

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

July 24, 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 Landlord Rental Repair Program (LRRP), 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: SRP0043612

The proposed project is located at 18 Fifth Street in Highlands, Monmouth County, New Jersey.

This proposed project involves the rehabilitation of five residential cottages (Units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) located at 18 Fifth Street, in Highlands, Monmouth County, New Jersey (Block 56, Lot 14). The property is comprised of 15 summer cottages, built in 1933 according to property tax records, five of which were damaged as a result of Superstorm Sandy. Elevation of the five cottages is also proposed. The entire project area, approximately 0.57 acres, is located within the Special Flood Hazard Area Zone VE, as shown on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) number 34025C0088F dated September 25, 2009.

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 10, 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