

To help give you a head start in understanding the six authorized improvements associated with the My Safe Florida Home program, we have listed these improvements below with descriptions and helpful visuals.

Please read this guide carefully because no other improvements are authorized under program and keep in mind that only improvements recommended in your inspection report will be authorized for reimbursement.

## **Improvement 1 – Reinforcing roof-to-wall connections.**

- For example, installing metal tie-down clips that attach roof rafters to walls to decrease chances that all or a portion of your roof will simply lift off your house during a hurricane.

## **Improvement 2– Improving the strength of your roof deck attachment.**

- For example, if your roof consists of shingles nailed to plywood sheets, the inspection may reveal that the plywood sheets are not adequately nailed to your roof trusses, and that additional nails or longer nails need to be added to reduce the possibility of the plywood from being blown off in a hurricane.

## **Improvement 3– Improving the survivability of your roof covering.**

- For example, upgrading to stronger hurricane-resistant roof shingles, attached with properly sized and properly applied roofing nails, to reduce the susceptibility of your roof shingles blowing off in a hurricane.

## **Improvement 4 – Creating a secondary water barrier to prevent water intrusion.**

- For example, using strips of “peel and stick-on” material to cover the joints between plywood sheets on your roof to reduce water leakage in your roof.

## **Improvements 5 – Opening Protection (Windows).**

## **Improvements 6\* – Opening Protection Exterior Doors (inc. Garage Doors)**

- For example, installing hurricane-rated window shutters or replacing a standard garage door with a hurricane- rated garage door.

**\* Improvement 6 is only allowed in Broward and Dade counties as there is a discount provided by insurance in these counties. Other counties will not be provided a discount, so it is only allowed in the aforementioned counties.**

Improvements 5 and 6 are sometimes combined because it is recommended that they be undertaken together.

**NOTE:** There are three levels of opening protection under Improvement 6. They are:

1. *Improvement Standard* – This improvement is the lowest-cost option for protecting window openings. On a one-story house, this improvement would provide temporary structural panels for each window that would need to be installed each time a serious

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storm threatened the home. On a two-story home, this improvement would be a combination of standard shutters (*first floor*) and permanently attached shutters (*second floor*).

2. *Improvement Permanently Attached* – Protective devices that are always attached to the house and only need to be deployed when a hurricane is approaching.
3. *Improvement Permanently Deployed* – These are protective devices such as impact-rated glass windows and doors or hurricane screens that require no installation when a hurricane is approaching. Some homeowners may want to upgrade from standard opening protection to permanently attached or permanently deployed protection as a matter of convenience.

**For Low Income grant applicants there is a 7<sup>th</sup> improvement that is eligible which is:**

**Improvement 7 - Structural Repairs needed to implement Items 1-6\*\*\*** An example would be repairing rotted wood around a window to be able to replace the window. Maximum allowable amount for this item is \$1000 out of the \$5,000 Low Income grant cap.

## Visual Examples:

Below we have presented some pictures to serve as a visual guide for some of the Program approved reimbursable improvements. Please keep in mind that only improvements below are eligible for program.



***Roof to wall Connections***



***Exterior Secondary Water Barrier***



***Upgrade of roof coverings***



***Bahama Shutters***



***Impact-Resistant Window***



***Reinforced Garage Door***