

Improved Projects

When performing restoration work on a damaged facility, an applicant may decide to use the opportunity to make improvements to the facility. For example, the applicant may decide to lay asphalt on a gravel road or replace a firehouse that originally had two bays with one that has three. Projects that incorporate such improvements are called improved projects.

An applicant may request an improved project for either a small or large project. The improved facility must have the same function and at least the equivalent capacity as that of the pre-disaster facility. Funding for such projects is limited to the Federal share of the costs that would be associated with repairing or replacing the damaged facility to its pre-disaster design. The applicant must obtain approval for an improved project from the State **prior to construction**. Further, any improved project that results in a significant change from the pre-disaster configuration (that is, different location, footprint, function, or size) of the facility must also be approved by FEMA prior to construction to ensure completion of the appropriate environmental or historic review.

(Excerpt from the Public Assistance Guide)