



# Homes and Community Renewal

Office of Resilient Homes  
and Communities

## Hurricane Ida CDBG-DR Action Plan Amendment 1 Summary

When the Office of Resilient Homes and Communities (RHC) amends certain details on storm recovery and resiliency projects that are in planning or underway, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires a substantial amendment that documents those updates, and to publish it for the public's information and input.

RHC has published the full action plan amendment on <https://stormrecovery.ny.gov/> for a 30-day public comment period from Friday, April 14, 2023 at 5pm to Sunday, May 14, 2023 at 5pm. Citizens were notified through a press release.

The State will receive comments via mail, email, or webform at:

Mail: Office of Resilient Homes and Communities

60 Broad Street, 26<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York, NY 10004

Website: <https://stormrecovery.ny.gov/>.

Email: [info@stormrecovery.ny.gov](mailto:info@stormrecovery.ny.gov)

Any updates or changes made to the Action Plan in response to public comments will be clearly identified in the Plan. Additionally, a summary of comments on the Plan or substantial amendment, and its corresponding response, will be uploaded in DRGR with the Action Plan.

To request a translation of the complete Action Plan Amendment 1, please email [info@stormrecovery.ny.gov](mailto:info@stormrecovery.ny.gov), or call **1-844-694-7163** for Chinese or Russian, or **1-855-NYS-SANDY (855-697-7263)** for other languages, and ask the representative for an interpreter. Interpretation and translation are provided free of charge.

Action Plan Amendment 1 (substantial) (APA 1) will address the following items:

- A. Proposed allocation of funds and Unmet Needs and Mitigation Needs Assessments:** Updates to describe the use of \$26,966,000 in additional CDBG-DR funds allocated under the 2023 Appropriations Act, which provides an allocation of \$23,449,000 for remaining unmet recovery needs resulting from the impact of Hurricane Ida on New York State, and \$3,517,000 for mitigation needs in the storm impacted areas. From these funds, the State is allocating an additional \$7.51 million to the Ida Housing Recovery and Reimbursement (IHRR) Program; \$6.04 million to the Renters Resilient Housing Initiative (RRHI); \$4.04 million to the Affordable Housing Resiliency Initiative (AHRI); \$8.01 million to the Resilient Investments through Support and Capital (RISC) Program; and \$1.35 million to cover Administrative costs, based on its updated unmet needs and mitigation needs assessments. These assessments were updated based on additional data analysis on updated FEMA Public

Assistance project costs and focused analysis of potential housing unmet need based on flooded residential properties that did not receive FEMA Individual Assistance and renovation needs for storm-impacted below-grade residential units; as well as follow up with key stakeholders. Based on these analyses, the State's estimates of unmet need for Ida are increasing from \$42.4 million to \$58.8 million for housing, and from \$815,000 to \$5.29 million for infrastructure. In this amendment, the State is also reducing its allocation for general Planning costs by approximately \$1.29 million, from \$3.25 million to \$1.96 million. These funds are being reallocated to the RISC Program, in alignment with the updated focus for this Program described below and the State's updated mitigation needs assessment.

- B. Office Name Change and references to "the State":** Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) would become a permanent office under a new name, the Office of Resilient Homes and Communities (RHC). With this update, the State is changing any reference to "the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery" or "GOSR" throughout the Action Plan to the "Office of Resilient Homes and Communities" or "RHC." Clarification that references to actions undertaken by "the State" (i.e., "the State will"; "the State's evaluation of") throughout the Action Plan refer to the New York State Office of Resilient Homes and Communities (RHC) in its capacity as the administrator of CDBG-DR funds allocated to New York State in response to Hurricane Ida.
- C. Language access:** Addition of French as one of the languages for which translated summaries of vital information and changes contained in the Action Plan and substantial amendments, as well as information on public hearings, how to submit public comments, and how to request interpretation and/or translation are provided. Notice of availability of language assistance in French will be included in vital Program outreach and application materials.
- D. Vulnerable populations eligibility:** Clarification of Ida Housing Recovery and Reimbursement (IHRR) and Renters Resilient Housing Initiative (RRHI) applicant eligibility to include vulnerable populations and historically disadvantaged members of protected classes, including but not limited to hardship cases, LEP individuals, immigrants, Single Female heads of household, LGBTQ+ individuals, and historically disadvantaged members of protected classes including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, and familial status. LMI applicants will be prioritized. With this update, the State is clarifying and further specifying which groups are considered eligible for assistance through IHRR and RRHI, based on its unmet needs assessment and program design and launch efforts.
- E. Elevation Standards:** Clarification to note required elevations for critical actions in the 500-year floodplain.
- F. IHRR eligible ownership documentation:** Update to clarify IHRR applicants may use alternative documentation in addition to fee-simple title to evidence ownership of the impacted property in order to limit barriers to participation.
- G. RRHI Projection of outcomes:** Updates to align the Projection of Outcomes for the Renters Resilient Housing Initiative (RRHI) with the State's estimates of actual beneficiaries. Based on current budgets, the State expects RRHI to serve 530 tenants.
- H. RISC Program description:** The State is updating the Resilient Investments through Support and Capital (RISC) Program to focus Program assistance on completing eligible Planning activities to meet its objective of leveraging other funding sources to improve public facilities, infrastructure and community resiliency.