

# **Floodplain Management & Wetland Protection Plan**

**Governor's Office of Storm Recovery  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery**

**Belgrave WPCD Outfall Project  
Town of North Hempstead, NY**

Nassau County, New York

Effective Date: June 17, 2015

**Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management  
Executive Order 11990 – Protection of Wetlands**

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**Nassau County, New York  
Effective Date: June 17, 2015**

This Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection Plan meets the requirements of 24 CFR Part 55.20 and Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) and Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) for the Belgrave Water Pollution Control District (WPCD) Outfall Project (Project) in the Town of North Hempstead, Nassau County, NY. This Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection Plan documents the eight-step decision making for the Project and pertains to activities within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), or its successors, pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), or a successor program, whether advisory, preliminary, or final, as well as within wetlands

**Description of Proposed Program Activities**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is responsible for administration of the CDBG-DR program pursuant to the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013. The CDBG-DR program is designed to address the needs of New York State (NYS) communities devastated by Superstorm Sandy. To date, this funding has been disbursed in three allocations. On Tuesday, March 5, 2013, HUD published Federal Register Notice 78 Fed. Reg. 14329, which established the requirements and processes for the first \$1.71 billion in federal CDBG-DR aid appropriated by the United States Congress and allocated to NYS for disaster relief. On November 18, 2013, HUD issued a second allocation of \$2.097 billion to NYS under Federal Register Notice 78 Fed. Reg. 69104. On October 16, 2014, HUD issued the third and final allocation of \$600 million to NYS under Federal Register Notice 79 Fed. Reg. 62194.

The Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) is conducting an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990 in accordance with HUD regulations under 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C - Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands, to determine the potential effects that Project activity in the floodplain and in wetland areas would have on the human environment.

Funding for the Project will be provided by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Storm Mitigation Loan Program (SMLP) with support from the HUD CDBG-DR program.

The Belgrave WPCD was established in 1928 as a Special District within the Town of North Hempstead. The WPCD owns and operates a municipal wastewater treatment plant, serving the Villages of Lake Success, University Gardens, Russell Gardens and part of Great Neck and discharging into Little Neck Bay. The STP has an existing capacity of 2 million gallons per day and operates pursuant to a NYSDEC permit. The STP currently discharges treated effluent via a 24” outfall that was originally installed in 1931.

The existing sewer outfall is 80 years old and is in a deteriorated condition. The damaged outfall pipe is leaking treated effluent into the marshlands between the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and the outfall location. This damage has resulted in a Notice of violation issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). In addition, during Superstorm Sandy, the storm surge caused damage to the sewer outfall and flooding of the STP through the same outfall pipe.

Belgrave WPCD proposes to replace the existing 24-inch diameter, 3,100 foot outfall pipe with a new, high density, polyethylene, 24-inch pipe that will be installed using directional drilling underneath the bay bottom to a point in proximity to the existing outfall pipe. The process will result in a new line, buried to the desired location and will eliminate the need to repair the structural components aboveground in the inter-tidal portion of the outfall. The existing outfall will be abandoned in place. This method is the least intrusive and will limit disturbance to intertidal wetlands and mudflats. Any disturbance in the wetlands would be minor and temporary, and any disturbed area would be restored to its original condition. In addition, the project involves the installation of a pump station to pump treated effluent into the Bay during storm events when a surge may cause the gravity fed outfall to ‘back up’ into the Plant. The pump station will be located within the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant boundary, upland of the intertidal marsh and at a ground elevation of greater than 10 feet. All mechanical and electrical equipment will be installed at elevations four feet higher than the projected 500-year flood elevation.

### **Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 & 24 CFR Part 55**

Under 24 CFR Part 55.20, an eight-step decision making process must be completed for proposed actions taking place in a floodplain or wetland. 24 CFR Part 55.20 implements Executive Order 11988—Floodplain Management and Executive Order 11990—Protection of Wetlands.

EO 11988 requires federal agencies (or a state agency implementing a federal funding program) to reduce the loss of life and property caused by floods, minimize impacts of floods on human safety, health, and welfare, and preserve the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains. EO 11990 requires federal agencies (or a state agency implementing a federal funding program) to minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands. Under these orders, federal agencies should first look at avoiding all actions in or adversely affecting floodplains or wetlands unless no practicable alternatives exist. If no practicable alternatives exist, then federal agencies must evaluate the potential effects of the proposed action.

In addition, federal agencies are required to demonstrate that consideration of all practicable alternatives has resulted in the reduction or elimination of the long- and short-term adverse

impacts associated with occupancy and modifications of the floodplain or wetlands. This eight-step process includes assessing all practicable alternatives and incorporating public review.

Projects located within the SFHA are subject to Executive Order 11988. Information on where SFHAs are located is available on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) published by FEMA. FEMA uses engineering studies to determine the delineation of these areas or zones subject to flooding. The relevant data source for the SFHA is the latest issued FEMA data or guidance, which includes advisory data, such as Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFEs) or preliminary and final FIRMs.

The SFHA is the area that would be inundated by a 100-year flood: an area that has a one percent or greater chance of experiencing a flood in any single year. SFHAs are shown on FIRMs as shaded areas labeled with the letter “A” or “V”.

- “V” zones are coastal flood hazard zones subject to wave run-up in addition to storm surge.
- “A” zones include all other special flood hazard areas.
- “VE” zones, “AE” zones, “V” zones, or “A” zones followed by a number are areas with specific flood elevations, known as Base Flood Elevations (BFE).
- A zone with the letter “A” or “V” by itself is an appropriately studied flood hazard area without a specific flood elevation.
- Within an “AE” zone or a numbered “A” zone, there may be an area known as the “regulatory floodway,” which is the channel of a river and adjacent land areas which must be reserved to discharge a 100-year flood without causing a rise in flood elevations.

Projects located within, or otherwise modifying wetlands, are subject to EO 11990. As defined in 24 CFR 55.2 (b)(11), wetlands include those areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances does or would support, a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.

#### **24 CFR Part 55.1 (c)**

Under 24 CFR Part 55.1 (c), except with respect to actions listed in Part 55.12(c), no HUD financial assistance (including mortgage insurance) may be approved after May 23, 1994 with respect to:

- (1) Any action, other than a functionally dependent use, located in a floodway;
- (2) Any critical action located in a coastal high hazard area (V zone) (a “critical action” is an action such as storage of volatile materials, irreplaceable record storage, or construction of a hospital or nursing home); or
- (3) Any non-critical action located in a coastal high hazard area, unless the action is designed for location in a coastal high hazard area or is a functionally dependent use and complies with the construction standards outlined in HUD Regulations 24 CFR Part 55 (c)(3).

## **24 CFR Parts 55.11 & 55.20**

Under 24 CFR Parts 55.11 (including Table 1) and 55.20, non-critical actions are allowed in A or V zones only if the actions are reviewed in accordance with the floodplain management eight-step decision making process (eight-step process) outlined in 24 CFR Part 55.20. The eight-step process was conducted for the Project and is detailed below.

### **24 CFR Part 55.20 Eight-Step Process**

#### **Step One: Determine whether the proposed action is located in a 100-year floodplain (or a 500-year floodplain for a Critical Action) or results in new construction in a wetland.**

As shown in **EXHIBIT 1**, the Sewer Treatment Plant is located almost entirely in the 500-year floodplain. (The northwestern portion of the plant is located outside of any floodplain, and portions of the southern and eastern sections of the plant are located in the 100-year floodplain.) It is on this site that the new pumping station will be located.

As shown in **EXHIBIT 2**, the outfall pipe crosses the intertidal wetlands and mudflats, and ultimately discharges in a bay within the Long Island Sound.

#### **Step Two: Notify the public at the earliest possible time of a proposal to consider an action in a floodplain (or in the 500-year floodplain for a Critical Action) or wetland, and involve the affected and interested public in the decision making process.**

Because the Project Site is located in a floodplain and involves construction in a wetland, GOSR must publish an early notice that allows the public an opportunity to provide input into the decision to provide funding for the Project.

Once the early public notice and comment period is complete, GOSR will assess, consider, and respond to the comments received individually and collectively for the project file, then proceed to Step Three.

A 15-day “Early Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 500- and 100-Year Floodplain and Wetland” was published in Great Neck Record, on April 15, 2015. The 15-day period expired on April 30, 2015. The notice targeted local residents, including those in the floodplain and those served by the sewer treatment plant. The notice was also sent to the following state and federal agencies on April 15, 2015: U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS); National Park Service (NPS); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE); NYS Department Environmental Conservation; the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; NYS Department of Transportation; NYS Office of Emergency Management; City of New York Mayor’s Office; City of New York’s Department of Planning Queens Office; Queens Borough President; Nassau County Executive; Nassau County Clerk; Town of North Hempstead; and the Village of Great Neck Estates (see **EXHIBIT 3** for the notice).

GOSR received **0** public comments on this notice.

### **Step Three: Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives to locating the proposed action in a floodplain (or the 500-year floodplain for a Critical Action) or wetland.**

After consideration of the following alternatives, Belgrave WPCD and GOSR have determined the best practicable alternative is the Proposed Action. The alternative actions considered are as follows: No Action, Parallel Outfall Routing, Repair Existing Outfall.

#### No Action

If no action is taken, the above grade portion of the outfall pipe traversing the intertidal marsh, the structural support as the pilings, wooden supports and metal fasteners will continue to deteriorate. Superstorm Sandy's storm surge caused further damage to the outfall exacerbating leakage from the outfall. The overland portion of the outfall sustained damage to two outfall manholes. The potential exists that the outfall could float or be displaced from its existing location in a future similar storm event. The storm surge also caused the outfall to partially flood the wastewater treatment plant. If no action is taken, potential environmental damage to wetlands from the discharge of treated wastewater could occur. In addition, the plant would still be susceptible to flooding during storm surge events.

#### Parallel Outfall Routing

This alternative would replace the existing outfall pipe with a new outfall that was parallel to the existing. This alternative would cause significantly more environmental impact than the selected alternative. The construction in the tidal portion would disturb the wetlands and would result in the need for a restoration project to replant the wetlands to its original condition. This alternative would not mitigate the hazards from any future storms. The overland portion of the outfall would still be subject to damage from wave action. The outfall would be impacted by very high tides that could result in the flooding of the wastewater treatment plant.

#### Repair Existing Outfall

Repairs to the intertidal portion and the marine portion of the outfall would be required in this alternative. The intertidal portion repairs would include replacement of the damaged manholes and the addition of more supports and tie-downs. The marine portion of the outfall needs to be further investigated during design to determine the exact condition of the pipe and the tie downs. The marine portion could be slip lined with a smaller diameter pipe and the tie downs replaced. In order to slip line the outfall, cofferdams would need to be constructed every 200 to 300 feet in the marine environment and the treated effluent would need to be bypassed around the work zone. The construction in the tidal portion would disturb/destroy the wetlands and would result in the need for a restoration project to replant the wetlands to its original condition. Construction in the marine environment would disturb Little Neck Bay with the potential of significant environmental impacts. An accidental spill during the bypassing operations could occur. This alternative would not mitigate the hazards from any future storms. The overland portion of the outfall would still be subject to damage from wave action. The outfall would be impacted by very high tides that could result in the flooding of the wastewater treatment plant. The repair/rehabilitation of the existing outfall will not have the same useful life as a new outfall. This alternative is the least desirable due to the environmental impacts and the fact that it does not mitigate the storm hazards.

These alternatives will be re-evaluated in light of any public comments received.

### **Step Four: Identify the potential direct and indirect impacts associated with the occupancy or modification of the floodplain (or 500-year floodplain for a Critical Action) or wetland.**

GOSR has evaluated the alternatives to the proposed Project activities in the floodplain and wetland, and has determined that the proposed activities must take place in the floodplain and wetland.

The existing outfall, located within a wetland area, must be replaced. The new, high density, polyethylene, 24-inch pipe will be installed using directional drilling underneath the bay bottom to a point in proximity to the existing outfall pipe. The process will result in a new line, buried to the desired location and will eliminate the need to repair the structural components aboveground in the inter-tidal portion of the outfall. The existing outfall will be abandoned in place. This method is the least intrusive and will limit disturbance to intertidal wetlands and mudflats. Any disturbance in the wetlands would be minor and temporary, and any disturbed area would be restored to its original condition. The Project will obtain all appropriate state and federal permits for work within wetland areas.

In addition, the project involves the installation of a pump station to pump treated effluent into the Bay during storm events when a surge may cause the gravity fed outfall to 'back up' into the Plant. The pump station will be located within the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant boundary and therefore within the floodplain. All mechanical and electrical equipment will be installed at elevations four feet higher than the projected 500-year flood elevation.

The Proposed Project will eliminate the leakage of treated effluent into the intertidal marsh between the STP and the outfall location. This leakage has resulted in a Notice of violation issued by the New York NYSDEC. In addition, the installation of a pump station to pump treated effluent into the outfall pipe will prevent flooding of the STP, as was experienced during Superstorm Sandy. These improvements will have a beneficial impact on the local environment as well as on the residents of the Belgrave WPCD.

**Step Five: Where practicable, design or modify the proposed action to minimize the potential adverse impacts within the floodplain (including the 500-year floodplain for a Critical Action) and wetlands and to restore and preserve their natural and beneficial values.**

The new, high density, polyethylene, 24-inch pipe will be installed using directional drilling underneath the bay bottom to a point in proximity to the existing outfall pipe. The process will result in a new line, buried to the desired location and will eliminate the need to repair the structural components aboveground in the inter-tidal portion of the outfall. The directional drilling method will require removal of some sections of the aboveground portion of the existing outfall where it crosses intertidal creeks, as well as removal of the transition manhole. This method is the least intrusive and will limit disturbance to intertidal wetlands and mudflats. Any disturbance in the wetlands would be minor and temporary, and any disturbed area would be restored to its original condition. The Project will obtain all appropriate state and federal permits for work within wetland areas.

The area of the STP in which the new pump station would be placed has previously been disturbed and currently provides minimal value to the floodplain. Therefore, the construction of the new pump station is not expected to cause a significant adverse impact to the natural and beneficial function of the floodplain. In addition, all mechanical and electrical equipment will be installed at elevations four feet higher than the projected 500-year flood elevation.

**Step Six: Reevaluate the proposed action to determine: (1) Whether it is still practicable in light of its exposure to flood hazards in the floodplain or wetlands, the extent to which it will aggravate the current hazards to other floodplains or wetlands, and its potential to disrupt floodplain or wetland values; and (2) Whether alternatives preliminarily rejected at Step Three are practicable in light of the information gained in Steps Four and Five.**

GOSR has reevaluated the Proposed Action and determined that the Belgrave WPCD Outfall Project is still practicable in light of its exposure to floodplain hazards and its disturbance to wetlands. The Proposed Project is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on floodplain or wetland functions, as described above.

The Proposed Project will take the following steps to mitigate the exposure of the project's components to the effects of the floodplain and to preserve the natural and beneficial properties of the floodplain and wetlands:

- 1) Installation of the outfall by directional drilling;
- 2) Elevation of all mechanical and electrical equipment at elevations four feet higher than the projected 500-year flood elevation.

GOSR has also reconsidered the alternatives discussed in Step Three and determined the best practicable alternative is the Proposed Project. The alternative actions considered are as follows: No Action, Parallel Outfall Routing, Repair Existing Outfall. These alternatives do not meet the goals of the project, which are to prevent leaking of treated effluent into the marshlands with minimal disturbance to the wetlands and to prevent floodwaters and storm surges from backing-up the outfall and flooding the STP. In addition, all alternatives, with the exception of the No Action alternative, also require work in the floodplain and in wetlands. Therefore, there is no practicable alternative to locating the Proposed Project in the floodplain and wetlands.

**Step Seven: If the reevaluation results in a determination that there is no practicable alternative to locating the proposal in the floodplain (or the 500-year floodplain for a Critical Action) or wetland, publish a final notice.**

It is GOSR's determination that the preferred alternative is the proposed Belgrave WPCD Outfall Project. The benefits of the Project would be to eliminate the leaking of treated effluent into the marshlands and preventing floodwaters and storm surges from backing up the outfall and flooding the STP.

A 7-day "Notice for Final Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 500- and 100-Year Floodplain and Wetland" was published in Great Neck Record, on June 10, 2015. The 7-day period expired on June 17, 2015. The notice targeted local residents, including those in the floodplain and those served by the sewer treatment plant. The notice was also sent to the following state and federal agencies on June 10, 2015: U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS); National Park Service (NPS); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE); NYS Department Environmental Conservation; the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; NYS Department of Transportation; NYS Office of Emergency Management; City of New York Mayor's Office; City of New York's Department of Planning Queens Office; Queens Borough

President; Nassau County Executive; Nassau County Clerk; Town of North Hempstead; and the Village of Great Neck Estates (see **EXHIBIT 4** for the notice).

GOSR received **0** public comments on this notice. See **EXHIBIT 5** for the list of comments received and the response to those comments.

### **Step Eight: Implement the Action**

Step eight is implementation of the proposed action. GOSR will ensure that all mitigation measures prescribed in the steps above will be adhered to. Also, prior to project implementation, GOSR will conduct a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review in accordance with 24 CFR Part 58.

### **EXHIBIT 1 Project Location Floodplain Map**

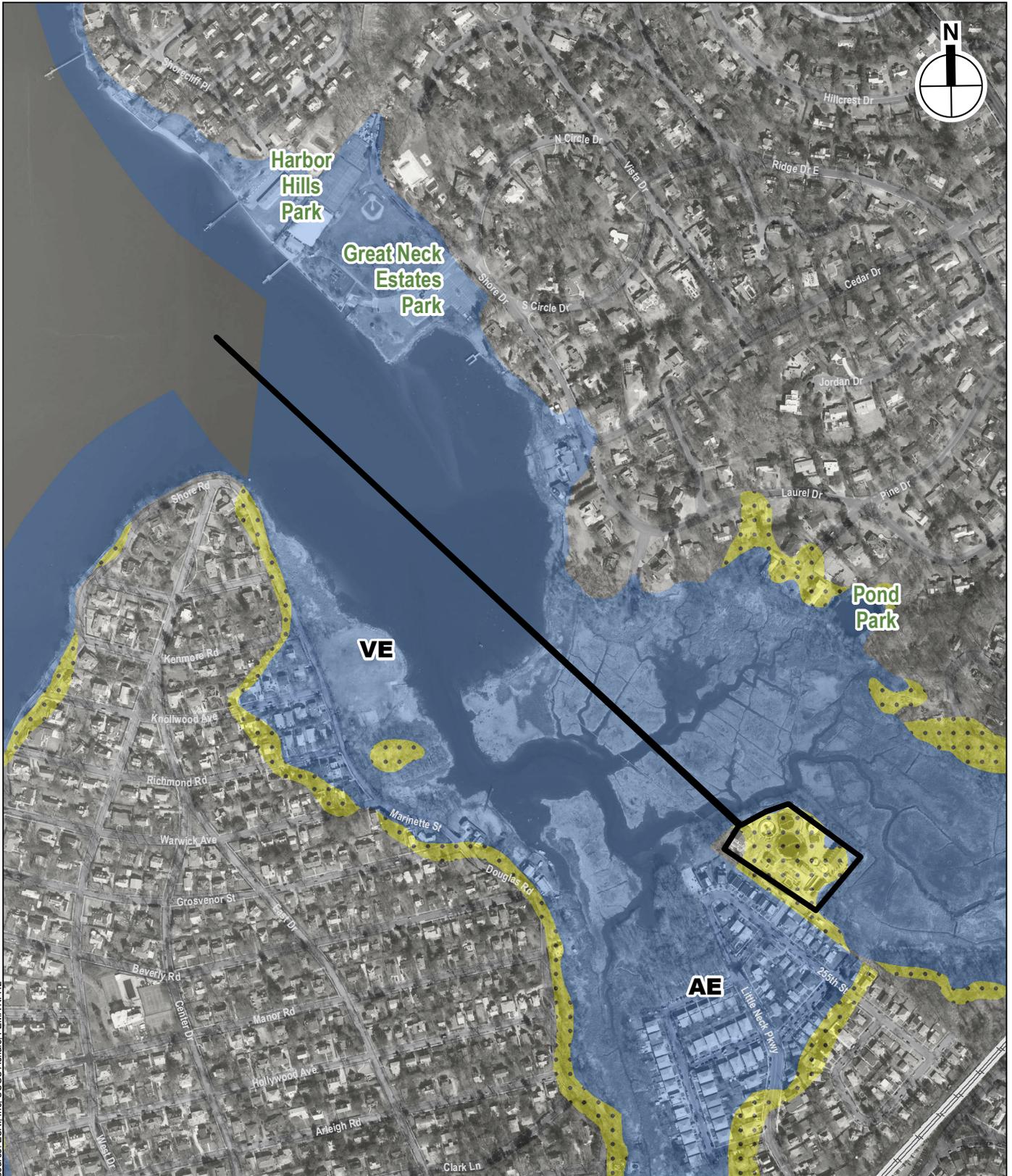
### **EXHIBIT 2 Project Location Wetland Map**

### **EXHIBIT 3 Copy of Notice Transmitting Notice of Early Public Review and Proof of Publication**

### **EXHIBIT 4 Copy of Notice Transmitting Notice of Final Public Review and Proof of Publication**

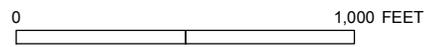
### **EXHIBIT 5 Public Comments Received and Response**

3/30/2015

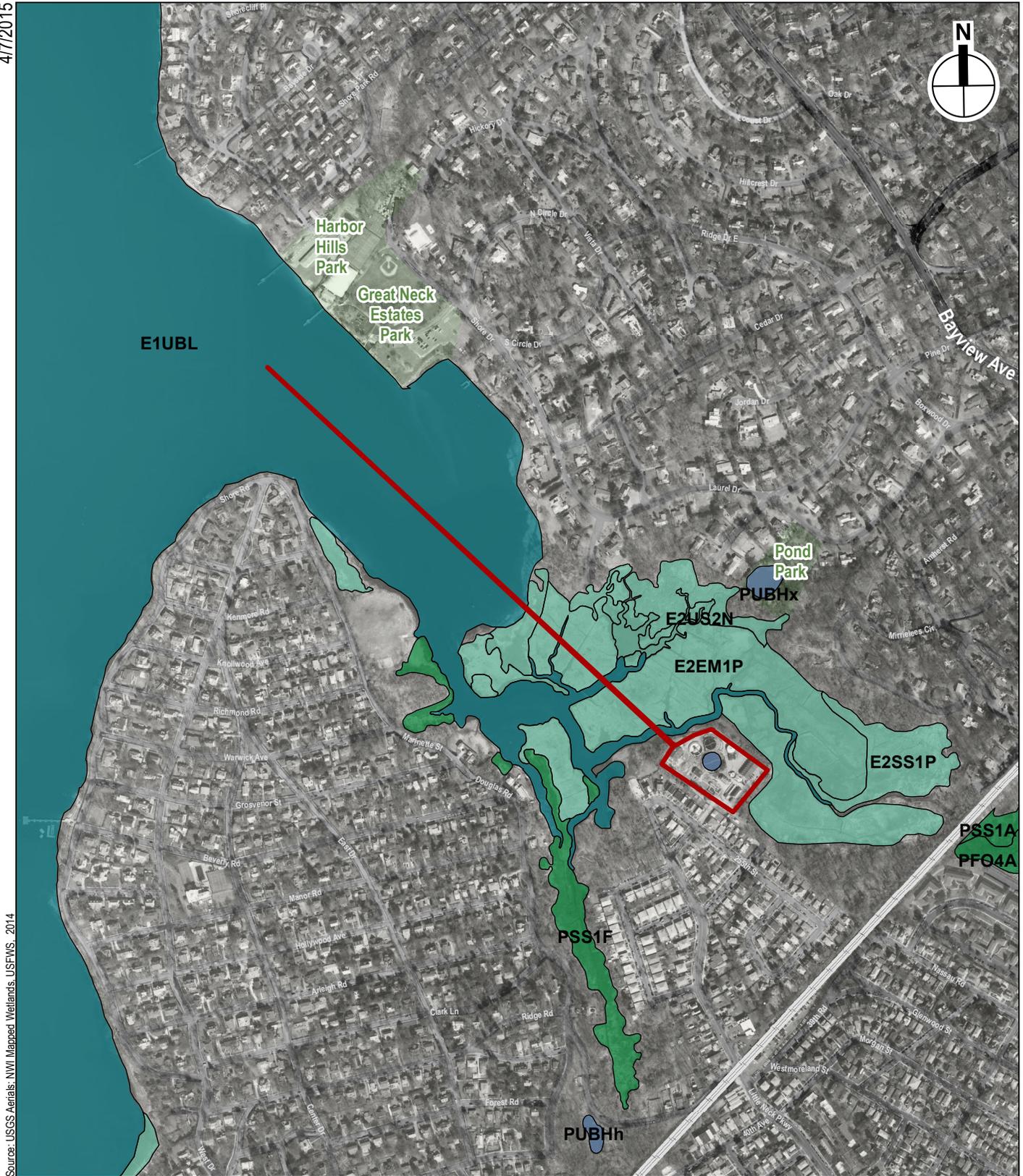


Source: ESRI, Inc. USGS Aerials; FEMA NFHL

-  Project Site
-  100-Year Floodplain
-  500-Year Floodplain

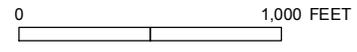


4/7/2015



Source: USGS Aerials; NWI Mapped Wetlands; USFWS, 2014

- Project Site
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Riverine
- Lakes
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Other Freshwater Wetland



**Exhibit 3 Copy of Notice Transmitting Notice of Early Public Review  
and Proof of Publication**

**EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF  
A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 500- and 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN and WETLAND  
BELGRAVE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT OUTFALL PROJECT  
TOWN OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD, NY**

Thomas King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer  
Governor's Office of Storm Recovery  
99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224  
Albany, NY 12260

**NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITY IN A FLOODPLAIN**

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) is conducting an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990 in accordance with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Renewal (HUD) regulations under 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C - Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands, to determine the potential effects that its activity in the floodplain would have on the human environment.

The Belgrave Water Pollution Control District (BWPCD) was established in 1928 as a Special District within the Town of North Hempstead. The BWPCD owns and operates a municipal Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), serving the Villages of Lake Success, University Gardens, Russell Gardens and part of Great Neck and discharging into Little Neck Bay. The STP has an existing capacity of 2 million gallons per day and operates pursuant to a NYSDEC permit. The STP currently discharges treated effluent via a 24" outfall that was originally installed in 1931. The existing sewer outfall is over 80 years old and is in a deteriorated condition. The damaged outfall pipe is leaking treated effluent into the marshlands between the STP and the outfall location. This damage has resulted in a Notice of Violation issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). In addition, during Superstorm Sandy, the storm surge caused damage to the sewer outfall and flooding of the STP through the same outfall pipe.

BWPCD proposes to replace the existing 24-inch diameter, 3,100 foot outfall pipe with a new, high density, polyethylene, 24-inch pipe that will be installed using directional drilling underneath the bay bottom to a point in proximity to the existing outfall pipe. The process will result in a new line, buried to the desired location and will eliminate the need to disturb tidal wetlands by repairing the structural components aboveground in the inter-tidal portion of the outfall. The directional drilling method will require removal of some sections of the aboveground portion of the existing outfall where it crosses intertidal creeks, as well as removal of the transition manhole. This method is the least intrusive and will limit disturbance to intertidal wetlands and mudflats. Any disturbance in the wetlands would be minor and temporary, and any disturbed area would be restored to its original condition. In addition, the project involves the installation of a pump station to pump treated effluent into the Bay during storm events when a surge may cause the gravity fed outfall to 'back up' into the Plant. The pump station will be located within the existing STP boundary, upland of the intertidal marsh

and at a ground elevation of greater than 10 feet. All mechanical and electrical equipment will be installed at elevations four feet higher than the projected 500-year flood elevation.

Funding for the project will be provided by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Storm Mitigation Loan Program (SMLP) with support from the HUD Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program for storm recovery activities in New York State.

A floodplains map based on the FEMA Base Flood Elevation Maps and a wetlands map based on the National Wetland Inventory and NYSDEC data, have been prepared for this project and are available for review at <http://www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/environmental-docs>

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains or wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given 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 and wetlands 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 or wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the proposed action or a request for further information to Thomas King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer, Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224, Albany, NY 12260; email: NYSCDBG\_DR\_ER@nyshcr.org. All comments received by **April 30, 2015** will be considered.

Thomas King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer

**April 15, 2015**



**EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF  
A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 500- and 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN and WETLAND**

**BELGRAVE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT  
OUTFALL PROJECT  
TOWN OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD, NY**

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Governor's Office of Storm Recovery  
99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224  
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Thomas King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer

**April 15, 2015**

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#### PAID ADVERTISEMENT

#### EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 500- and 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN and WETLAND OUTFALL PROJECT BELGRAVE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT TOWN OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD, NY

Thomas King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer  
Governor's Office of Storm Recovery  
99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224  
Albany, NY 12260

#### NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITY IN A FLOODPLAIN

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) is conducting an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990 in accordance with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Renewal (HUD) regulations under 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C - Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands, to determine the potential effects that its activity in the floodplain would have on the human environment.

The Belgrave Water Pollution Control District (BWP/CD) was established in 1928 as a Special District within the Town of North Hempstead. The BWP/CD owns and operates a municipal Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), serving the Villages of Lake Success, University Gardens, Russell Gardens and part of Great Neck and discharging into Little Neck Bay. The STP has an existing capacity of 2 million gallons per day and operates pursuant to a NYSDEC permit. The STP currently discharges treated effluent via a 24" outfall that was originally installed in 1931. The existing sewer outfall is over 80 years old and is in a deteriorated condition. The damaged outfall pipe is leaking treated effluent into the marshlands between the STP and the outfall location. This damage has resulted in a Notice of Violation issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). In addition, during Superstorm Sandy, the storm surge caused damage to the sewer outfall and flooding of the STP through the same outfall pipe.

BWP/CD proposes to replace the existing 24-inch diameter, 3,100 foot outfall pipe with a new, high density, polyethylene, 24-inch pipe that will be installed using directional drilling underneath the bay bottom to a point in proximity to the existing outfall pipe. The process will result in a new line, buried to the desired location and will eliminate the need to disturb tidal wetlands by repairing the structural components aboveground in the inter-tidal portion of the outfall. The directional drilling method will require removal of some sections of the aboveground portion of the existing outfall where it crosses intertidal creeks, as well as removal of the transition manhole. This method is the least intrusive and will limit disturbance to intertidal wetlands and mudflats. Any disturbance in the wetlands would be minor and temporary, and any disturbed area would be restored to its original condition. In addition, the project involves the installation of a pump station to pump treated effluent into the Bay during storm events when a surge may cause the gravity fed outfall to back up into the Plant. The pump station will be located within the existing STP boundary, upland of the intertidal marsh and at a ground elevation of greater than 10 feet. All mechanical and electrical equipment will be installed at elevations four feet higher than the projected 500-year flood elevation.

Funding for the project will be provided by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Storm Mitigation Loan Program (SMLP) with support from the HUD Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program for storm recovery activities in New York State.

A floodplains map based on the FEMA Base Flood Elevation Maps and a wetlands map based on the National Wetland Inventory and NYS DEC data, have been prepared for this project and are available for review at <http://www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/environmental/docs>

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains or wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given 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 and wetlands 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 or wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the proposed action or a request for further information to Thomas King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer, Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224, Albany, NY 12260; email: [NYSCDBG\\_DR\\_ER@nysfcr.org](mailto:NYSCDBG_DR_ER@nysfcr.org). All comments received by April 30, 2015 will be considered.

Thomas King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer

April 15, 2015

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