



## FEMA Grant Summary

### Initial Conversation

- Initial conversations between JBAD Solutions and the River Valley School District began back in November, 2023. Mr. Glasbrenner reached out to Jordan Buss with JBAD Solutions to inquire about what would be required to pursue a FEMA grant for a multi-purpose community tornado safe room, similar to those built in Spencer, Abbotsford, and Luck, Wisconsin. Jordan and Mr. Glasbrenner met virtually and reviewed a presentation and preliminary estimate that explained the process and potential a FEMA grant application may have on the community and school district. (Please see the attached presentation for reference)

### Explanation of FEMA BRIC Grant

- The FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) grant program is an annual grant program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Its objective is to reduce the risk to individuals and their property from future natural disasters and enhance community preparedness.
- It is a highly competitive national grant program, with significant funding available. In total, JBAD Solutions has been able to work with school districts across Wisconsin and Minnesota to be selected for over \$37 million in federal funding for various projects since 2018.

### Application Development

- An application would be developed in conjunction with JBAD Solutions and a design firm to study the eligible occupancy, needs of the District, and other factors to design a conceptual design and budget estimate for the multi-purpose project. The safe room could be any type of school facility.
- This process would begin at any point, with the application being due by early January, 2025.

### County Hazard Mitigation Plan

- In order to be an eligible applicant, the school district would need to participate and adopt the Sauk County Hazard Mitigation Plan. This would simply involve a representative attending a few meetings during the ongoing plan update process, culminating with a formal BOE adoption of the plan in late 2024.

### Board Approval Process

- **Board Committee**
  - The B&G Committee would work in conjunction with administration to guide the design team in developing the conceptual design to best meet the needs of the District.
- **Full Board of Education**
  - The full Board of Education would consider approving a resolution to both adopt the Sauk County Hazard Mitigation Plan and a resolution to pursue the grant funding.

### Project Timeline

- Notice of Funding Opportunity - August, 2024 (Estimated)
- Preliminary Application Deadline - Mid-December, 2024
- Application Deadline - January 1, 2025\*
- Selection Announcement - Summer 2025
  - This is when FEMA announces applications that they have 'Identified For Further Review.' This is where FEMA goes into a more in-depth review of selected applications. They conduct an Environmental/Historic Preservation Review and Request For Information (RFI) process. As long as nothing unforeseen and detrimental pops up in this process, you would receive the grant.
- Grant Award (If selected)- May 2026 (Estimated)
  - This is after the Environmental/Historic Preservation Review and the Request For Information (RFI) process is completed. Construction cannot begin prior to the grant being awarded. Architectural & engineering design cannot begin prior to the grant being awarded.
  - Construction - may begin anytime after grant is awarded.
- Project Completion Deadline - May 2029