



City Council | Agenda

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 – 2:45 PM

City Hall – Council Chambers
2309 15th Street, Gulfport

2:45 PM

Declaration of Special Call Meeting

Policy Issues

- 1 Resolution - authorizing the City of Gulfport, by and through the Engineering Department, to apply to the Mississippi Development Authority for the Hurricane Zeta CDBG-DR- FEMA Match Program, and for related purposes.
- 2 Resolution - approving the temporary closure of municipal right of way for the Sunset Concert and View the Cruise events, and for related purposes.

Setting of Next Meeting and Adjournment



Memorandum:

To: Mayor Hugh Keating and Members of the City Council

CC: Wayne E. Miller, CAO
Joe Dalto, Director of Finance and Accounting
J. Tyler Gentry, Director of Public Works
Robert Lee, P.E., Assistant City Engineer
Andrew Shaddix, Project Manager
Jessica Versiga, Purchasing Agent
Legal Department

From: Jeremy R. Harrison, P.E., Director of Engineering

Date: September 22, 2025

Re: Request Permission to Apply for Hurricane Zeta CDBG-DR FEMA Match Program

The Engineering Division requests permission to apply to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) for the Hurricane Zeta CDBG-DR FEMA Match Program Infrastructure Recovery “Round One” for eligible Zeta repair projects completed prior to August 26, 2022.

On August 26, 2022, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) allocated Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (“CDBG-DR”) funds to the State of Mississippi to support recovery efforts following Hurricane Zeta. CDBG-DR funds allocated by HUD are fully separate from and in addition to any regular CDBG formula grant funds.

The MDA Community Incentives Division launched the FEMA Match Program to help local governments in Harrison County meet their required cost share for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) projects. Under FEMA’s funding structure, 90% of eligible costs are covered by FEMA, while the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) contributes an additional 5%. The remaining 5% local match is the responsibility of local governments. The FEMA Match Program will cover the 5% local match. The deadline for application submittals is September 30, 2025.

Attachments:

1. Letter from Charles L Bearman, MDA Community Incentives Division, dated August 11, 2025





State of Mississippi

TATE REEVES
Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

William V. Cork
Executive Director

August 11, 2025

The Honorable Hugh D. Keating
Mayor of Gulfport
Post Office Box 1780
Gulfport, Mississippi 39502

RE: Hurricane Zeta CDBG-DR FEMA Match Program
Request for Updated Project Worksheets

Dear Mayor Keating:

On August 26, 2022, the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development (“HUD”) allocated Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (“CDBG-DR”) funds to the State of Mississippi to support recovery efforts for Hurricane Zeta, which struck Harrison County on October 28, 2020. In March 2023, the Mississippi Development Authority-Community Incentives Division (“MDA-CID”) announced the creation of the “FEMA Match Program” (“FMP”) to assist local governments in Harrison County with covering their required local match for Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) Public Assistance (“PA”) projects arising from the disaster.

On March 15, 2023, MDA-CID mailed the FMP application template with a cover letter outlining program requirements to each local government identified in the HUD Most Impacted and Distressed Area (“MID”) – Harrison County, Mississippi. Local governments were invited to submit applications for the first round of funding, along with copies of the FEMA Project Worksheets (“PWs”) for all funded PA projects.

During a June 2023 technical assistance visit, the HUD team advised MDA that prior HUD guidance concerning the practical application of CDBG-DR rules to past FEMA PA projects was not applicable to the 2020 disaster, and that all CDBG-DR cross-cutting requirements, including Davis Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA), would apply. In August 2023, MDA-CID formally requested a determination from HUD and the Department of Labor (DOL) as to whether labor standards would be applicable to FEMA projects that were completed before the state entered into the Grant Agreement with HUD on August 26, 2022 and, if so, whether they could be waived to allow CDBG-DR funding to be used to assist ULGLs in meeting the required FEMA

match. While awaiting a response from HUD/DOL, the FMP was placed on hold pending a determination from the Department of Labor (DOL).

In May this year, MDA-CID received guidance from HUD/DOL advising that labor standards would be waived for those FEMA PA projects with completed construction on or before August 26, 2022. Receipt of this authorization allows MDA to reopen the FMP application process with local governments in Harrison County. A copy of HUD's "CDBG-DR Guidance: Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA) Applicability and Department of Labor Waiver Provisions" is attached.

As you will recall, program funds are to be awarded in phases, with the first round of funding covering FEMA PA projects that completed construction on or before the effective date of the grant agreement between HUD and MDA, which was August 26, 2022. With the HUD waiver determination and guidance, MDA will formally reopen Round One effective immediately. Please fill out the attached application for funding and submit with it your FEMA PWs for those projects that completed construction on or before August 26, 2022. Round One will remain open for application until September 30, 2025, after which no additional Round One applications will be considered.

Following funding awards from Round One, MDA will open Round Two, which will consist of those FEMA PA projects which were started before August 26, 2022 but not completed as of that date. Notification of the opening of this round will be provided to you. If there is a need for additional rounds of funding, MDA will advise you accordingly.

If you wish to request CDBG-DR funding to cover the local match balance, a single application should be submitted that includes all PA projects for which you are requesting Round One funding. These PWs should include **final, actual** costs paid by FEMA and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency ("MEMA") as well as the local match balance. If you previously applied for funding, we encourage you to review your initial application for completeness and correctness and submit a revised application if necessary.

As a reminder, program requirements are as follows:

- Priority will be given to those projects that document in the Application how they meet or will meet the HUD National Objective of benefitting low – to moderate – income persons.
- CDBG-DR awards in the Program **cannot** exceed the local match percentage of the total FEMA PA project set by federal law at 44 CFR § 206.47 and **cannot** exceed the actual local match amount paid per federal "duplication of benefits" rules.
- If FEMA issues supplemental payments to a local government for a PA project after CDBG-DR funds have been applied to the local match share for that project, the CDBG-DR award amount must be adjusted proportionately and any overpayment remitted to MDA-CID.

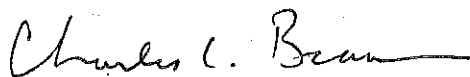
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August 11, 2025
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- Projects for which construction was ongoing or initiated after August 26, 2022, must be approved with FEMA funds obligated before application is made for FMP funding.
- Federal environmental requirements must be completed before application is made for FMP funding.
- Projects for which construction was ongoing or initiated after August 26, 2022 and for which application may be made must comply with all HUD CDBG-DR rules and requirements.
- Applications must address all Program criteria as set forth in the Hurricane Zeta CDBG-DR Action Plan, which may be viewed online at <https://msdisasterrecovery.com>.

Please understand that this is not a commitment of funds, and a completed application must be provided to enable MDA-CID to make final funding decisions. MDA-CID reserves the right to negotiate all aspects of the application, including, but not limited to, the cost and percentage of participation. The attached acknowledgement form must be executed and returned to our office.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (601) 359-9345 or cbearman@mississippi.org. We look forward to partnering with you to assist with your community's recovery from Hurricane Zeta.

Sincerely,



Charles L. Bearman
Director
Community Incentives Division

Enclosures

cc: Sheena Robinson-Gill
Karen McCarty

THIS ACKNOWLEDGES THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT A REQUEST FOR AN APPLICATION IS NOT A COMMITMENT OF FUNDS AND A COMPLETE APPLICATION IS NECESSARY TO MAKE A FINAL DECISION.

Signature of Chief Official

Name and Date



Memorandum

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

CC: Jeff Bruni, Esq., City Attorney
Margaret Murdock, Esq. Assistant City Attorney

From: Alicia Bennett

Date: 9/18/2025

Re: Road Closure – 2025 Sunset Concert and View the Cruise

Mainstreet's highly anticipated Annual Sunset Concert is scheduled for October 4, 2025, followed by View the Cruise on October 5, 2025. These popular events showcase classic cars and brings vibrant community engagement to Downtown Gulfport. To facilitate successful and enjoyable experiences, specific road closures and parking restrictions will be necessary.

Details:

- **Event Date:** October 5, 2024
- **Road Closure:** From 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM
- **No Parking:** Starting at 10:00 AM on October 5, 2024
- **Affecting Downtown Gulfport**
 - 28th Ave at 13th St
 - 14th St at 28th Ave
 - 28th Ave at West Railroad

Details:

- **Event Date:** October 6, 2024
- **Road Closure:** From 5:00 AM to 6:00 PM
- **No Parking:** Starting at 12:00 AM on October 6, 2024
- **Affecting Downtown Gulfport**
 - 25th Ave between 17th Street and Hwy 90
 - 30th Ave East
 - 20th Ave West



In accordance with Ordinance #2988, No Parking signs will be installed 96 hours in advance of the event to ensure compliance and public awareness.

Attachments:

- Detailed Event Map

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Please reach out if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alicia Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alicia Bennett
Special Events Coordinator



-DRAFT-

Notes:
 Point: Features, Type, Colors and Size are customizable.
 Fonts: Custom formatting or fonts upon request.
 Background and Borders: Special Formatting upon request.
 Edits: Mark anything that needs to be modified or added onto a print out or in your software and return as a .PDF. The Map will be updated and returned with modifications. When all edits are complete and a final version is ready we can print this out in large format for display/presentation etc.

Last updated on Friday, August 15, 2025 by dbownds.

View The Cruise 2025

- View the Cruise Central
- Entry Checkpoint
- Fire Engine
- Fire Engine with Flag
- Stage
- Portalet
- Parking
- Paid Parking
- Fire Department
- Police Station
- Aquarium
- Bus Station
- Cones *5
- Barrier Type 3 (43)
- Metal Crowd Control
- Fence
- Popcicle, Popcicle
- Police Tent, Police Tent
- Vendor Village, Vendor Village
- Other
- Special Events, Ply



125 Yards

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