MEMORANDUM FOR: Gracia Szczech  
Regional Administrator  
FEMA Region IV

ATTN: Thomas J. Dargan  
Federal Coordinating Officer  
FEMA-4399-DR-FL

FROM: Keith Turi  
Assistant Administrator  
Recovery Directorate

SUBJECT: Request for Time Extension Under the Public Assistance Alternative Procedures for Permanent Work Pilot Program; FEMA-4399-DR-FL

This memorandum is in response to your memorandum dated July 12, 2019, regarding the Florida Department of Emergency Management’s (Recipient) request for a time extension to agreement on fixed cost estimates under the Public Assistance (PA) Alternative Procedures Permanent Work Pilot in FEMA-4399-DR-FL.

The Public Assistance Alternative Procedures for Permanent Work Pilot for Hurricanes Florence and Michael FEMA Recovery Policy, FP 104-009-7, states the following:

"1. Applicants have no more than 12 months from the disaster declaration date to:
   a. Determine the actual SOW and hazard mitigation measures to be implemented; and
   b. Accept a fixed-cost offer for each project (also subject to 30-day deadline from receipt - see B.2).
2. Each time FEMA transmits a fixed-cost offer, the Recipient and Applicant will have a combined total of 30 calendar days from the date of FEMA’s transmittal of the fixed-cost offer to accept the offer (not to exceed the 12-month deadline). Any projects without accepted fixed-cost offers by the 30-day and 12-month deadlines will be processed using standard PA policies and procedures and funded in accordance with Title 44 Code of Federal regulations (CFR) §206.205.
3. Time extensions to accept fixed-cost offers must be approved by FEMA’s Assistant Administrator for Recovery."

The Recipient requested an 18-month extension due to the following reasons:

- Many applicants are first-time applicants for Public Assistance (or who have not worked with FEMA in a long time), including Houses of Worship
- A sustained focus on disaster survivor needs
- State's challenges procuring contractor support to help applicants develop scopes of work, and to develop outreach and training materials on Section 428
- Communities were still conducting debris operations 9 months after the event
- Decrease in FEMA Public Assistance staff supporting the event
- The rate of site inspections
- State has promoted Section 428 and has waived state statutes that would interfere with the implementation

Due to the severity of the impacts of Hurricane Michael on the State of Florida and affected communities, and based on the information provided, including your recommendation, I am authorizing a 6-month time extension to April 19, 2020, for applicants to come to agreement on fixed-cost estimates. Projects without accepted fixed-cost offers by this date will be processed using standard procedures and funded in accordance with Title 44 Code of Federal regulations (CFR) §206.205.

If you have questions, please contact Tod Wells, Acting Director, Public Assistance Division, via email at Tod.Wells@fema.dhs.gov.