



ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

PUBLIC NOTICE

**COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI) AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

Alligerville Fire Station and Emergency Shelter Project

August 23, 2019

Name of Responsible Entity and Recipient: New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR), 38-40 State Street, Hampton Plaza, Albany, NY 12207, in cooperation with the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC), of the same address. Contact: Lori A. Shirley (518) 474-0755.

Pursuant to 24 CFR Section 58.43, this combined Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (FONSI/NOIRROF) satisfies two separate procedural requirements for project activities proposed to be undertaken by HCR.

Project Description: The Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR), an office of HCR's HTFC, is responsible for the direct administration of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program in New York State. GOSR proposes to provide CDBG-DR funding to the Town of Rochester to conduct alterations and rehabilitation measures to the existing Alligerville Fire Station located in the Hamlet of Alligerville, Town of Rochester, Ulster County, New York (the "Proposed Project"). The proposed project will provide space for modern fire-fighting vehicles and equipment and adapt the existing facility to be used as an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant Emergency Shelter.

During Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, the Town of Rochester and community of Alligerville received over eleven inches of rainfall. This caused Rondout Creek to exceed flood stage in many areas in the northeast portion of the town. During and after the storm events, the Alligerville Volunteer Fire Department responded to several calls from area residents stranded by floodwaters. After reaching and rescuing those stranded by the storms, the residents were transported to the fire department facility, which was not equipped to act in the capacity of anything other than a temporary shelter. The project will greatly expand the Town of Rochester's sheltering capability while providing a modern firefighting facility for an area of the town which is anticipated to grow in population in the coming years.

The proposed upgrades include a partial demolition of the existing apparatus bay, the reconfiguration of the existing interior space, and the addition of a new larger apparatus bay. Substantial rehabilitation of the existing apparatus building will be required. The original, 1878 building will require roof replacement, selected areas of brick repointing, and introduction of energy-efficiency measures to make the complex suitable for use by future

evacuees and normal community facility functions. To upgrade the facility's ability to serve as an emergency shelter, the main entrance and hallway into the emergency shelter will be widened to comply with ADA requirements, new restrooms will be constructed, and the facility's kitchen space will be reconfigured in order to serve hot meals for up to 25 evacuees. Additionally, the building's side entrances will be reconfigured to meet ADA requirements. The upgrades will require site disturbance, a new foundation for the new fire bay, construction of a new two-bay structure, re-connection to the community stormwater infrastructure, and expansion of the current water, septic, and electrical infrastructure, as well as, the installation of an appropriately-sized auxiliary power generator and fuel tank. The fuel tank is anticipated to be buried on-site. Rehabilitation of the site, with respect to drainage and water management will be required. Other sitework will include modification to the existing driveway and the addition of new sidewalks. The estimated project cost is \$1,290,624.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

An Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Proposed Project has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and HUD environmental review regulations at 24 CFR Part 58. The EA is incorporated by reference into this FONSI. Subject to public comments, no further review of the Proposed Project is anticipated. HCR has determined that the EA for the project identified herein complies with the requirements of HUD environmental review regulations at 24 CFR Part 58. HCR has determined that the Proposed Project will have no significant impact on the human environment and therefore does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement under NEPA.

Public Review: Public viewing of the EA is available online at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/environmental-docs> and is also available in person Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the following address: Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224, Albany, New York 12260. Contact: Lori A. Shirley (518) 474-0755.

Further information may be requested by writing to the above address, emailing NYSCDBG_DR_ER@nyshcr.org or by calling (518) 474-0755. This combined notice is being sent to individuals and groups known to be interested in these activities, local news media, appropriate local, state and federal agencies, the regional office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency having jurisdiction, and to the HUD Field Office, and is being published in a newspaper of general circulation in the affected community.

Public Comments on FONSI and/or NOIRROF: Any individual, group or agency may submit written comments on the Proposed Project. The public is hereby advised to specify in their comments which "notice" their comments address. Comments should be submitted via email, in the proper format, on or before September 9, 2019 at NYSCDBG_DR_ER@nyshcr.org. Written comments may also be submitted at the following address, or by mail, in the proper format, to be received on or before September 9, 2019: Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224, Albany, New York 12260. All comments must be received on or before 5pm on September 9, 2019 or they will not be considered. If modifications result from public comment, these will be made prior to proceeding with the expenditure of funds.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS AND CERTIFICATION

On or about September 10, 2019, the HCR certifying officer will submit a request and certification to HUD for the release of CDBG-DR funds as authorized by related laws and policies for the purpose of implementing this part of the New York CDBG-DR program.

HCR certifies to HUD that Lori A. Shirley, in her capacity as Certifying Officer, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the U.S. 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 NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows GOSR to use CDBG-DR program funds.

Objection to Release of Funds: HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and GOSR's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later). Potential objectors may contact HUD or the GOSR Certifying Officer to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

The only permissible grounds for objections claiming a responsible entity's non-compliance with 24 CFR Part 58 are: (a) Certification was not executed by HCR's Certifying Officer; (b) the responsible entity has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the responsible entity has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before release of funds and approval of environmental certification; 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, Director, Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division, Office of Block Grant Assistance, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20410, Phone: (202) 402-4649.

Lori A. Shirley
Certifying Officer
August 23, 2019