

As far as questions directly about the pre-application itself, does the jurisdiction have any current engineering data or studies about the proposed project? We have to be able to show that the project is technically feasible and will help avoid damages or losses to people, property or infrastructure.

Additionally, any flood control or infrastructure protection projects funded under any HMA grant (BRIC, FMA, or HMGP) would be required to have a positive benefit cost analysis score using FEMA's Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) software. This is either going to require engineering studies or data that shows what damages are going to be avoided by completing the proposed project.

The following examples help show what kind of data may be needed to complete a BCA:

- For a project involving storm water infrastructure i.e. storm sewer, culverts, retention/detention areas, swales, etc. The data or study would need to include pre and post storm water conditions for the impacted project area. (4 storm water elevations) We would also need information about any impacted homes or commercial structures. This would include the age and square footage of the structure, if there is a finished basement, and the elevation of the first habitable floor.
- For large flood control project that involve dikes, dams, levees or other larger flood control structures the goal of the data or studies would be to quantify the current conditions and what additional protections or benefit the project will provide. The specifics of the methodology will need to be confirmed by the BCA helpline.
- For Utility infrastructure projects the goal of the data or studies would be to quantify the current conditions and what additional protections or benefit the project will provide. The specifics of the methodology will need to be confirmed by the BCA helpline

If there is not any available and completed engineering studies or data for the project, a BCA can be completed using documented damages or losses at the properties that are impacted. The damages or losses must be properly documented and if this is a path you decided to head down we can provide additional information to you about what that entails. Additional details for documented damage requirements are available in the FEMA Supplement to the Benefit-Cost Analysis Reference Guide under Section 2.1