

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
DISASTER RECOVERY (CDBG-DR) PROGRAM
NYS CDBG-DR 2013 ACTION PLAN
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ANNOUNCEMENT**

In 2011 and 2012, New York State was hit hard by several natural disasters including Hurricanes Sandy and Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee, which caused significant damage to homes, businesses, and infrastructure and placed a significant financial burden on local and state governments, residents, and businesses. In the FY 2012-13 Federal Budget, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$16 billion to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program. In February 2013, it was announced that New York State would receive \$1.713 billion of an initial \$5.4 billion allocation to assist disaster recovery efforts in areas of the state that had received Presidential Disaster Declarations related to Hurricanes Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. In addition to the \$1.713 billion awarded to the State, New York City also received an allocation of \$1.77 billion. The funds awarded to the State will be administered by the New York State Office of Community Renewal (OCR), in coordination with the NYS Governor's Office, New York State Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC), the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), and units of general local government, among others, to address unmet housing, economic development, infrastructure and planning needs related to the disasters. In order to receive CDBG-DR funds, eligible grantees must submit a CDBG-DR Action Plan to HUD no later than June 10, 2013.

Use of CDBG-DR funds is the subject of the New York State CDBG-DR Action Plan. Eligible uses for CDBG DR assistance include the full range of CDBG-eligible activities, in particular: housing, economic development, infrastructure and other public facilities activities that will assist with disaster recovery efforts in the communities hardest hit by the disasters. At a minimum, 80% of the total allocation provided to the state must be committed to efforts in Nassau, Suffolk and Rockland counties. In addition, the State must ensure that a minimum of 50% of grant funds be used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

In accordance with HUD guidelines, the CDBG-DR Action Plan for the New York State Program must be published for no less than 7 calendar days for public comment before being submitted to HUD by the June 10, 2013 deadline.

This 7-day public comment period will begin on Wednesday, March 13, 2013 and extend through close of business on Tuesday, March 19, 2013. Beginning on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 the New York State CDBG-DR Action Plan may be viewed on and downloaded from the New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) website at <http://www.nyshcr.org/Publications/>. In addition, copies can be requested by e-mail (HCRConPln@nyshcr.org) or by calling 1-866-ASK-DHCR (275-3427).

Comments should be written and mailed to:

New York State Homes and Community Renewal
Attention: Alison Russell
The Hampton Plaza, 2nd Floor
38-40 State Street
Albany, New York 12207-2804

Comments may also be e-mailed to HCRConPln@nyshcr.org.

Comments must be received by close of business on Tuesday, March 19, 2013.