



## Creating Countywide Resiliency Plans in Niagara, Madison, Herkimer, Oneida and Montgomery Counties

### OVERVIEW

The NY Rising Community Reconstruction (NYRCR) Program is designed to empower communities affected by storms, to create and implement locally created strategies for rebuilding and strengthening their communities against future extreme weather events. This phase of the NYRCR Program will focus on five counties impacted by severe summer storms of 2013: Niagara, Madison, Herkimer, Oneida, and Montgomery counties.

The five county approach is two-pronged, focusing first on identification of immediate recovery needs, and then on developing countywide long-term resiliency strategies and projects. Community-driven plans will consider current damage, future threats, and the community's economic opportunities. Each county will be eligible to receive up to \$3 million in State capital funds to support the implementation of projects and activities to advance recovery efforts.

Each of the five NY Rising counties has a Planning Committee that includes members representing county planning, economic development, human service organizations, soil and water services, emergency services, highway services, local governments, educational institutions, business and other organizations. The Planning Committee is leading development of the Countywide Resiliency Plan.

### PLANNING ASSISTANCE

The State has provided each NY Rising County with a planning team to help prepare the strategies in their resilience plan. Consultants have been hired through a State process administered by the Empire State Development Corporation. Planning experts from the New York State Department of State have been assigned to each county to provide assistance and to manage the planning process.

### PLANNING PROCESS

The Planning Committee process for developing a Countywide Resiliency Plan includes the following:

- **Public Engagement:** Offer opportunities for public input and involvement at key milestones in the planning process.
- **Recovery Needs:** Identify projects to continue recovery efforts from 2013 floods.
- **Asset Inventory:** Complete an inventory of social, economic, and natural resource assets and systems that have been, or will be, affected by flooding hazards.
- **Risk Assessment:** Assess risk to key assets and systems.
- **Needs and Opportunities Assessment:** Determine long-range needs and opportunities to improve local economic

growth and development and enhance resilience to future storms.

- **Strategies for Investment and Action:** Develop strategies and actions needed to implement the strategies; identify potential costs and benefits of chosen actions, including potential funding sources.
- **Implementation Schedule:** Prepare an implementation schedule for the actions needed to implement the strategies.

## PLAN CONTENTS

NY Rising Countywide Resiliency Plans will include:

### Executive Summary

#### County Overview

- Geographic scope of the plan
- Description of storm damage
- Critical issues
- Vision
- Relationship to regional plans

#### Assessment of Risk and Needs

- Assessment of needs and opportunities
- Assets
- Assessment of risk to assets

#### Reconstruction Strategies

- Strategies related to six recovery support functions
- Actions needed to implement strategies
- Description of public engagement in developing the NYRCR Plan

#### Implementation Schedule

- Schedule of implementation actions

