

State of Vermont
Agency of Administration
Office of the Secretary
Pavilion Office Building
109 State Street, 5th Floor
Montpelier, VT 05609-0201
www.aoa.vermont.gov

[phone] 802-828-3322

Kristin L. Clouser, Secretary

TO: Emergency Board Members
FROM: Kristin L. Clouser, Secretary of Administration
DATE: September 20, 2023
RE: Emergency Board Meeting, September 21, 2023

Kristin L. Clouser
Digitally signed by
Kristin L. Clouser
Date: 2023.09.20
10:30:50 -04'00'

Governor Scott will convene a virtual meeting of the Emergency Board on Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting will be broadcast publicly on the Joint Fiscal YouTube channel at
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/vermont-joint-fiscal>.

Meeting materials will be posted online when available at
<https://aoa.vermont.gov/revenue/emergency-board-minutes>.

The agenda items are as follows:

1. Mobile Home Condemnation Project
 - a. Doug Farnham, Chief Recovery Officer
 - b. Alex Farrell, Deputy Commissioner, Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development
2. Revision to Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program
 - a. Lindsay Kurrle, Secretary, Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Cc: Michael Pieciak, State Treasurer
Gavin Boyles, Deputy State Treasurer
Adam Greshin, Commissioner, Department of Finance and Management
Hardy Merrill, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Finance and Management
Craig Bolio, Commissioner, Department of Taxes
Jake Feldman, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Department of Taxes
Catherine Benham, Chief Fiscal Officer, Joint Fiscal Office
Sarah Clark, Deputy Fiscal Officer, Joint Fiscal Office
Emily Byrne, Associate Fiscal Officer, Joint Fiscal Office
Michael Gaughan, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank
Elijah D. Emerson, Esq., Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC
Maura Collins, Vermont Housing Finance Agency
Cassie Polhemus, Vermont Economic Development Authority
Scott Giles, Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
Tom Little, Esq., Vermont Student Assistance Corporation

Agenda Item 1- E-Board Materials

The State of Vermont (SOV) is working to help the owners of flooded and condemned mobile homes on rented lots in mobile home parks by managing and paying for the removal and disposal of the condemned mobile home, and providing compensation that could help contribute to a transition to new housing or other costs. At no cost to the condemned mobile home owner, the SOV can:

- ▶ Dispose of your condemned mobile home at the conclusion of your FEMA appeal process.
- ▶ Provide a compensation payment for the taking of your condemned home. This payment aims to get owners of these condemned mobile homes to the maximum FEMA benefit of \$41,000. The payment amount will be calculated by subtracting your FEMA award and flood-related home insurance payment from \$41,000. If you have sold your home, the sale price will also be deducted.

How People Can Participate:

1. **Asked to apply for FEMA** for Individual Assistance
2. Once an initial award is received, **appeals are encouraged** if you did not receive the maximum benefit.
3. **Apply for direct housing assistance** if in Washington, Lamoille or Windsor counties.
4. **We expect people to largely fall into the following scenarios:**

SCENARIO 1: I'm **satisfied with my FEMA award** and want my condemned home to be taken:

- ▶ Sign an agreement to acknowledge the SOV will take ownership of your condemned mobile home for disposal or other purposes. Mobile homes taken by the SOV may be deconstructed and disposed of, or refurbished as a training tool for Career & Technical Education (CTE) students or other programs.
- ▶ Work with the SOV to begin processing your compensation payment.
- ▶ When the SOV has taken ownership of your home and notified the park owner, you will no longer be responsible for future month's lot rent.

SCENARIO 2: I'm still **appealing my FEMA award** but will want my home taken when completed:

- ▶ Continue pursuing your FEMA appeals. Your home can be left in place until that is completed.
- ▶ Upon completion of the appeal process, notify the State of your desire to dispose of your home.
- ▶ Sign an agreement to acknowledge the SOV will take ownership of your condemned mobile home for disposal or other purposes.
- ▶ Work with the SOV to begin processing your compensation payment.
- ▶ When the SOV has taken ownership of your home and notified the park owner, you will no longer be responsible for future month's lot rent.

SCENARIO 3: – My home was already deconstructed, removed or sold:

- ▶ Work with the SOV to begin processing your compensation payment.

Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program (BEGAP)

Program Purpose and Eligibility: This \$20 million grant program is being established to provide rapid relief to businesses and nonprofits that sustained physical damages from flooding dating back to July 7, 2023. Applicants must intend on restoring, reopening, and bringing their employees back to work in their organizations in Vermont as soon as possible and will utilize the grant funds for that purpose.

Physical Damage: Includes physical loss of use of business assets such as real estate, leasehold improvements, inventory, furniture, and equipment.

Net Uncovered Damage: The damage amount remaining after subtracting any insurance proceeds and other grants or donations used to defray the costs of repairing or replacing those damaged assets.

Grant Amount:

For applicants who have \$1,000,000 or less in net uncovered damages:

- 30% of net uncovered damages

For applicants who have net uncovered damages more than \$1,000,000:

- The lesser of 20% of net uncovered damages or \$500,000

Proof of Damages: Photographs (limit 5), insurance adjuster damage assessments, estimates for repairs to, or replacement of: physical structures, equipment, inventory, or supply purchases, or actual paid expenses and other documents as requested.

Award Timing: Applications will be considered, and awards made, on a rolling basis. The program will run until the funding is expended.

Administrative Costs: The Department of Economic Development will use up to 2.5% of the award to fund the cost of administering the program.