

# Hurricane Ida CDBG-DR Action Plan and Program Design

August 2022



Governor's Office of  
Storm Recovery

# Hurricane Ida CDBG-DR Action Plan Summary

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This document provides a summary of key information, including vital information for potential applicants, contained in New York State's Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Action Plan for Hurricane Ida, including:

- Disaster Impact
- Unmet needs from the disaster
- Mitigation needs in the disaster area
- Proposed Programs, including budgets and eligibility requirements

In addition, this document provides information for the public on:

- The Public Comment period for this Action Plan
- Public Hearings on this Action Plan, including how to request interpretation, auxiliary aids, sign language interpreters, or special assistance for the hearings
- How to request translations or oral interpretation of the Action Plan and other documents

To request a translation of the complete Action Plan, 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.

# Hurricane Ida CDBG-DR Action Plan

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The 2022 State of New York Action Plan for Disaster Recovery outlines New York’s plan for expending \$41,262,000 in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds allocated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support long-term recovery efforts following Hurricane Ida (FEMA DR-4615).

Through this Plan and the activities outlined within, the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) strives to assist impacted communities within New York State with recovering from the losses suffered during Hurricane Ida, as well as strengthen and prepare New York’s most vulnerable populations and communities for future disasters. This plan details how funds will be allocated to address remaining unmet need in the disaster-impacted areas of Dutchess, Nassau, Orange, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester Counties.

Key Dates	
Action Plan Public Comment Period	August 29, 2022 to September 28, 2022
In-person Public Hearing	September 8, 2022
Virtual Public Hearing	September 13, 2022
Expected HUD Approval	By November 28, 2022
Applicant Programs Outreach	Fall 2022
Applicant Programs Application Period	Spring 2023 (TBC)

# Disaster Impact Overview & Unmet Needs

Hurricane Ida made landfall as a Category 4 Hurricane and impacted New York on September 1, 2021. It brought record downpours in excess of more than 3 inches of rain per hour and is estimated to have caused around \$7.5 billion to \$9 billion in damage in New York. Local government and community-based organizations emphasized that the communities sustaining the most damage and experiencing the greatest challenges to complete recovery have high densities of vulnerable populations, including, minorities, the elderly, individuals with limited English proficiency and low-to moderate income residents.

GOSR prepared an Unmet Needs Assessment to assess remaining Ida recovery needs after accounting for other federal recovery funds provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Given Housing represents the largest category of unmet needs, GOSR's Programs are designed to protect Public and Affordable housing, secure suitable housing for impacted renters, and address unmet housing repair needs for low- and moderate-income homeowners and are therefore expected to benefit the vulnerable populations and protected classes in the disaster area.

<b>Estimated Impact, Support and Unmet Needs</b>				
<b>Summary of Impacts/Support</b>	<b>Housing</b>	<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>Economy</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Amount of Estimated Impact</b>	\$89,103,849	\$8,933,625	\$35,110,883	\$133,147
<b>Amount of Funds Available from FEMA and SBA</b>	\$60,065,580	\$8,637,225	\$13,748,278	\$82,451,083
<b>Unmet Needs (Impact - Available Funds) + Resiliency Costs*</b>	<b>\$42,403,846</b>	<b>\$815,808</b>	<b>\$26,898,537</b>	<b>\$70,118,191</b>
<b>Percent of Total Unmet Needs</b>	<b>60.47%</b>	<b>1.16%</b>	<b>38.36%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

# Mitigation Needs Assessment

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GOSR prepared a risk assessment to identify the greatest mitigation needs in the disaster area. To prepare this Mitigation Needs Assessment, GOSR reviewed the hazard and risk information available at MitigateNY for all of New York State as well as the six (6) disaster-declared counties for Individual Assistance that have been designated “most impacted and distressed” by HUD or the State.

In total, this analysis identifies water and flooding as the most significant risk to the disaster-declared counties. Mitigation efforts focused on reducing flood impacts and ensuring continuity of critical operations will have the greatest impact to the security and resiliency of the area. With this need being directly associated to the type of event experienced in Hurricane Ida, GOSR can maximize mitigation focused investment with these grant funds to achieve both mitigation objectives and long-term recovery from storm impacts.

The Plan proposed two programs to address mitigation needs in the disaster area—the Affordable Housing Resiliency Initiative and the Resilient Investments through Support and Capital—and additionally proposes to use planning funds to support efforts by selected subrecipients to perform feasibility and engineering studies that can inform the design and funding of future community resiliency upgrades.

# Disaster Recovery Programs

The following table summarizes GOSR's proposed programs and budgets:

Program Category	Program	Budget	HUD identified MID Budget	Grantee identified MID Budget	% of Allocation	Maximum Award	National Objective	Estimated Outcome
Housing	Rehab	\$8,171,250	\$7,848,750	\$322,500	20%	\$50,000	LMI/UN	262 homes
	Buyout	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	New Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Other	\$18,780,000	\$18,360,000	\$420,000	45%	\$100,000	LMI/UN	400 tenants
Economic Revitalization	Workforce Training	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Business Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Infrastructure	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
Infrastructure	Water/sewer Improvements	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Health Facilities	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Public Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
Public Services	Legal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Housing Counseling	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	N/A	N/A
Mitigation Admin Planning	Mitigation	\$9,000,000	\$7,150,000	\$1,850,000	22%	\$3,000,000	LMI/UN	25 projects
	Admin	\$2,063,100	\$1,650,480	\$412,620	5%	\$0	N/A	N/A
	Planning	\$3,247,650	\$1,833,180	\$1,414,470	8%	\$0	N/A	N/A
Total		\$41,262,000	\$36,842,410	\$4,419,590	100%			

# Renters Resilient Housing Incentive

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## **Budget**

\$18,780,000

## **Program Description**

- The program encourages renters to relocate from sub-standard and/or storm-damaged units while remaining within their existing communities by providing assistance with increased monthly housing costs and other relocation expenses.
- Owners of one (1) to four (4) unit rental properties may also receive assistance to improve the condition and flood resilience of their property provided they commit to maintain minimum affordability levels post completion. Work will be conducted by GOSR managed contractors. Priority processing will be given to tenant applicants over landlords.

## **Eligible Applicants**

- Renter households in disaster-declared counties whose income is eighty percent (80%) or less than area median income (LMI) and who relocated for more than 12 months, or who desire to relocate, due to Ida's impact. In addition, at least one member of the household must be a U.S. Citizen or legal U.S. resident.
- Owners of one (1) to four (4) unit rental properties located within disaster-declared counties that are U.S. Citizens or legal U.S. residents who commit to reserving a minimum of seventy-five percent (75%) of the units for occupancy by low- and moderate-income persons for a period no less than two (2) years following project completion.

## **Awards**

- Initial relocation awards of eighteen (18) months of rental assistance for previously relocated households, and twelve (12) months of rental assistance for households who will relocate. Hardship process allows for additional rental assistance up to \$100,000 or the equivalent of forty-two (42) months of rental assistance.
- Assistance to eligible landlords is capped at \$125,000 per occupiable unit, based on need.

# Ida Housing Recovery and Reimbursement

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## **Budget**

\$8,171,250

## **Program Description**

The Ida Housing Recovery and Reimbursement Program provides assistance to complete repairs to storm-impacted owner-occupied residences. The Program additionally provides in-home measures to improve resilience to flood inundation and to mitigate the impacts of future floods on habitability, including elevating mechanicals, electrical and plumbing mitigation, flood vents and backflow valves.

## **Eligible Applicants**

- Homeowners in a disaster-declared county whose primary residence was a one (1) or two (2) unit residence that sustained real property damage as a result of the storm.
- Owner must hold fee-simple title to the subject property.
- At least one member of the household must be a U.S. Citizen or legal U.S. resident.
- Household income is eighty percent (80%) or less than area median income (LMI) or are otherwise considered vulnerable populations. Priority processing will be given to LMI applicants.

## **Awards**

The maximum amount of assistance available to an applicant is \$50,000. Applicants who were unable to access other forms of disaster recovery assistance and can document costs incurred prior to Program launch to complete eligible repairs may additionally receive reimbursement payments up to a maximum of \$30,000. Applicants may receive additional assistance up to the full reconstruction of the home provided the applicant has been unable to obtain other sources of assistance.



# Affordable Housing Resiliency Initiative

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## **Budget**

\$8,000,000

## **Program Description**

The Affordable Housing Resiliency Initiative Program provides CDBG-DR funds to support the completion of site-specific mitigation projects that will improve the resilience of multi-family affordable and/or public housing developments against identified hazards or repetitive loss events. Funds are made available through competitive and advertised Requests for Proposals (RFP). Scoring criteria include readiness to proceed, affordability and access, connection to mitigation needs, minimizing displacement and nexus to the storm. Eligible projects include floodproofing buildings, emergency generators, water retention systems and site Drainage Improvements.

## **Eligible Applicants**

Public housing entities, housing developers, not-for-profit associations, or units of local government in the disaster area.

## **Awards**

GOSR may award grant funds up to \$3,000,000 per project, GOSR may elect to make an exception to the maximum award in order to allow high-scoring projects to proceed.

# Resilient Investments through Support and Capital

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## **Budget**

\$1,000,000

## **Program Description**

The Resilient Investments through Support and Capital Program provides CDBG-DR funds to units of local government, public entities, or non-profit organizations in order to fully leverage other funding sources for the completion of resilient upgrades to public facilities and infrastructure. Funds are made available through competitive Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) process. Scoring criteria include readiness to proceed, benefit to LMI and vulnerable populations, connection to mitigation needs, minimizing displacement and nexus to the storm.

## **Eligible Applicants**

Units of local/County government; State agencies and authorities; public schools (K-12) and universities; first responders, including volunteer fire and EMS facilities; not-for-profit entities that serve communities within disaster-declared counties; or a consortium of any of the above.

## **Awards**

GOSR may award grant funds up to \$200,000 per project, GOSR may elect to make an exception to the maximum award in order to allow high-scoring projects to proceed.

# Public Comment Period

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GOSR has published the full action plan on <https://stormrecovery.ny.gov/> for a 30-day public comment period from August 29, 2022 to September 28, 2022. Citizens were notified through press releases and statements by public officials, including state legislators and local municipalities.

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

Mail: Governor's Office of Storm Recovery  
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.

# Public Hearings

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The State will hold two public hearing meetings during the public comment period. The purpose of these public hearings will be to give participants a brief overview of the program and to provide them with the opportunity to ask questions about the program and the proposed use of funds and/or propose alternatives.

There will be one in-person public hearing held in Westchester County in a facility that is physically accessible to persons with disabilities. A second public hearing will be held virtually.

**In-Person Public Hearing will be held in the MID county of Westchester on Thursday, September 8, 2022.**

Location: New Rochelle City Hall  
515 North Ave  
New Rochelle, NY 10801

Time: 6:30 PM

**Virtual Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 6:30 PM**

Instructions for joining the meeting and the meeting link with a call-in number will be provided on the website alerting the public to the upcoming public comment period and hearing.

Individuals who require interpretation, auxiliary aids, including but not limited to a sign language interpreter, or special assistance at public hearings should make a request at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the event. **To make a request via telephone, contact 1-855-NYS-SANDY (855-697-7263) or send an email to [info@stormrecovery.ny.gov](mailto:info@stormrecovery.ny.gov).**

## Website and Contact

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GOSR will maintain a comprehensive website regarding all disaster recovery activities assisted with these funds. The website will be updated in a timely manner to reflect the most up-to date information about the use of funds and any changes in policies and procedures, as necessary. At a minimum, updates will be made monthly.

The State will provide multiple methods of communications including, but not limited to, the public website, toll free numbers, email addresses, and TTY and relay services to provide applicants for recovery assistance with timely information to determine the status of their application.

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

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

Toll Free Number: 212-480-2321

TTY: 212-480-6062

In addition to providing accessibility for persons with disabilities, GOSR provides instructions on changing the language settings in popular web browsers to support meaningful access by Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons in their preferred language. The instructions can be accessed on every page of the website and are translated into multiple languages according to GOSR's Language Access Plan.