

**FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED
ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN**

October 3, 2013:

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, & Individuals

This is to give notice that New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 in accordance with HUD regulations under 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C - Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management to determine the potential effect that its activity in the floodplain will have on the human environment for Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Recreate NY Home Buyout Program under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383).

The State has currently been allocated \$1.7 billion of CDBG-DR funds for acquisition, demolition, reconstruction, improvement, financing, and use of existing properties in the most impacted municipalities and counties. This funding reflects activity under the first allocation of funds. A significant portion of the current allocation will be used for the buyout and acquisition of some of the worst damaged properties, including those that are this subject of this Notice. This Notice pertains to properties opting into the buyout and acquisition plan in Putnam County, New York.

There are approximately 13,800 acres of floodplain in Putnam County. The floodplains in the state are depicted on the FEMA Base Flood Elevation Map, which can be viewed at www.msc.fema.gov.

Under buyouts, flood affected properties will be purchased by the State. Structures on the properties will be removed so that the land reverts to its natural state. This project aims to preserve our natural floodplains, prevent future damage to homes and businesses, promote uniform land usage, and assist those impacted by Hurricane Sandy, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee.

Under acquisitions, flood affected properties will be purchased by the State. Specific details of reuse of the acquired properties are unknown at this time, however use will be in accordance with local zoning and land use plans.

No specific enhanced buyout areas have been identified, but buyouts are being analyzed in the event that buyout areas are determined at a later date. This action is of fundamental importance in assisting landowners with damaged property located further inland.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment have an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, adequate public notice is an important public education tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains facilitates and enhances federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments should be submitted via email and further information can be requested at NYSCDBG_DR_ER@nyshcr.org. Please include "Putnam County Floodplain Work Comments" in the subject line. Written comments may also be received by HCR at the following address: Attention: Amy Zamenick, Certifying Officer, NYS Homes and Community Renewal, 38-40 State Street, Hampton Plaza, Albany, NY 12207. Comments may be received by telephone at (518) 473-4732. All comments must be received or postmarked on or before **Thursday, October 10, 2013**. A full copy of the Floodplain Management Document, including area maps, can be viewed from Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM at NYS Homes and Community Renewal, 38-40 State Street, Hampton Plaza, Albany, NY 12207 or at <http://www.nyshcr.org/Programs/NYS-HCR-CDBG-DR/EnvironmentalReview>. To inquire about how to apply for benefits under this and other New York State Disaster Relief programs, please call the Recovery Hotline at 1-855-NYS-SANDY, Monday-Friday 8am-8pm. Or, go to www.nysandyhelp.ny.gov.

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