

New Jersey

Department of Community Affairs

SUPERSTORM SANDY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - DISASTER RECOVERY

Public Law 113-2, January 29, 2013; FR-5696-N-01; March 5, 2013



ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT NUMBER 6 – SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT AMENDMENT FOR THE TRANSFER OF SANDY CDBG-DR FUNDS

- Transfer of Funds from the Landlord Incentive Program to the Supportive Services Program
- Creation of the Lead Hazard Reduction Program

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: February 3 – March 5, 2014

DATE SUBMITTED TO HUD: _____

DATE APPROVED BY HUD: _____

Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Richard E. Constable, III
Commissioner



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**Action Plan Amendment Number 6 (Substantial) to Superstorm Sandy Disaster Relief Appropriation,
Public Law 113-2, 2013**

I. OVERVIEW

The State of New Jersey has submitted and received approval for its Action Plan on April 29, 2013. Subsequently, five ensuing Non-Substantial Action Plan Amendments (APAs) as posted on the DCA website have been approved. The Action Plan and Amendments describe the recovery programs and associated funding for the total Superstorm Sandy disaster award authorized by P.L. 113-2, 2013 with an allocation of \$1,829,250,000 under this appropriation.

This **Action Plan Amendment Number Six (APA 6)** is the State's second *Substantial Amendment*. This amendment is considered a substantial amendment according to the definition in the HUD Federal Register and in accordance with the State's Citizen Participation Plan since it involves a re-allocation of more than \$1,000,000. This amendment also creates a new program related to addressing lead based paint hazards.

This Amendment may be obtained via the Internet at the DCA website - <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/>, or by contacting Jaime Saults at 609-633-1328; or by email sandy.recovery@dca.state.nj.us with attention to Jaime Saults. The Proposed Action Plan Amendment will be published in English and Spanish at the same website.

Written comments on the proposed Action Plan Amendment will be accepted for thirty days from the date it is posted. Comments may be submitted beginning Monday, February 3, 2014 and must be received no later than 5:00 PM (EST) on Wednesday, March 5, 2014.

Comments will be accepted during the comment period at sandy.publiccomment@dca.state.nj.us.

II. ACTION PLAN MODIFICATIONS

The following table describes the funding transfer between approved recovery activities contained in Substantial Action Plan Amendment Number 5.

Approved NJ Action Plan Program	Activity Previous Amount	Amount of Transfer	Activity Revised Amount
Supportive Services	\$10,000,000	(+) \$22,000,000	\$32,000,000
Landlord Incentive Program	\$40,000,000	(-) \$22,000,000	\$18,000,000

A. Transfer of Funds from the Landlord Incentive Program to the Supportive Services Program

The Landlord Incentive Program was launched to provide rental subsidies for units set aside to serve low and moderate income individuals and families. Given the Department of Community Affairs commitment to increasing the availability of affordable rental units, coupled with an increased demand for individual rental assistance, the State is proposing to shift \$17,000,000 in project-based rental assistance, to provide tenant-based vouchers. The ultimate goal is preserved in this funding shift -- to increase provision of affordable rental units to low-to-moderate income households. The program is already established within *Section 4.5 Supportive Services Program* under an activity designed to prevent homelessness among low income residents in counties impacted by Superstorm Sandy. *This transfer of funds is subject to HUD's approval of the State's requested waiver submitted on January 9, 2014, to allow the program to proceed as planned.*

Additionally, the State will transfer \$5,000,000 from the Landlord Incentive Program to the new Lead Hazard Reduction Program. Details of the program are noted as follows.

B. Creation of the Lead Hazard Reduction Program

The Department of Health received SSBG funding for a Lead Risk Assessment Program for Young Children. This program provides funding for community outreach and testing of young children, pregnant women, and adults performing physical recovery work for blood lead levels and case management services. However, the SSBG funding does not cover lead assessment and remediation. To address this need, DCA proposes to implement a **Lead Hazard Reduction Program** with a primary focus on providing funding for lead assessment, lead hazard reduction, and clearance. Homes targeted for hazard reduction will be homes impacted by Superstorm Sandy. Paint will typically begin to flake once surfaces that were submerged in water begin to dry. As a result, flooded homes built prior to 1978 are more likely to experience increased lead and other health hazards.

This program will fall under *Section 4.5 Supportive Services Programs*. The program is funded with \$5,000,000 reallocated to the program from the Landlord Incentive Program. The program will be inserted into the Action Plan as below:

{insert section} Lead Hazard Reduction Program

Lead Agency: Department of Community Affairs

Allocation for Activity: \$5,000,000

Eligible Entities: Community based organizations and units of local and county government with experience in administering lead hazard reduction and/or weatherization programs

Process: DCA will issue a request for proposals to identify qualified nonprofit community based organizations and local public agencies to conduct lead hazard reduction programs

Eligible activities under this program may include:

- Assessment of lead based paint hazards in single and multi-family residential units
- Abatement, remediation or reduction of lead paint hazards in residential units
- DCA may also elect to allow other moderate levels of repair to occur in combination with the lead paint abatement, including addressing other environmental hazards such as mold, as well as other ancillary costs to performing the abatement.

Eligibility: Section 105(a)(4) and (a)(25)

National Objective: Low and moderate income and urgent need