



For Immediate Release

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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF STORM RECOVERY ANNOUNCES CREATION OF CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) FOR "LIVING WITH THE BAY: SLOW STREAMS" PROJECT

CAC members will fulfil an important advisory role related to the \$125 million Rebuild By Design (RBD) project, which aims to enhance resiliency in several Nassau County communities surrounding the Mill River.

New York, NY (August 14, 2015)– The Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) today announced the creation of a new Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC), related to the \$125 million Rebuild By Design (RBD) "Living with the Bay: Slow Streams" Project. As part of GOSR's efforts to maximize public participation and outreach, the CAC will assume an important advisory role as the undertaking works to enhance resiliency in Nassau County communities surrounding the Mill River. Interested individuals have until Wednesday, October 14 to apply.

"Through the federally-funded Rebuild By Design projects, the State continues to diversify our efforts to build a better, stronger New York," said GOSR's Interim Executive Director, Lisa Bova-Hiatt.

"Understanding the tremendous input that local residents can provide, we are confident that a CAC will greatly benefit the Living with the Bay Project. We encourage interested community members to apply."

Living with the Bay provides a comprehensive suite of resiliency interventions for communities around the Mill River, which is an environmentally degraded north-south tributary flowing from Hempstead Lake State Park into the South Shore of Long Island's Back Bay. The purpose of the Slow Streams project is to increase community resilience by mitigating local risk from tidal and stormwater flooding, while incorporating environmental co-benefits such as water quality improvements, ecological restoration, and aquifer recharge. In addition, the project creates public access to the river, reconnecting communities with the natural environment and providing economic development opportunities. This comprehensive strategy will be accomplished by addressing stormwater mitigation concerns and needs in the northern, middle, and southern sections of the Mill River.

Supporting this effort, the State-assembled CAC will be comprised of stakeholders who will receive project updates and represent communities in each respective project area. As such, members will play an important advisory role in the planning and implementation of the project. CAC meetings will be open to the public. The CAC will consist of representatives from various areas of the community stakeholder groups who have expressed an interest in serving on the committee. GOSR expects that there will be considerable interest in this program, and therefore, not all applicants will be selected. Please note that in order to ensure the integrity of the committee, those selected will be subject to have to pass a background check conducted by GOSR. Additional information may be requested.

Interested individuals may apply online to serve on the CAC at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/content/citizens-advisory-committee-application>. Paper applications can be obtained at the following Public Libraries and Housing Authorities:

- Hempstead Public Library- 115 Nichols Ct. Hempstead, NY 11550
- West Hempstead Public Library- 500 Hempstead Ave. West Hempstead, NY 11552
- Lakeview Public Library- 1120 Woodfield Rd. Rockville Centre, NY 11570
- Malverne Public Library- 61 St. Thomas Pl. Malverne, NY 11565
- Rockville Centre Public Library- 221 N. Village Ave. Rockville Centre, NY 11570
- Oceanside Public Library- 30 Davison Ave. Oceanside, NY 11572
- East Rockaway Public Library- 447 Atlantic Ave. East Rockaway, NY 11518
- Lynbrook Public Library- 56 Eldert St. Lynbrook, NY 11563
- Island Park Public Library- 176 Long Beach Rd. Island Park, NY 11558
- Town of Hempstead Housing Authority - 760 Jerusalem Avenue Uniondale, NY 11553
- Village of Hempstead Housing Authority - 260 Clinton St. #100 Hempstead, NY 11550
- North Hempstead Housing Authority - 899 Broadway Westbury, NY 11590
- Village of Rockville Centre Housing Authority - 160 N. Centre Ave Rockville Centre, NY 11570

Moving forward, paper applications may also be available at additional locations. Please check GOSR's Web site for continued updates.

The application period is open as of today, August 14, 2015, and will remain open for a period of 60 days, until October 14, 2015.

Spearheaded by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), the RBD Competition encouraged interdisciplinary firms (representing the best in planning, design and engineering) to create blueprints for recovery and resiliency efforts. Initiated by the Presidential Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force, and promoting the innovative principles developed by the group in the Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Strategy, the contest recognized four outstanding project proposals from New York State, with two (including Living with the Bay) being led by GOSR.

Established in June 2013, GOSR coordinates Statewide recovery efforts for Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Through its NYRCR Program— as well as its NY Rising Housing Recovery, Small Business and Infrastructure programs— GOSR invests \$4.4 billion made available through HUD's CDBG-DR Program to better prepare New York for future extreme weather events. To learn more about Living with the Bay, visit <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/living-bay-slow-streams>.

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