

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

BERGEN COUNTY

July 26, 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 the procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about August 4, 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 Sandy Special Needs Housing Fund (SSNHF). DCA expects to fund the project using approximately \$629,845.00 of SSNHF funds.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Application ID number: HMFA03147
Project Title: Special Homes of New Jersey Inc.
Location: 356 West Englewood Avenue, Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey
The total estimated project cost is \$654,845.00

The proposed action involves the demolition of an existing, single-family residential structure and associated garage/shed and reconstruction of a new four-bedroom supportive housing structure on a lot located at 356 West Englewood Avenue in Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey (Block 2014, Lot 1). The existing, single-family residential structure was constructed in 1923 and occupies approximately 0.2497 acres of land per tax records. Elevation of the new supportive housing structure is not proposed. The proposed activities to be completed include the demolition of the existing, single-family residential structure and associated detached garage/shed and construction of a new, one-story supportive housing structure containing four bedrooms and two bathrooms. The new single-family home would be designed and built with features for disabled residents. The new home would be serviced by town water, sewer, electric and natural gas. The existing home's physical footprint is approximately 900 square feet, and the new home's footprint would be 2,281 square feet. The total estimated cost of the proposed project is \$654,845.00, of which \$629,845.00 would be provided through HUD funding. As the project activities involve demolition and reconstruction, the proposed project is considered a substantial improvement.

The Responsible Entity, DCA, has determined that the proposed project is Categorically Excluded Subject to §58.5 authorities per 24 CFR 58.35(a). 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§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, 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 the project may submit written comments to Laura Shea, Assistant Commissioner, 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 August 4, 2016, or seven (7) 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 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 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