### COMBINED PUBLIC NOTICE

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

## **HUDSON COUNTY**

February 20, 2015

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs 101 South Broad Street PO Box 800 Trenton, NJ 08625-0800 609-292-3647

This notice shall satisfy the procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

Per 24 CFR 58.33, the Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI-RROF) will be published simultaneously with the submission of the Request of Release of Funds (RROF). The funds are needed on an emergency basis due to a declared disaster from the impacts of Superstorm Sandy, which made landfall on October 29, 2012. As a result, the comment periods for the NOI-RROF and RROF have been combined.

## REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about February 27, 2015 the DCA will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Federal funds under the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) pursuant to the Disaster Relief (DR) Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-2, approved January 29, 2013) for the Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, Elevation and Mitigation (RREM) Program. DCA expects to fund the project using approximately \$7,709.94 of RREM funds.

The following information pertains to this project:

Project Title: Robert Kennedy

Location: 130 Sussex Street, Apartment 1C, Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey

Estimated Cost: \$7,709.94

Project Description: The proposed activity will include interior repairs to the unit's bathroom and duct work as well as to the common basement and the purchase of a 62,000 BTU natural gas boiler. Renovations will include addressing storm-related damages and bringing the unit up to current minimum property standards. All activities would be limited to the interior of the unit and the common basement.

The RREM Program provides grant awards to the primary residences of homeowners for activities necessary to restore their storm-damaged homes, including reconstruction, rehabilitation, elevation and/or other mitigation activities. The RREM Program provides eligible homeowners with grant awards up to \$150,000.

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The Responsible Entity, DCA, has determined that the proposed project is Categorically Excluded SUBJECT to §58.5 authorities per 24 CFR 58.35(a)(3)(ii). 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§50.4 and 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, PO Box 800, 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 these projects may submit written comments 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 or online at <a href="http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/">http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/</a> and to Tennille Smith Parker, DRS, Acting Division Director, HUD, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20410. All comments received by February 27, 2015 will be considered by DCA. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

### RELEASE OF FUNDS

DCA certifies (on or about February 27, 2015) to HUD that Richard E. Constable, III, 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 program 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 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) 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 Richard E. Constable, III New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

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