

**COMBINED PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
UNION COUNTY**

July 1, 2016
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
101 South Broad Street
PO Box 800
Trenton, NJ 08625-0800

This Notice is related to Federal assistance provided in response to the Presidentially-declared disaster, Superstorm Sandy. This notice shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

Per 24 CFR 58.33, the combined Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI-RROF) will be published simultaneously with the submission of the RROF. The funds are needed on an emergency basis due to a declared disaster from the impacts of Superstorm Sandy, which made landfall on October 29, 2012. As a result, the comment periods for the FONSI and NOI-RROF have been combined. Commenters may submit comments to DCA and objections to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to ensure they will receive full consideration.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 18, 2016, the DCA will submit a request to HUD for the release of Federal funds under the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) pursuant to the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-2, approved January 29, 2013) for the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP). DCA expects to fund the project using approximately \$1,007,559 of NEP funds.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Application ID number: NEP0295

Project Title: Community Loan Fund of New Jersey, Inc.: Rehabilitation and New Construction Project

The multi-site proposed project is located at:

Site A: 23 South Reid Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07208

Site B: 246 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07208

Site C: 326 Magnolia Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07206

Site D: 339 Marshall Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07206

The total estimated project cost is \$1,210,421 with \$202,862 of this total being provided from other sources.

The proposed project involves the acquisition and rehabilitation of two existing single family residences and acquisition of two vacant lots upon which two new structures will be built with each structure containing two residential units. Because the proposed project is not located

within the floodplain a substantial improvement calculation is not applicable. Upon completion of the proposed project, the residences will be leased to an individual or family making less than 80 percent of AMI by the Community Asset Preservation Corporation. The proposed project is split into tasks at four distinct sites. Site A involves the acquisition and rehabilitation of an existing single-unit residential structure which was built in 1900. The 0.043-acre proposed action site is located at 23 South Reid Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey. The scope of work for this task will include but is not limited to remodeling of the kitchen and bathrooms; interior painting; installation of sheetrock, windows, exterior siding, and mechanical systems; and repair of the roof. Site B involves the acquisition and rehabilitation of an existing single-unit residential structure. Tax records do not indicate a date of construction for this property. The 0.057-acre proposed action site is located at 246 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey. The scope of work for this task will include but is not limited to remodeling of the kitchen and bathrooms; interior painting; installation of sheetrock, kitchen appliances, windows, mechanical systems, and exterior siding; and repair of the roof. Site C, a 0.057-acre proposed action site located at 326 Magnolia Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey and Site D, a 0.115-acre proposed action site located at 339 Marshall Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey both involve the acquisition of vacant land and the subsequent new construction of a two-unit residential structure on each site.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The DCA has determined that this project will have no significant impacts on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Sandy Recovery Division, 101 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08625-0800. The record is available for review and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. or can be viewed online at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on this project may submit written comments to Laura Shea, Assistant Commissioner, Sandy Recovery Division, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, 101 South Broad Street, PO Box 800, Trenton, NJ 08625-0800 or online at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/> and to Tennille Smith Parker, DRS, Acting Division Director, HUD, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20410. All comments received by July 18, 2016, or fifteen (15) days from the actual date of publication, whichever is later, will be considered by DCA. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

DCA certifies to HUD that Charles A. Richman, in his capacity as Commissioner of DCA consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act and related laws and authorities, and allows DCA to use CDBG-DR funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and DCA's certification for a period of fifteen (15) days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of DCA; (b) DCA has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency, acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504, has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58.76) and shall be addressed to Tennille Smith Parker, DRS, Acting Division Director, HUD, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20410. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Commissioner Charles A. Richman
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs