EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

July 17, 2015:

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups & Individuals

This Notice is related to Federal assistance provided in response to the Presidentially-declared disaster, Superstorm Sandy. This is to give notice that the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has determined that the following proposed action under the Stronger New Jersey Business Loan (SBL) program, developed by the state to rehabilitate or reconstruct properties damaged by Superstorm Sandy, is located in the 100-year floodplain. DCA will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and analyzing the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C, Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

Project Description:
Application ID number: SBL621290- Thundering Surf Waterpark and Adventure Golf.
The proposed project is located at 300 Taylor Avenue, Beach Haven, New Jersey 08008.

The purpose of the proposed action is to update and renovate a portion of the Thundering Surf Water Park and Adventure Golf Course at 300 Taylor Avenue in Beach Haven Borough, New Jersey. Project work would include: demolition of the existing miniature golf course; construction of a new, three-level miniature golf course; construction of a new eight-lane racer slide; replacement of the existing multi-level play structure; and replacement of the existing wooden support structure for the water park with a new galvanized steel support structure. Proposed actions would not expand the overall footprint of the park, only affect the internal layout of individual park components. The entire 1.86 acre parcel is located in the Special Flood Hazard Area “AE” zone floodplain (i.e. the 100-year floodplain) as shown on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Panel 603 of 660, Map Number 34029C0603G, revised January 30, 2015.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public education tool. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by DCA on or before August 3, 2015, or fifteen (15) days from the actual date of publication, whichever is later. DCA encourages electronic submittal of comments at http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/. In the alternative, comments may be submitted on paper 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.

Commissioner Charles A. Richman
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs