



For Immediate Release

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**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF STORM RECOVERY ANNOUNCES \$7.5 MILLION FOR
RESIDENTIAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM**

Developed through the grassroots NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program, the effort aims to provide seven storm-impacted communities with technical assistance on residential property resiliency.

New York, NY (June 30, 2015)– The Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) today announced the allotment of up to \$7.5 million to fund the creation of the Residential Technical Assistance Pilot Program (RTAPP). The program, which would take place in seven New York City communities who proposed the concept in their NYRCR Plans, aims to provide a range of technical assistance related to residential property resiliency. Aiming to target the areas of Canarsie, Gravesend and Bensonhurst, Howard Beach, Lower Manhattan, Red Hook, Rockaway East and the Southeast Brooklyn Waterfront– the undertaking would facilitate the completion of residential resiliency audits, offer retrofitting advice and provide financial counseling for qualified homeowners. It would also spur the creation of an online tool, which would feature best practices on how to make residential structures more resilient to flooding for members of the general public.

“By serving to promote resiliency for New York City homeowners, the Residential Technical Assistance Pilot Program will provide residents with the tools they need to better prepare for the impacts of future storms,” said Interim Executive Director of GOSR, Lisa Bova-Hiatt. “At the same time, we hope that this effort will have a ripple effect for the City as a whole, and go on to increase the resiliency of blocks, neighborhoods, and entire communities.”

GOSR is currently requesting Statements of Qualifications, through a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), from existing non-profit organizations. Respondents should be non-profit organizations including Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) who have the expertise and capacity to oversee program implementation and administration required by the HUD Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program.

Once selected, the program administrator will be expected to oversee the delivery of services, including residential audits for qualified low-and-moderate income (LMI) homeowners in the 100-year or 500-year floodplains. This assistance will offer short, medium and long-term resiliency measures for New Yorkers to pursue to make their home more resilient to future storms.

Additionally, the organization will be expected to provide one-on-one counseling and homeowner assistance in an effort to guide participants through the audit report process and to garner a better understanding of general resiliency measures, flood insurance and financing.

The non-profit administering the program will also be responsible for the design and development of an online tool to be utilized by all New York City residential property owners, promoting knowledge of flood risk, insurance and best practices in resiliency.

Non-profit organizations interested in administering these funds and developing the program are directed to the Procurement Opportunities page of the GOSR Website at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/procurement-opportunities>. Respondents have until July 31, 2015 to formally respond to GOSR's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). An organization will be selected to administer the program following GOSR's review of submissions.

Funding for the pilot program would last for up to two years and is expected to start in the late fall.

Announced by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo in April 2013, the NYRCR Program seeks to empower storm-impacted communities throughout the State, helping them to build back better and stronger than before. Altogether, more than 650 New Yorkers served on 66 NYRCR Committees, which have collectively proposed approximately 700 locally-oriented projects. Throughout the eight-month planning process, the program has held more than 650 Planning Committee meetings and more than 250 large scale Public Engagement Events. Funding for both planning and project implementation comes from HUD's CDBG-DR Program.

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.

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