

Action Plan Amendment Draft:

Project: Northshore Technical and Community College (NTCC) Classroom Construction within the St. Tammany Parish Multi-Use Facility (MUF) as an additional activity to the current St. Tammany Advanced Campus (STAC) infrastructure project.

Type of Activity: Public Facilities and Improvements

CDBG-DR Action Plan Amendment Funds Requested: \$2,533,605.33

Total Project Budget: \$16,750,818.50

Project Phase	Funding Source	Percentage of Building	Total Costs Including Utility and Miscellaneous	Percentage of Cost
Safe Room & EOC	FEMA STPG	68.5%	\$ 11,466,394.67	68.5%
Future Tenant Buildout	STPG	16.4%	\$2,750,818.50	16.4%
NTCC Classroom	CDBG-DR	15.1%	\$2,533,605.33	15.1%
Total		100.0%	\$16,750,818.50	100.0%

National Objective: Benefits LMI Limited Clientele.

The proposed project is an extension of the STAC infrastructure project; which meets the National Objective of benefiting a limited clientele of Low to Moderate Income (LMI) individuals. This project supports two new NTCC buildings on the St. Tammany Advance Campus (STAC). The proposed project will provide additional capacity to meet the growing admissions and curriculum demand. As reported by the U.S. Department of Education's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 73% of NTCC's first-time, full-time students qualified for Pell Grant assistance during the 2014 – 2015 academic year. A student's eligibility to receive a Pell Grant is based on a number of factors, including his or her household's annual income, the cost of attending the school, and the student's expected family contribution. While the specific circumstances of each case do vary, Pell Grant eligibility can be considered a strong indicator of a student's LMI status. After the improvements are completed and the NTCC begins operations at its new site, students will certify their household income status in order to prove LMI benefit.

Project Location: Hwy 434 north of I-12 in Lacombe (See Attachment A)

Project Administrator: St. Tammany Parish Government



Funds Leveraged: \$4.32 million FEMA Public Assistance funding and \$9.9 million in local funds

Project Start Date: March 2017

Project End Date: March 2019

How Project addresses Impact from Disaster:

Utilizing federal and local funds to create additional NTCC classroom space in the MUF will allow the Parish to further expand NTCC's impact on the community. The imminent closure of Delgado Community College's Slidell campus expedited the need for additional classroom space at the Lacombe location. The Delgado closure is scheduled following the conclusion of the 2016 school year and will directly affect over 1,400 students from St. Tammany Parish and surrounding areas. NTCC is prepared to accept many of those students, furthering its need for the additional classroom space in the MUF. NTCC's use of this additional space will provide for an expansion of curriculum and the total student population, thus creating opportunities for residents to gain the skills needed to access higher paying jobs in key industry sectors. The dedicated classroom space in the MUF will provide educational and workforce development opportunities to the residents of St. Tammany Parish and surrounding communities.

Over the past four years, the Parish has faced lingering impacts from Hurricane Isaac, which exacerbated the impacts of multiple disasters that struck St. Tammany (including Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Gustav, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, and the March 2016 flood event). NTCC's original campus in Slidell was home to several programs, including horticulture, culinary, nursing, welding, drafting, and computer technology. The Slidell facilities and all of their contents were destroyed during Hurricane Katrina in 2005. FEMA awarded the institution with \$4.7 million to replace the destroyed contents of the buildings; however, the facilities have yet to reopen. Post Katrina, NTCC's Slidell campus has been operating out of a smaller, temporary facility. The temporary facility, along with the original NTCC facility, flooded again in Hurricane Isaac. FEMA then deemed the original Slidell facility unfit for rebuilding and NTCC continues to operate out of an inadequate temporary facility until the Lacombe campus is complete.

The loss of the original Slidell facility included a loss of 75,000 square feet of training space. In the interim, the college has only been able to lease a high-cost training location that consists of 5,700 square feet. According to NTCC's Chancellor, William Wainwright, "The inadequacy of this facility has been realized as growth is limited and training labs are not designed to fit training demand." He also states that, "It is important to note that inadequate workforce facilities have led to underserved student populations and limited access for workforce training tied to

relevant jobs associated with rebuild needed to be filled in St. Tammany Parish.” Furthermore, the impact of the closure of Delgado Community College’s campus in Slidell has created a clear and imminent need to create classroom space that will meet with demands of NTCC’s growing student body population. The new NTCC Lacombe campus will provide over 30,000 square feet of building space, however the new campus is still a significant reduction in training and classroom space from the original disaster impacted campus in Slidell. With the anticipated student growth resulting from the closing of Delgado’s Slidell campus, the creation of additional classroom space in the MUF will provide much needed additional educational space for NTCC and economic growth opportunities for its predominantly LMI student population.

Project Description:

St. Tammany Parish has combined FEMA Public Assistance funds, along with local and CDBG-DR funds to create a true multi-use facility that will provide the Parish with broad-reaching benefits, support the area’s recovery from Hurricane Isaac, and ensure the Parish and its residents are more resilient to future disasters. Day-to-day, a portion of the MUF will function as St. Tammany Parish’s dual-use hurricane safe room, in compliance with all 23 applicable guidance, including FEMA 361, *Design and Construction Guidance for Community Safe 24 Rooms* (second edition, August 2008), and all applicable codes, standards, and regulations. A second portion of the MUF will be leased to NTCC to provide additional classroom space to meet the expanding need for community college access in the Parish. NTCC’s new St. Tammany Advanced Campus facility will consist of two main educational campuses: the Northshore Advanced Technology Center (NATC) and the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Campus.

The NATC will directly support the liquid natural gas expansion taking place in Louisiana as well as the advanced manufacturing renaissance by providing high demand, high wage workforce training in welding, drafting and design technology, information technology, and health sciences. The facility will provide the only higher education/workforce training infrastructure in St. Tammany Parish and will satisfy a growing demand currently not met due to the destruction of the former Louisiana Technical College in Slidell as a result of Hurricane Katrina. Training a new workforce and re-training a workforce that has experienced a demand for new skillsets in these expanding post-storm industries is critical to sustaining the employment of LMI individuals as well as the economic revitalization of south Louisiana.

The STEM facility will lead to expanded academic transfer with regional four year institutions in related STEM fields as well as short and long-term workforce training for in demand occupations. Economic development trends for the greater Northshore area indicate demand in the advanced technologies and health sciences sector over the next ten years.

St. Tammany Parish has experienced rapid growth in population in the last ten years despite natural disasters and the effects thereof. Local leaders recognized the need for additional educational opportunities due to growing population. In 2009, St. Tammany Parish Government (STPG) obtained property by donation of approximately 41 acres of undeveloped land located on Highway 434, north of Interstate 12, in Lacombe for the purpose of establishing a multi-purpose campus to provide post-secondary educational opportunities for Northshore residents. STAC has been designated as the center for innovation and learning not only parish wide, but regionally. STPG and NTCC provide a seamless partnership to accomplish this task.

The Parish understands the impact of such a complex project with multiple federal funding sources and eligible activities. As outlined in the Parish's certifications, the Parish has demonstrated that it has the capacity and financial controls to ensure that the CDBG-DR funding will be expended only on eligible costs associated with NTCC classroom space and the appropriate percentage of common costs (e.g. utilities and other site infrastructure). The funding chart provided above in the budget section outlines the eligible costs CDBG-DR will fund.

The mission of NTCC is workforce development. As listed on NTCC's website, its purpose is to "train, retrain, cross-train, and continually upgrade the state's workforce to the end that individuals are employable at both entry and advanced levels." Due to repeated storm damage, NTCC has been unable to operate its pre-Katrina capacity and meet the workforce demands of the region. NTCC has trained over 1,000 residents in construction via rapid response curriculum in a partnership with the Home Builders Institute. For example, immediately after the BP oil spill, NTCC provided rapid response training for local residents in a rented facility in Slidell for over 750 residents for employment in the oil spill recovery effort. However, if it had access to a larger, permanent facility during these emergencies, training capacity would have been significantly increased and more individuals in need of employment could have been assisted. An increase in the number of individuals who receive construction and rapid response training allows for a speedier recovery Parish-wide and regionally.

St. Tammany Parish Government is committed to supporting NTCC and its mission of providing educational and workforce development opportunities to St. Tammany Parish and surrounding communities. The addition of the NTCC classroom space in the MUF will provide the ability to meet the required capacity demands for workforce development training.