



## PUBLIC INFORMATION

ITEM NO. 4.

**DATE OF MEETING:** March 17, 2014

**REQUESTED BY:** Kyle M. Breuer, Director, Planning and Community Development, Tom Collins, Director, Emergency Management

**SHORT TITLE:** Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance (UHMA) Program

**BACKGROUND:** HMA programs reduce community vulnerability to disasters and their effects, promote individual and community safety and resilience, and promote community vitality after an incident. Furthermore, HMA programs reduce response and recovery resource requirements in the wake of a disaster or incident, which results in a safer community that is less reliant on external financial assistance.

The HMAP program is an annually funded program by FEMA through the NC Division of Emergency Management. Due to flood insurance premiums being based on actuarial rates, funding for the annual UHMA program was increased significantly in 2013 and expect that level of funding to be present for the 2014 funding cycle.

The project budget can be set up to guarantee that all project management and service delivery fees are funded by the project with no direct financial local commitment from Pender County. The staff time needed to carry-out this project will be divided between Planning and Community Development and Emergency Management.

The County carried out a similar Hazard Mitigation Grant in 2011 however, only had one eligible property due to the federally required benefit/cost evaluation. Under current FEMA guidelines, the county is no longer required to provide this analysis as long as the total elevation cost is less than \$175,000. The County will be targeting repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss structures of elevation and/or acquisition.

The program will provide 75% to 90% of the entire cost of elevating and retrofitting dwellings and the County will experience no direct costs for this program. Holland Consulting will be administering the project at no additional cost to the County.