

RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION (RSF) 2

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

LEAD AGENCY:

- N.H. Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED)

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

- N.H. Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM)
- N.H. Department of Administrative Services

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The purpose of RSF 2 – Economic Recovery is to integrate the expertise of partners to help local governments and the private sector sustain and/or rebuild businesses and employment, and develop economic opportunities that result in sustainable and economically resilient communities after large-scale and catastrophic incidents.

Scope

The core recovery capability for economic recovery is the ability to return economic and business activities (including agricultural activities) to a state of health and develop new economic opportunities that result in a sustainable and economically viable community. Economic recovery is a crucial and integral part of recovery. RSF 2 facilitates the progression from direct federal financial assistance to community self-sustainment. Importantly, RSF 2 works closely with local community leadership who direct long-term economic recovery efforts. This requires the sustained engagement of possibly months or years by RSF 2 leadership with the leadership of disaster-impacted jurisdictions. A complex undertaking, RSF 2 engages many entities utilizing government assistance as “seed money”. These actions encourage reinvestment and facilitate private-sector lending and borrowing necessary for the functioning of vital markets and economies. Effective economic recovery following a disaster is positively influenced by pre-disaster community planning including mitigation actions that increase community resilience.

Objectives

Through the coordination of local, State, and Federal Government programs; the private sector; RSF 2; and local leadership leverages following a disaster; community development plans and stakeholder relationships to create a new post-disaster economic condition meeting community needs, encouraging reinvestment and facilitate private sector lending and borrowing necessary for the functioning of vital markets and economies. Specific objectives may include:

- Workforce development initiatives are in place; jobs are created and retained.
- Entrepreneurial and business development initiatives are in place.
- Community-wide economic development plans are developed with broad input and consider regional economic recovery and resiliency.
- Strategies for quickly adapting to changed market conditions, reopening businesses,

and/or establishing new businesses are in place.

- Business initiatives to employ workers and generate revenue are in place.
- Management plans ensure that the most effective use of federal funds is in place.
- Private and public sector actors have information they need to make informed decisions about recovery.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED)

Pre-Disaster

- Support HSEM to identify representatives for the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recovery Committee) from across the community including government, NGOs, and private sector for the purpose of guiding the recovery process and establishing leadership and coordination.
- Identify statutory, regulatory, and policy issues that contribute to gaps, inconsistencies, and unmet needs in economic recovery.
- Develop initiatives and incentives to facilitate the integration of federal efforts and resources with private capital and the business sector.
- Promote pre-disaster mitigation and preparedness activities for New Hampshire businesses.
- With HSEM, encourage the establishment of disaster information websites and resources for businesses.
- Partner with agencies engaged in re-employment, re-training, and unemployment claims assistance.

Post-Disaster

- Maintain robust and accessible communications throughout the recovery process between the Federal Government and all other partners to ensure ongoing dialogue and information sharing.
- Conduct damage and needs assessments to capture the overarching issues related to economic recovery in affected communities.
- Identify the major issues that need immediate, short-term, or long-term assistance.
- Develop a disaster-specific, interagency Recovery Support Strategy based on the needs assessment. Document the capabilities available to be leveraged to support economic recovery.
- Undertake those initiatives identified in the disaster-specific Recovery Support Strategy and work with the state to facilitate the transition to steady-state operations.
- Establish a small business assistance center or a Business Recovery Center (BRC), in coordination with the Small Business Administration (SBA). The BRC may be located at the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC), if established.
- Establish a liaison for critical business recovery.
- Perform outreach with businesses and organizations to share recovery needs, requests for information (details needed for a declaration) to establish two-way communications.
- Provide technical assistance to local government regarding the rebuilding of damaged downtown business districts, the incorporation of risk reduction measures, and development of sound business continuity of operations plans for local businesses.
- Assist small businesses, ideally in coordination with the SBA, in identifying appropriate

programs to assist in repairing and reopening their business in a timely manner following a disaster.

- Assist HSEM to establish mechanisms for tracking recovery progress.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM)

Pre-Disaster

- Identify representatives for the Recovery Committee from across the community including, government, NGOs, and private sector for the purpose of guiding the recovery process and establishing leadership and coordination.
- With the Recovery Committee, develop a list of priority post-disaster economic recovery projects, including mitigation projects.
- Coordinate educational and cross-training opportunities for key participants in economic recovery. Create, encourage, and participate in disaster recovery exercises to enhance skills and develop needed techniques.
- With the support of local communities and other State partners, integrate economic-related mitigation, recovery, and other pre-disaster plans and activities into existing local and Statewide community-wide planning and development activities.

Post-Disaster

- Assist DRED in maintaining robust and accessible communications throughout the recovery process between the Federal Government and all other partners to ensure ongoing dialogue and information sharing.
- Support DRED to provide technical assistance to local governments regarding the rebuilding of damaged downtown business districts, the incorporation of risk reduction measures, and development of sound business continuity of operations plans for local businesses.
- Identify potential recovery projects and begin data collection and application processes.
- Establish mechanisms for tracking recovery progress.

Department of Administrative Services

Pre-Disaster

- In coordination with *Emergency Support Function (ESF) #7 – Resource Support*, identify and establish agreements with recovery contractors that may be needed to support economic recovery.
- Coordinate with DRED to properly procure through a full, fair, and open competitive process stand-by contracts with disaster recovery contractors, if needed.

Post-Disaster

- With DRED and HSEM, review and implement new post-disaster budget and project approval processes to issue orders as appropriate, to implement changes to rules and regulations for the post-disaster recovery. This should include the implementation of disaster specific budget systems and codes that will make it easy to track disaster related expenditures and increase reimbursement.

DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION

Development, maintenance, and implementation of this RSF will be as outlined in the base Recovery Plan.

AUTHORITIES

Refer to Authorities listed in Chapter 1 of the base Recovery Plan.

REFERENCES

In addition to those listed in the base Recovery Plan, the following references are pertinent this RSF Annex.

- Rapid Response Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- MOU with N.H. Works
- Map of DRED Business Retention Team's territories