



October 10, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair, Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair, Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: Request for Emergency Supplemental Disaster Funding

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Schumer, Chair Cole, and Chair Murray:

On behalf of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), and our 98,000 members we represent across the country, I am writing to urge Congress to provide immediate supplemental funding for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Disaster Relief Fund (DRF), the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery grants (CDBG-DR), the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency Disaster Relief programs, the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Emergency Relief Fund, and the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Disaster Loan program.

Currently, many regions from Florida to California, New York to Texas, and North Carolina to Hawaii have been devastated by hurricanes, wildfires, floods, and other catastrophic events. AIA members live, work, and serve in the affected communities. We have a heightened interest in the federal response. Without sufficient funding for the rebuilding efforts communities will falter, leaving vulnerable families stranded at this critical time.

Architects play a central role in disaster recovery and building a resilient future, helping communities not only restore damaged infrastructure but also rebuild stronger, safer, and more sustainable environments. We work hand-in-hand with federal, state, and local governments, ensuring that post-disaster recovery efforts are comprehensive and equitable. With the escalating number of climate-related challenges we are facing, it is more important than ever that federal agencies have the resources to fully fund mitigation, relief, and recovery projects.

We strongly urge you to prioritize emergency supplemental funding for these federal disaster programs. The AIA remains committed to working with you and can provide input from our resiliency experts to support swift congressional action on this urgent issue.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Dowdell, AIA, NOMAC
2024 National President
The American Institute of Architects

The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20006

T (800) 242 3837
F (202) 626 7547

aia.org