September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma made landfall in South Florida. In anticipation of the storm's arrival, the President of the United States declared a Federal Emergency on September 4, 2017, which allowed the County to seek Federal and State grants for reimbursement of actual hurricane-related expenditures. The County anticipates that it has incurred expenses of about \$280 million in its response to and recovery from Hurricane Irma. As FEMA and the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) continue its review process, project amounts, and cost share allocations may change.

It is important to note that the federal government shutdown in 2025, as well as the most recent federal government lapse in appropriations for portions of DHS, may have impacted the timeliness of FEMA's review and processing of Miami-Dade County's reimbursement submissions related to Hurricane Irma and other federally declared disasters such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the Surfside building collapse. In addition, FEMA is facing potential changes to its structure, mission, and Public Assistance reimbursement processes based on reform proposals currently under review by the President's FEMA Review Council and legislation being considered by Congress.

This report will be placed on the next available Board Agenda pursuant to Rule 5.0j(j) of the Board's Rules of Procedure. Should you require additional information, please contact Ray Baker, Director, Office of Management and Budget, at 305-375-5143.

Attachment

c: Juan Fernandez-Barquin, Clerk of the Court and Comptroller
Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
Jess M. McCarty, First Assistant County Attorney
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
Department Directors
Office of Policy and Budgetary Affairs
Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor
Basia Pruna, Director, Clerk of the Board
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

MDC001

Exhibit 1
Status of FEMA Reimbursements for Hurricane Irma
As of December 31, 2025

FEMA Reimbursement Category	Current Projections per FEMA				Obligated Projects per State			
	Current Projected County Expenditure (1)	Reimbursement Percentages		Projected Federal and State Reimbursements (3)	Projects Being reworked by FEMA	FEMA and State Funds		
		Federal (2)	State			Obligated (4) (5)	Paid (6)	
A Debris Removal								
Sept. 4, 2017 through Sept. 17, 2017	\$ 135,445	90.00%	5.0%	\$ 128,673	\$ -	\$ 128,673	\$ 128,673	
Sept. 4, 2017 through Sept. 17, 2017	3,021,721	92.00%	4.0%	2,900,852	(79,052.00)	2,979,904	3,015,148.00	
Sept. 18, 2017 through Oct. 17, 2017	43,281,820	92.00%	4.0%	41,550,547	(3,012)	41,553,559	40,191,249.00	
Oct. 18, 2017 onward	136,335,088	90.00%	5.0%	129,518,334	-	129,518,334	129,533,181.00	
Oct. 18, 2017 onward	5,519,059	92.00%	4.0%	5,298,297	(20,964.00)	5,319,261	5,319,261.00	
B Emergency Protective Measures								
Sept. 4, 2017 through Oct. 3, 2017	30,820,574	100.00%	0.0%	30,820,574	(92,851)	30,913,425	30,922,806.00	
Sept. 4, 2017 through Oct. 3, 2017	8,706	90.00%	5.0%	8,271	-	8,271	8,271.00	
Oct. 4, 2017 onward	4,620,603	90.00%	5.0%	4,389,573	-	4,389,573	4,342,389.00	
C Roads and Bridges	14,473,100	90.00%	5.0%	13,749,445	-	13,749,445	12,270,687.00	
D Water Control Facilities	-	90.00%	5.0%	-	-	-	-	
E Buildings and Equipment	17,829,351	90.00%	5.0%	16,937,883	6,877,879	10,060,004	8,098,115.00	
F Utilities	6,592,293	90.00%	5.0%	6,262,678	-	6,262,678	2,179,954	
G Parks, Recreational Facilities, and Other Items	7,214,491	90.00%	5.0%	6,853,766	(1,630,081)	8,483,847	5,293,766.00	
Z Direct Administrative Costs	10,516,063	90.00%	5.0%	9,990,260		9,990,260	2,184,065.00	
Total	<u>\$ 280,368,314</u>			<u>\$ 268,409,153</u>	<u>\$ 5,051,919</u>	<u>\$ 263,357,234</u>	<u>\$ 243,487,565</u>	

(1) The projected expenditures consist of 224 distinct projects as of 12/31/25. As FEMA continues its review, estimates and cost share allocations may change.

(2) 14 projects have a Federal cost share of 92% because they participated in the Public Assistance Alternative Procedures Pilot Program for Debris Removal.

(3) As per Amendment No.18 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration issued by FEMA on August 23, 2019, all projects for all categories were authorized to be amended to 90% of total eligible costs, except for assistance previously approved at 100%.

(4) Obligated funds as of 12/31/25. The \$263,357,233.93 is comprised of \$251,669,979.68 in federal funding with \$11,687,254.25 in state funding.

(5) As of December 31, 2025, three projects (34665, 37519 and 36154) are being reviewed by FEMA under Process Step-Pending Amendment Processing. Eight projects (30578, 29411, 34914, 29764, 29768, 29137, 35776, and 32789) have closeout versions issued and are being reviewed by FEMA. Three projects (35690, 28919, and 33197) are in stage of "Closeout in Progress" and are under review by FEMA with status "Pending Recipient Final Review", "Pending Award", and "Pending EHP review", respectively. One project (80941) was de-obligated by the State but has not been yet de-obligated by FEMA. This project was deemed ineligible due to a previous disaster insurance purchase requirement.

(6) Payments received through 12/31/25. The total amount paid was reduced by refunds made to FDEM as follows: a) \$189,752.40 and \$33,768.88 refunded for Projects 34673 and 34886, respectively, to satisfy the requirements to obtain and maintain insurance established related to DR1609-Hurricane Wilma; b) \$1,488,943.33 refunded for Project 28919 as a result of an overpayment of certain costs included by FEMA in Project 164028 upon obligation, and erroneously paid under both Projects 28919 and 164028; c) \$4,986.19 refunded for Projects 29411, 29764 and 29137 as a result of deobligation of overpayment and final reconciliation to satisfy the obtain and maintain insurance requirements in DR1609-Hurricane Irma.