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## **JUST IN: Governor announces \$11.9 million bridge loan for the Town**

*Interest free loan to cover Town's operating costs until additional funding is secured*

**Town of Fort Myers Beach, FL** – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced that the Town will receive an \$11.9 million interest free bridge loan for operational expenses because of the impact of Hurricane Ian on the Town's tax revenues and governmental operations.

This loan is designed to cover the Town's operational expenses until additional funding from sources such as FEMA is received. The Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan Program is managed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). The Town is the first municipality in the State to apply for and receive this loan.

Mayor Dan Allers and Town Manager Chris Holley were in Tallahassee to accept this news and personally thank Governor DeSantis for his support.

Operational expenses covered by the loan are associated with continuing, expanding, or modifying local governmental operations to meet disaster-related needs, and include costs such as, but not limited to, staff salaries and payroll.

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