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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Officials encourage residents with coastal beach erosion from Ian, Nicole to apply for FDEP grant

February 2, 2023 – Flagler County officials are urging residents with coastal beach erosion from hurricanes Ian and Nicole to apply for a grant through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) that just became available. Eligible residents can apply for a "Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant" online at https://floridadep.gov/hurricane.

Projects may include construction projects for sand placement and temporary or permanent coastal armoring.

"We are grateful we are able to help support recovery for these communities," said FDEP Secretary Shawn Hamilton in a news release. He visited Flagler County in November. "DEP has been in these communities since the storms hit, and we look forward to continuing our efforts through this new program to help expedite recovery for affected areas."

During the December 2022 special legislative session, Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Legislature created the Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program and allocated \$50 million to help coastal homeowners address the damages from coastal erosion during the storms.

"It's great to see that this grant program is up and running," said Emergency Management Director Jonathan Lord. "I encourage all of our residents who believe they may be eligible for this emergency relief to get more information."

The following links provide a wealth of helpful information:

- FDEP emergency rules for this program
- Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Frequently Asked Questions
- How to navigate the application portal
- Understand the <u>provisions of the emergency rules</u>

Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis, and priority will be given to low- and moderate-income homeowners, according to the FDEP release.

To stay up to date with the latest information from Flagler County Emergency Management, visit www.FlaglerCounty.gov/emergency and by liking and following FlaglerEOC on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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