

COMBINED PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUDSON COUNTY

February 20, 2015

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
101 South Broad Street
PO Box 800
Trenton, NJ 08625-0800
609-292-3647

This notice shall satisfy the procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

Per 24 CFR 58.33, the Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI-RROF) will be published simultaneously with the submission of the Request of Release of Funds (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 NOI-RROF and RROF have been combined.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about March 2, 2015, the DCA will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Federal funds under the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) pursuant to the Disaster Relief (DR) Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-2, approved January 29, 2013) for the Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, Elevation, and Mitigation (RREM) Program. DCA expects to fund the project using approximately \$71,897.14 of RREM funds.

The following information pertains to this project:

Project Title: 1 Greene Street

Location: 1 Greene Street, Apartment G3, Jersey City, New Jersey

Estimated Cost: \$71,897.14

Project Description: The purpose of this project is to rehabilitate a multifamily house located in Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey. Through the RREM Program, the owner of the multifamily house plans on rehabilitating the multifamily home from damages sustained by Superstorm Sandy. The storm significantly impacted the waterfront areas of Jersey City with storm surge and flooding, wind damage and coastal erosion. The proposed project is needed to repair damage to the unit that occurred as a result of Superstorm Sandy.

The proposed project is as approved by DCA and HUD for repair of direct physical damages as a result of the storm dated October 29, 2012, or as required by HUD housing quality standards. The project is rehabilitation of a 2,082-square foot condo, which includes construction of and repairs to the three bedrooms, three bathrooms, a family room, living room, two kitchens, and three closets. The multifamily home is comprised of one unit attached to multiple other units on both sides of the structure. The 1.19-acre structure was built circa 1987, and the scope of the project is considered minor rehabilitation, as the rehabilitation cost of repairs to the unit is less than 50% of the pre-storm damage market value for the entire building.

The repairs to the interior of the home include the repair and replacing of smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, a new freestanding gas range in the main kitchen, as well as replacing the closet doors and doorknobs and painting. The bathrooms require repairing and replacing the bathroom ventilation fans, toilets and toilet seats, and plumbing fixture supply lines; the bedrooms require new doors, door knobs and painting, as well as new carpet and carpet padding. The second kitchen requires a new door, doorknob and painting. The total project cost is \$71,897.14. Because the unit is located in a multifamily structure, the structure, and hence the residential unit subject to the proposed action, will not be elevated.

The activities are being funded under the RREM Program (CDBG-DR) under CDBG-DR B-13-DS-34-0001. The RREM Program is to assist homeowners in achieving safe and code-compliant housing that meets minimum property standards through rehabilitation, reconstruction, elevation and mitigation.

The Responsible Entity, DCA, has determined that the proposed project is Categorically Excluded SUBJECT to §58.5 authorities per 24 CFR 58.35(a)(4)(i). As such, a Statutory Checklist has been completed in order to determine whether the project is in compliance with the authorities cited at 24 CFR§50.4 and 58.5.

Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record on file at the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Sandy Recovery Division, 101 South Broad Street, PO Box 800, 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 these projects may submit written comments to Stacy Bonnaffons, 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 March 2, 2015, will be considered by DCA. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

DCA certifies (on or about March 2, 2015) to HUD that Richard E. Constable, III, 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 Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and DCA's certification for a period of seven (7) 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 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) 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.