STATE OF RHODE ISLAND ACTION PLAN
Hurricane Sandy Disaster

Utilizing Supplemental CDBG Disaster Recovery Funding
from the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013
(Public Law 113-2, approved January 29, 2013)

Through U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Docket No. FR-5696-N-01
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INTRODUCTION

The State of Rhode Island is required to publish an Action Plan for Disaster Recovery (Action Plan) that describes the proposed use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding associated with the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-2) for disaster relief of unmet needs resulting from Hurricane Sandy. The State's Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR allocation is referred to throughout this Action Plan as "CDBG-DR funds." This document will describe:

1. The effects of Hurricane Sandy, and the State and Federal response to date;
2. Rhode Island's strategy for Disaster Recovery;
3. Eligible affected areas and applicants;
4. The methodology to be used to distribute funds to those areas and applicants;
5. Activities for which funding may be used;
6. Grant administration standards;
7. The citizen participation process used to develop the Action Plan.

This Action Plan will be used by the State to guide the distribution of $3,240,000 or more of CDBG-DR funds toward meeting unmet housing, infrastructure, business and job retention/creation, public service, public facility, disaster recovery planning and other needs in counties designated as Presidential Disaster Areas.

Amendments to this Plan will be made as additional funds are obligated and for the reasons identified in the section titled Action Plan Amendments.

This Action Plan is required, pursuant to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Notice of Funding Availability, provided in Federal Register / Volume 78, Number 43, Docket No. FR-5696-N-01.

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HURRICANE SANDY IMPACTS

Hurricane Sandy (FEMA-4089-DR) made landfall in New Jersey on Monday, October 29, 2012. Its enormous dimensions (tropical force winds spanned almost 900 miles) created widespread devastation and affected approximately 300,000 Rhode Island residents, or 28% of the State's population. Fortunately, there were no fatalities. Mandatory local evacuations were ordered in eight communities. Approximately 122,000 homes and businesses lost electricity as a result of the storm. An estimated 40,000 remained without power for two or more days.

The highest concentration of damages resulting from Hurricane Sandy and its storm surge were located in the southern coastal communities of Newport and Washington Counties (Towns of Westerly, New Shoreham, Charlestown, South Kingstown, Narragansett, and the City of Newport) (See Figure 1). The majority of the damages in these areas occurred from storm surge and wind damage. The storm surge destroyed houses and businesses, damaged pilings and deck supports, blew out walls on lower levels, and moved significant amounts of sand and debris into homes, businesses, streets, and adjacent coastal ponds. Septic systems were damaged and underground septic tanks were exposed, creating potential hazardous material exposure. Wind damage left downed trees and branches on homes, businesses, utility lines, and roadways. The National Guard restricted entry to the community of Misquamicut (located in the Town of Westerly) due to the devastation.

In addition to severe impacts to homes and businesses, public buildings, roads, bridges, and related infrastructure experienced extensive impacts. Applications for FEMA Public Assistance indicate over $7.7 million in losses to public property. Large scale disruptions of normal community functions and services resulted. Hurricane Sandy's storm surge, damage, and debris closed local and State roads along the coast for varying lengths of time. Sections of Atlantic Avenue in Westerly, Corn Neck Road in New Shoreham, Surfside Avenue in Charlestown and Sachuest Point Road in Middletown were inaccessible by vehicle. The State's ports were temporarily closed and ferry service to New Shoreham was cancelled for several days.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Refuge at Sachuest Point remained closed for over six months after Hurricane Sandy swept Rhode Island. Sections of Newport's famous Cliff Walk and Narragansett's seawall were damaged. In Washington County, Charlestown, Narragansett, New Shoreham, South Kingstown, and Westerly suffered extensive beach erosion. Beaches must be restored in order to ensure the viability of the tourism, hospitality, and fishery industries. Public facilities, beaches, and parks in both counties must be restored to attract the visitors that support these local industries.

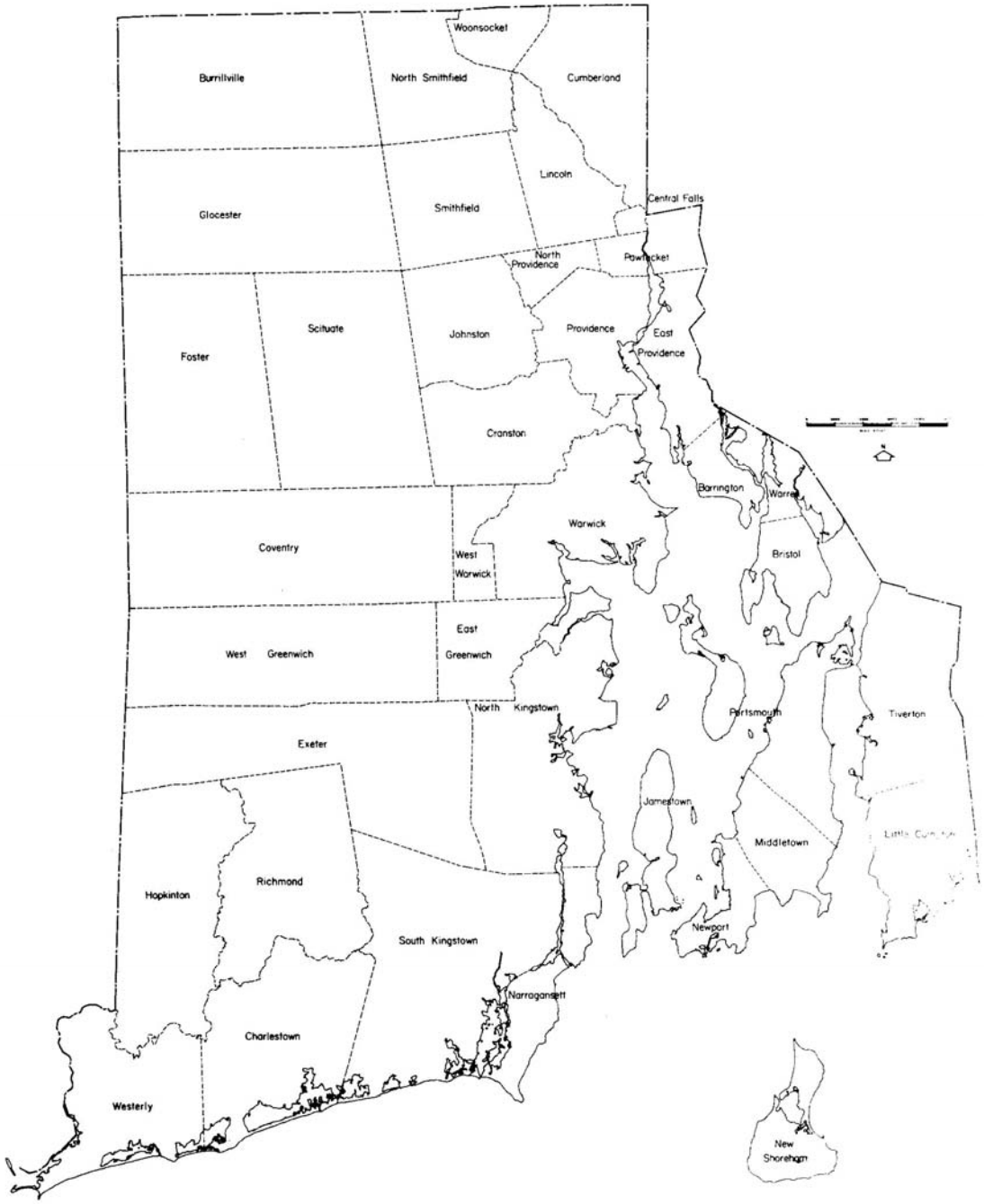


Figure 1. Rhode Island Municipal Boundaries Map.

Response

Municipalities, voluntary organizations, state agencies, and FEMA mobilized immediately. Municipal officials worked around the clock to coordinate and implement debris removal, emergency response, volunteer assistance, infrastructure repairs, damage assessments,

information clearinghouses, and other response efforts. R.I. Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) opened the Emergency Operations Center and activated volunteer structural damage assessment teams. RIEMA and FEMA established a Joint Field Office that remained open through February 2013. Disaster Recovery Centers were opened to provide assistance to survivors.

The Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) expedited permitting, waived fees, and coordinated onsite septic system assessments with the Towns of Westerly and Charlestown.

Rhode Island Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (RI VOAD) provided an assistance hotline through 2-1-1/United Way. RI VOAD member organizations, Serve Rhode Island, the Misquamicut Business Association, and the Westerly/Pawcatuck Chamber of Commerce collaborated to support extensive volunteer cleanup efforts in Westerly. RI VOAD led volunteer response efforts throughout other impacted communities. RI VOAD continues to operate a Long Term Recovery Group, tasked with resolving open cases from Hurricane Sandy.

Impacted Area Pre-existing Conditions

A comparison of selected population and economic characteristics for Washington (also known as South County) and Newport Counties is shown in Table 1. Available data from three coastal population centers (Westerly, Town of Westerly; Wakefield-Peacedale, Town of South Kingstown; and Newport, City of Newport) in those counties is included in Table 2. Hurricane Sandy impacted the entire region, but Small Business Administration (SBA) loan applications were concentrated in Westerly and Wakefield.

Table 1. Selected State and County characteristics.

People QuickFacts	**Rhode Island**	**Washington County**	**Newport County**
Population, 2010	1,052,567	126,979	82,888
Housing units, 2011	464,728	62,446	41,956
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2007-2011	$270,600	$340,500	$380,700
Median household income, 2007-2011	$55,975	$72,163	$69,369
Persons below poverty level, percent, 2007-2011	12.8%	7.5%	7.7%
Total number of firms, 2007	96,822	14,253	9,794

Source: US Census Bureau State & County QuickFacts

Table 2. Selected characteristics for census designated places impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

People QuickFacts	Westerly CDP	Wakefield-Peacedale CDP	Newport
Population, 2010	17,936	8,487	24,672
Housing units, 2011	8,577	3,720	13,069
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2007-2011	$290,700	$336,800	$422,900
Median household income, 2007-2011	$56,650	$60,597	$58,080
Persons below poverty level, percent, 2007-2011	8.1%	7.2%	10.6%
County	Washington County	Washington County	Newport County

Source: US Census Bureau State & County QuickFacts

Ethnicity and race are shown in Table 3 for the coastal population centers of Westerly, Wakefield-Peacedale, and Newport. Residents of the most impacted communities are predominately white, non-Hispanic persons.

Table 3. Ethnicity and race for census designated places impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

Ethnicity and Race	Westerly CDP	Wakefield-Peacedale CDP	Newport
White persons, percent, 2011	92.2%	90.3%	82.5%
Black persons, percent, 2011	1.0%	1.8%	6.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2011	0.5%	2.6%	0.8%
Asian persons, percent, 2011	3.0%	1.4%	1.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander persons, percent, 2011	Z	Z	0.1%
Persons reporting two or more races, percent, 2011	2.2%	3.2%	5.2%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin, percent, 2011	3.2%	2.5%	8.4%
White persons not Hispanic, percent, 2011	90.5%	88.9%	78.5%

Source: US Census Bureau State & County QuickFacts Z: Value between 0% and 0.05%

HURRICANE SANDY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Hurricane Sandy needs assessment focuses on three categories of needs: Housing, Public Facilities and Infrastructure, and Economic Recovery. During the needs assessment, mitigation and planning needs were also identified; a subsection on unmet mitigation and planning needs is included below. OHCD collected available data from FEMA, RIEMA, SBA, local media, and municipal sources. In addition, OHCD held an informational meeting in each declared county with municipal officials. To gather information on project level needs and to expedite recovery, OHCD solicited letters of interest from eligible municipalities, the Narragansett Indian Tribe, eligible public housing authorities, and non-profit organizations serving LMI persons in the area.

The State's needs assessment involved the following:

1. Review of documents available from SBA, RIEMA, FEMA, the Town of Westerly, local media, and other sources regarding impacts and disaster assistance;
2. Outreach to
    a. all units of general local government in the eligible counties and the Narragansett Indian Tribe
    b. all public housing authorities in the eligible counties (listed below) and the Rhode Island Housing Mortgage Finance Corporation
        i. Jamestown Housing Authority
        ii. Narragansett Housing Authority
        iii. Newport Housing Authority
        iv. Portsmouth Housing Authority
        v. South Kingstown Housing Authority
        vi. Westerly Housing Authority
    c. the following McKinney-Vento funded shelters and housing for the homeless
        i. Welcome House of South County
        ii. WARM Center
        iii. Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County
        iv. Galilee Mission
        v. Lucy's Hearth
        vi. McKinney Shelter
        vii. Women's Resource Center of Newport and Bristol Counties
        viii. Child and Family Services of Newport
    d. non-profit organizations, including
        i. Church Community Housing
        ii. Community Development Consortium
        iii. Washington County Community Development Corporation
        iv. South County Community Action Agency
        v. East Bay Community Action
        vi. Rhode Island Community Action Association
        vii. RI VOAD
    e. Housing Resources Commission
3. Review of Letters of Interest solicited directly from municipal officials, non-profits, housing authorities, McKinney-Vento funded shelters and housing for the homeless; and

4. Coordination with other state and federal funding agencies involved in response/recovery efforts.

Outreach efforts by the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) are described in the Citizen Participation section of this Action Plan. The request for letters of interest is attached as Appendix 3. Coordination efforts involve the Review Committee, the Community Recovery Task Force and other initiatives. These efforts are detailed in the Planning & Coordination and Project Selection sections.

Hurricane Sandy National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) claims for all structures (residential, commercial, other) are shown for selected municipalities in Washington County (Table 4). Since not all impacted structures are covered by NFIP policies, these numbers likely understate the extent of the impacts. Structures not fully covered by NFIP include:

- Buildings valued above NFIP limits on coverage, such as some commercial buildings;
- Buildings with private flood insurance policies; and
- Buildings without flood insurance coverage.

Table 4. National Flood Insurance Program claims for selected Washington County municipalities (Hurricane Sandy claims. Data received from RIEMA 7/10/2013).

Community		NFIP Claims
Charlestown	$	1,545,660
Narragansett	$	4,171,596
South Kingstown	$	3,576,009
Westerly	$	14,830,474
Total	**$**	**24,123,739**

The unmet needs described below have been identified by State agencies, municipalities, public housing authorities, and private businesses. However, as recovery from Hurricane Sandy proceeds, the tourism season commences, and insurance benefits/SBA loans are realized, additional unmet needs may be identified. Additional unmet needs will be documented in Action Plan amendments.

Housing Impacts

Hurricane Sandy housing impacts were concentrated in the communities of Charlestown, Narragansett, South Kingstown, and Westerly, with scattered damage across both counties. Damage to roofs and on-site utilities was reported by public housing authorities. A local homeless shelter reported roof and water damage to transitional housing units. To date, no other impacts to public housing, HUD-assisted housing, McKinney-Vento funded shelters, or housing for the homeless have been identified, despite OHCD's outreach efforts.

RIEMA compiled data on impacted housing units provided by local building officials (See Table 5). Storm surge damage was most severe in higher income coastal communities, such as Misquamicut (Westerly) and Roy Carpenter's Beach (South Kingstown), generally characterized by second homes and/or small businesses. Other storm damage, including damage from wind and debris, was widespread, with severe impacts limited to a small number of residential buildings.

Table 5. Impacted housing units in selected communities.

Hurricane Sandy Housing Impacts					
Community	**# Destroyed**	**# Major**	**# Minor**	**# Affected**	**Total Impacted Housing Units**
Charlestown	2	7	27	62	98
Narragansett	1	6			7
South Kingstown		12			12
Westerly	3	60	206	238	507
Total	6	85	233	300	624

A total of two primary residences were destroyed and received the maximum available FEMA Individual Assistance award. FEMA's Individual Assistance Program processed a total of 598 registrations in Washington and Newport Counties and 80 registrations in other Rhode Island counties. Statewide, FEMA approved over $420,600 in grants to 104 individuals and households. Rental assistance was provided to 14 rental and 53 homeowner households. (FEMA Individuals & Households Report, May 23, 2013)

The Small Business Administration (SBA) received 67 residential applications (62 owner-occupied, 5 rental) from Washington and Newport Counties. SBA has approved 28 residential loan amounts totaling $1,255,800. Applications addresses were scattered throughout coastal municipalities in both counties, with the largest concentrations in the Westerly and Wakefield (South Kingstown) zip codes. (SBA Report 11460, May 21, 2013)

Housing Unmet Needs

Preliminary damage assessments for housing in Newport and Washington Counties exceeded federal assistance by over $3.6 million, as shown in Table 6. Actual unmet housing needs are projected to be significantly less that $3.6 million, due to insurance benefits available to property owners.

Table 6. Estimated Housing Unmet Needs (Newport & Washington Counties).

Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) - Housing		
Major Damage	$	3,310,000
Minor Damage	$	2,532,000
Estimated Housing Damages	$	5,842,000
Housing Assistance		
FEMA IA	$	905,002
SBA Loans	$	1,255,800
Private Insurance		Unknown
Total Federal Assistance	$	2,160,802
PDA Less Federal Assistance	**$**	**3,681,198**

Specific unmet housing needs identified to date include damages to transitional housing and public housing authorities not fully covered by insurance. Hurricane Sandy caused roof damage at non-profit, scattered site housing and Public Housing Authority properties across both counties. At Newport Housing Authority, some on-site utilities were damaged. In Narragansett, housing authority units and four town-owned single family residences were damaged. In South Kingstown, four transitional housing units were damaged. The estimate of unmet housing needs based on letters of interest received by OHCD is $160,260.

RI VOAD has approximately twenty open residential cases in Washington and Newport Counties. RI VOAD member organizations and Community Development Corporations are encouraged to refer potentially eligible cases to the appropriate municipality for submission to OHCD. RI VOAD estimates approximately $50,000 in unmet needs.

Unmet housing needs to market rate, primary residences have not yet been fully identified. Vacation homes sustained the majority of housing damage during Hurricane Sandy. Since vacation homes are not eligible for CDBG-DR funds, no assessment of vacation home unmet needs was conducted.

The majority of the State's housing stock dates to 1970 or earlier. Residential buildings damaged by Sandy may also have code violations, lead, or asbestos that can be remediated with CDBG-DR funds. Funded residential rehabilitation projects will be assessed for other housing needs.

Likely barriers to housing recovery include:

- Imminent changes to FEMA maps, base flood elevations, and NFIP insurance rates
- Need for elevation certificates prior to rebuilding

- Uncertainty regarding future flooding risk
- Cost of elevating structures
- Pre-existing violations of current building/fire codes
- Presence of lead, asbestos in older homes

OHCD will continue to outreach to communities and housing providers to ensure all eligible unmet needs in public housing, HUD-assisted housing, McKinney-Vento funded shelters, housing for the homeless, and other affordable housing units are supported with CDBG-DR funds. By allocating funds to LMI activities and activities meeting other National Objectives in equal proportions, the State is encouraging timely identification of eligible housing activities that benefit low and moderate income households.

Public Facilities & Infrastructure Impacts

Statewide FEMA Public Assistance requests totaled $14,592,420. Fifty percent of the total amount requested ($7.3 million) was for repairs to *public buildings* and *recreational or other* public facilities. *Debris removal* requests totaled over $4.9 million. FEMA has obligated over $4.6 million to 195 activities. Eligibility reviews are currently underway for the majority of the other 72 proposals.

The 63 eligible applicants included 23 municipal governments, 21 special districts (fire districts, ambulance services, etc.), nine non-profit organizations, six state agencies, three colleges/universities, and the Narragansett Indian Tribe. (FEMA PA Summary, May 21, 2013)

Public facilities and infrastructure, including town offices, senior centers, animal shelters, stormwater pump stations, and sewage treatment facilities, experienced power outages. The consequences included delays and cancellations of emergency services, and sewer and stormwater overflows into the Narragansett Bay watershed. Public facilities throughout the two counties experienced damage to building envelopes, hardscape, and landscape features. As noted above, several roads were temporarily closed due to damage, erosion, and/or accumulation of extensive sand and debris.

Public Facilities & Infrastructure Unmet Needs

Unmet public facilities and infrastructure needs identified to date include stormwater system repairs, public facilities repair and mitigation, road projects, restoration of coastal features, and FEMA Public Assistance match. FEMA Public Assistance requires a 25% match, or an estimated $3.16 million (see Table 7).

Table 7. FEMA Public Assistance requests by activity category (Bristol, Kent, Newport, and Washington Counties).

Hurricane Sandy FEMA Public Assistance				
Activity Category		**Total FEMA PA Requested**		**25% Match**
Debris Removal	$	4,928,193	$	1,232,048
Roads & Bridges	$	173,795	$	43,449
Water Control Facilities	$	63,731	$	15,933
Public Buildings	$	3,189,381	$	797,345
Public Utilities	$	137,916	$	34,479
Recreational or Other	$	4,164,988	$	1,041,247
Total	$	12,658,004	$	3,164,501

The impacts of Hurricane Sandy, Hurricane Irene in 2012, and other recent storm events have highlighted vulnerable roadways, stormwater pump stations, electrical substations, and recreational facilities. Westerly and South Kingstown have identified additional major Public Facilities and Infrastructure projects that are ineligible for FEMA PA. Despite the inclusion of requests for FEMA PA projects in Bristol and Kent Counties in Table 7, municipal requests for CDBG-DR funds for Public Facilities & Infrastructure projects (Table 8) exceeded the FEMA PA match amount.

Table 8. CDBG-DR Public Facilities & Infrastructure requests (Newport and Washington Counties).

Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR Requests for Public Facilities & Infrastructure		
Activity Category		**Total CDBG-DR Requested**
Debris Removal	$	51,692
Roads & Bridges	$	3,342,500
Water Control Facilities	$	-
Public Buildings	$	1,445,236
Public Utilities	$	1,000,000
Recreational or Other	$	478,123
Total	**$**	**6,317,551**

Likely barriers to the recovery of public facilities and infrastructure are:

- Limited resources to mitigate facilities/infrastructure during recovery
- Uncertainty about future flood risks due to increased storm activity, climate change, and sea level rise

- Limited municipal capital budget after extended recession and repeat storm events
- Burden on municipal capacity for smaller and most impacted communities

Estimates of need for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) matching funds are not available at this time. RIEMA anticipates accepting Hurricane Sandy HMGP applications in October 2013. The State's experience with the 2010 Floods and Hurricane Irene suggests that municipalities will have insufficient funds to match HMGP projects and limited access to alternative sources. CDBG-DR funds remain one of the only available sources of matching funds.

Economic Development Impacts

The State has shown steady and incremental improvement in its recovery from the global recession. However, Rhode Island still suffers from a high unemployment rate, 9.1% in March 2013 (1.5% above the national average), with more than 51,000 Rhode Islanders out of work and struggling to pay bills (Providence Journal, 4/18/2013). Tourism, hospitality, and leisure are among the state's most important industries, employing over 55,000 workers in 2006 (R.I. Dept. of Labor & Training).

The combined damage of Hurricane Sandy to businesses, infrastructure, and natural features along the coastline is a tremendous blow to Rhode Island's tourism, hospitality, and leisure industries. Without immediate and extensive repairs and restoration of businesses, infrastructure, and natural features, communities and businesses in Newport and Washington Counties will experience major loss of revenue during the busy summer tourism season. Mitigation activities are critical for the long term resiliency of this sector and the coastal communities that rely on tourism for employment, business income, and tax revenue. Summer tourism revenues sustain coastal communities and many restaurants, lodgings, and retail establishments year-round. Many low and moderate (LMI) income residents are dependent on seasonal and year-round employment in the tourism and hospitality industry.

In the Town of Westerly, over 30 businesses have requested some form of disaster assistance. In addition to structural damage, equipment loss, other physical damages, and erosion, shoreline changes are triggering onsite wastewater treatment requirements. The Greater Westerly-Pawcatuck Area Chamber of Commerce estimated a potential economic impact of $9.8 million in lost revenue if heavily impacted businesses do not reopen. At this time, it appears that all but two businesses will open in some capacity for this summer season, however, the damages sustained by several others will prevent them from operating at normal capacity. Businesses are relying more heavily on temporary structures. (Correspondence with Town of Westerly, 5/8/2013)

The Greater Westerly Chamber Foundation, Inc**.,** a non-profit 501c (3) arm of the Greater Westerly-Pawcatuck Area Chamber of Commerce, has awarded over $331,000 to assist small businesses with Sandy recovery through the Jump Start Small Business Recovery Grant Program. "The BRING BACK THE BEACH Jump Start Small Business Recovery Grant Program is designed to help off-set the un-insured losses incurred by businesses and non-profit

organizations in the Misquamicut, RI community as a result of Hurricane Sandy" (http://westerlychamber.org/pages/BringBacktheBeach, May 1, 2013).

Directly impacted businesses, as categorized in the North American Industry Classification System, are primarily:

- Sector 72 – Accommodation and Food Services;
- Subsector 453 – Miscellaneous Store Retailers;
- Sector 71 – Arts, Entertainment and Recreation; and
- Subsector 448 – Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) received seven business applications from Washington and Newport Counties. SBA has approved one business loan totaling $45,000 and is currently processing two business applications. (SBA Report 11460, May 21, 2013)

Economic Development Unmet Needs

Given the preliminary damage assessment (Table 9), SBA loans and Greater Westerly Chamber Foundation grants are not sufficient to restore small businesses damaged by Hurricane Sandy. OHCD is reviewing three economic recovery proposals received to date and anticipates funding economic recovery projects in amendments to this Action Plan.

Table 9. Estimated Economic Development Unmet Needs (Newport & Washington Counties).

Preliminary Damage Assessment – Businesses		
Major Damage	$	1,705,000
Minor Damage	$	273,000
Estimated Commercial Damages	$	1,978,000
Housing Assistance		
SBA Loans	$	45,000
Chamber of Commerce Grants	$	331,000
Private Insurance		Unknown
Total Known Assistance	$	376,000
Estimated Unmet Need	**$**	**1,602,000**

Actual unmet business needs are projected to be less that $1.6 million, due to insurance benefits available to property owners.

Likely barriers to small business recovery include:

- Limited insurance benefits, due in part to locations in special flood hazard areas;

- Septic system reconstruction requirements (costs and siting);
- Dependence on seasonal cash flow, if unable to rebuild by Memorial Day, 2013; and
- Dependence on coastal beaches and other tourist attractions damaged by Hurricane Sandy.

As additional data becomes available, OHCD will work to identify additional unmet needs in the economic development category.

Mitigation & Planning Unmet Needs

Unmet mitigation and planning needs identified to date include elevating selected public facilities; local hazard mitigation planning; and adding backup power supplies to municipal operations centers, personal care centers, and facilities serving vulnerable populations.

Public facilities across Rhode Island, including community centers, senior centers, and food pantries formerly used as emergency shelters, were without power for extended periods.

Town and state beach facilities were damaged by Hurricane Sandy. These functional use public facilities must be located in coastal areas at risk of flooding and storm damage. Mitigating and improving these facilities by elevating structures, improving wastewater treatment, and altering building envelopes is important for community recovery and resiliency. All mitigation projects shall address Hurricane Sandy's direct impacts including physical damages, extended power outages, and interruptions of service provision for vulnerable populations.

ALLOCATION OF CDBG-DR RESOURCES

The CDBG Disaster Recovery Program is designed to supplement other forms of assistance, including, but not limited to private insurance, FEMA programs, and SBA loans. Hurricane Sandy impacts exceeded other disaster assistance available to Rhode Islanders.

Table 10. CDBG-DR funds requested and awarded by Program Area.

Program Area	All Requests	Percentage of Requests	Tier 1 Awards	Percentage of Tier 1 Awards
Housing	$ 160,260	2.4%	$ 103,592	17.7%
Public Facilities & Infrastructure	$ 6,317,551	93.4%	$ 460,020	78.6%
Economic Recovery	$ 229,733	3.4%	$ -	0.0%
Planning	$ 33,500	0.5%	$ 22,000	3.8%
Services	$ 19,336	0.3%	$ -	0.0%
Total	$ 6,760,380	100%	$ 585,612	100%

In response to outreach to eligible applicants, OHCD received requests for funding totaling over $6.7 million. The amounts requested in the letters of interest and awarded in Tier 1 are aggregated by program area in Table 10. OHCD attempted to allocate Tier 1 awards proportionally by program area, given the constraints of limited project data (respondents provided letters of interest, not full project applications) and the regulatory requirements of the CDBG program. Percentages by program area are shown in Table 10.

OHCD's experience with the 2010 Flood CDBG-DR grant demonstrated that recovery needs evolve over time. Therefore, estimates of future awards by program area are not included in this Action Plan. It is likely, however, that future awards will be most heavily concentrated in two program areas, Public Facilities and Infrastructure, and Economic Recovery.

The needs assessment demonstrated extensive unmet needs in the Public Facilities and Infrastructure category. The estimated match amounts for FEMA PA and the letters of interest submitted to OHCD underscore the need for CDBG-DR assistance in the Public Facilities and Infrastructure category.

The aggregate housing needs identified to date total $160,260. OHCD expects unmet housing needs to expand as recovery proceeds. Funds have been allocated to all housing activities determined to be eligible for CDBG-DR funds based on the information provided in the letters of interest. The remaining housing activities require full applications and a detailed review.

Documented economic recovery needs total $229,733, however, the ongoing recovery efforts are expected to uncover additional economic recovery needs. OHCD may assist small businesses after U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determinations are made, full applications are submitted and reviewed, and underwriting is complete.

The needs assessment identified unmet mitigation and planning needs. Mitigation needs identified thus far are predominately associated with public facilities and infrastructure. Housing units directly impacted by Hurricane Sandy and in need of mitigation are generally second homes, or occupied by higher income households. Data on small business mitigation needs is not yet available. A limited amount of funds has been designated for the planning program area in response to needs identified by municipalities.

PLANNING & COORDINATION

State Efforts

The State has initiated several planning efforts to promote sustainable long-term recovery, and understand vulnerabilities associated with sea level rise. Rhode Island is updating its Hazard Mitigation Plan and incorporating data from Hurricane Sandy and other recent disasters. The Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, with support from FEMA, has established a Community Recovery Task Force to guide recovery and preparedness efforts. OHCD staff is represented on the Community Recovery Task Force.

Sea level rise is of particular concern in Rhode Island. The Dept. of Health is finalizing a study of the impacts of sea level rise on public drinking water systems. The Dept. of Transportation is initiating a study of the impacts of sea level rise on transportation infrastructure. The Coastal Resources Management Council is developing a Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) with input from stakeholders statewide. The Statewide Planning Program, with support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will be conducting an analysis of the economic impacts of sea level rise, using North Kingstown, R.I. as the pilot location.

In addition, the Statewide Planning Program is overseeing a Sustainable Communities grant that will guide Rhode Island's future development.

The Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), responsible for administering the CDBG-DR program, is within the State's Division of Planning. Consequently, CDBG-DR administration is coordinated with various ongoing planning efforts. Coordination is further ensured by a Review Committee (see Project Selection, below), consisting of representatives from multiple state agencies, tasked with reviewing CDBG-DR letters of interest and applications. One review criterion is the ability to leverage other funds, such as FEMA PA, SBA loans, HMGP, and other sources of assistance. The Committee members are familiar with funding streams administered by their agencies and assist in early identification of 1) leveraging opportunities, and 2) potential duplication of benefits.

The State has established a Disaster Housing Task Force, and is preparing a Disaster Housing Framework to guide interim and long-term housing recovery from future disasters. Hurricane Sandy's localized impact on housing in low poverty areas of Rhode Island does not affect pre-disaster racial, ethnic, or low income population concentrations.

The *Method of Distribution, Eligible Locations* section specifies requirements for activities in floodplains and special flood hazard areas.

Municipal Efforts

Many Rhode Island municipalities have a Hazard Mitigation Plan in place. All others are strongly encouraged to develop a Hazard Mitigation Plan. R.I. Emergency Management Agency may provide up to 75% of the funds for hazard mitigation planning.

Rhode Island municipalities are also required to address climate change and natural hazard mitigation in updates to Comprehensive Plans. A limited amount of Sandy CDBG-DR funds will be available to communities to support unmet planning needs.

REBUILDING SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Construction Methods

All activities involving construction or rehabilitation will be required to meet building codes and standards adopted and enforced by the State of Rhode Island, as well as local ordinances that exceed state codes and standards, wherever possible.

All construction will be encouraged to be designed to achieve maximum energy efficiency to the extent that this can be accomplished on a cost-effective basis, considering construction and operating costs over the life cycle of the structure.

In addition, whenever possible, health and safety hazards that exist in assisted units will be addressed when developing work scopes for buildings to be assisted. These include lead paint hazards, building code violations (including electrical hazards, fire hazards, and other life-safety issues), mold and moisture problems, and environmental health concerns.

In order to better ensure a sustainable long-term recovery, sub-recipients must elevate (or may, for certain non-residential structures, floodproof) new construction and substantially improved structures to 1) one foot higher than the latest Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued base flood elevation, including any applicable FEMA advisory base flood elevations, or 2) the elevation required by R.I. state building code, whichever method is higher. In addition, new or rebuilt structures immediately along the coastline will be relocated landward, where possible, in accordance with R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council requirements.

Refer to the section on Eligible Locations for restrictions on activities in special flood hazard areas and the Coastal Barrier Resource System.

These requirements will be enforced through the following steps:

1. requirements shall be outlined in grant agreements with sub-recipients;
2. sub-recipients shall be obligated to include requirements in design, construction, and remediation subcontracts;
3. sub-recipients shall monitor compliance with conjunction with local building officials; and
4. OHCD shall monitor sub-recipients and projects.

Additional Residential Construction Requirements

For residential buildings (including single family and multifamily), all new construction and replacement of substantially damaged buildings must meet one of the following industry-recognized Green Building Standards: (i) ENERGY STAR (Certified Homes or Multifamily High Rise); (ii) Enterprise Green Communities; (iii) LEED (NC, Homes, Midrise, Existing Buildings O&M, or Neighborhood Development); (iv) ICC–700 National Green Building Standard; (v) EPA Indoor AirPlus (ENERGY STAR a prerequisite); or (vi) any other equivalent comprehensive green building program.

Rehabilitation of non-substantially damaged residential buildings must apply all applicable measures on the HUD CPD Green Building Retrofit Checklist, available at http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/communitydevelopment/programs/drsi/afwa.

Provision of Disaster Resistant Housing for All Income Groups

The State of Rhode Island, OHCD, has allocated $103,592 to public housing authorities and transitional housing impacted by Hurricane Sandy in this partial Action Plan. As long as funds are available, the State will support all viable proposals for public housing, HUD-assisted housing, McKinney-Vento funded shelters, housing for the homeless, and other affordable housing units meeting the LMI Housing National Objective and applicable State affordability restrictions.

OHCD and the Housing Resources Commission (HRC) encourage the provision of housing for all income groups that is disaster-resistant through the programs and activities identified in the State of Rhode Island Consolidated Plan 2010-2015, including the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program, and the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

Housing and individual needs continue to be met through the FEMA Individual Assistance Program, through volunteer activities conducted by Rhode Island Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (RI VOAD) and other service organizations, and through the numerous Continuums of Care provided by local Community Action Programs and non-profit organizations.

Anti-Displacement & Relocation

No person is anticipated to be displaced as a result of this plan, however, OHCD will direct recipients implementing activities identified in this Action Plan to provide the assistance and protections afforded to any persons or entities under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (URA), as amended and section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (HCD), as amended.

Program Income

Rhode Island CDBG-DR funded activities are not anticipated to generate program income.

The CDBG Program Management Handbook, Section E outlines the State's policies and procures regarding program income for the annual CDBG program.

Monitoring Standards & Procedures

The following is excerpted from the Recipient Review/Monitoring section of the State of Rhode Island Consolidated Plan 2010-2015.

> The State has developed a CDBG Management Handbook that instructs communities on the various regulations of the program and requires program recipients to submit written progress reports, the primary of which are the Semi-Annual Progress and Close-Out Reports.
>
> The Progress report includes data relative to the extent to which persons or households have benefitted from CDBG activities as well as status narratives. The program Close-Out report requires recipients to provide all accomplishment information at the completion of funded activities.
>
> Tracking and review of these reports constitutes a major portion of the off-site recipient review. This system permits state staff to remain current relative to recipient progress and to identify problem areas that require special attention.
>
> The State Community Development staff makes every effort to visit each recipient several times during the grant period. The staff reviews all reports and requests for technical assistance, and gives weight to each of the following criteria (risk-based approach) when scheduling on-site monitoring in an effort to ensure that visits take place at the most optimum time.
>
> CRITERIA:
> 1. Towns with serious problems
> 2. Close-Out requests reviewed
> 3. New Recipients
> 4. Stalled programs
> 5. Complexity of the projects
> 6. Projects with no prior review
> 7. Town with audit findings
> 8. Requests for assistance
> 9. Standing of grants, percentages of funds drawn
> 10. Community's past performance
>
> On-site monitoring visits are documented in a monitoring report. This report is submitted with a cover letter summarizing any finding and indicating actions necessary to resolve them.

To prevent duplication of benefits in the CDBG-DR program, OHCD does the following:

- Includes duplication of benefits information in program applications;
- Requires applicants and/or beneficiaries to complete a Duplication of Benefit Affidavit;
- Requires applicants and/or beneficiaries to identify other sources of funds in the application for funds;
- Reviews application information for cost reasonableness;
- Consults with other funding sources for third party verification;
- Requires sub-recipients and/or beneficiaries to complete a Subrogation Agreement as part of their contract documents; and
- Monitors sub-recipients' financial records.

At program closeout, sub-recipients and/or beneficiaries are required to recertify the Duplication of Benefit Affidavit.

Duplication of benefits review documentation shall be maintained in OHCD's program files. The CDBG-DR Program Manager is responsible for duplication of benefits reviews.

Internal Audit Function

The Bureau of Audits performs the auditing function for the Executive Branch of State Government. See Appendix 5 for an organizational chart of the State's Department of Administration. The Bureau's responsibilities include:

- Forensic audits
- Investigative reviews of suspected employee malfeasance
- State vendor and contractor audits
- Accounting assistance
- Fraud awareness and ethics training to state employees
- Audit resolution workgroup – to implement corrective action plans to Office of Auditor General single audit findings
- Auditing special purpose funds

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) was established in 1974 to independently evaluate state government programs and financial operations for the General Assembly. Unlike the Bureau of Audits, OAG is independent of the executive branch of state government. The duties and responsibilities of the Auditor General are outlined at Chapter 22-13 of the General Laws. OAG conducts audits in accordance with the following professional standards:

- Generally accepted auditing standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;
- Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and
- The federal Single Audit Act of 1984, as amended, and implementing regulations - OMB Circular A-133.

Audit reports and additional information on State auditing procedures are available at http://www.oag.state.ri.us/index.html. Rhode Island General Law (R.I.G.L.), Chapter 35-7, Post Audit of Accounts, is available at http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE35/35-7/INDEX.HTM.

Audit concerns and findings are first submitted to agencies for response. Responses are reviewed by higher level state offices and documented by the OAG.

Procedures to Detect & Prevent Fraud, Waste, & Abuse of Funds

Monitoring activities will attempt to identify instances of fraud, waste, and abuse of funds. The Bureau of Audits maintains a fraud hotline and makes Fraud Incident Forms available online at http://www.audits.ri.gov/Fraud.htm. Complaints may be submitted electronically to the Bureau of Audits at fraudline@doa.ri.gov or CDBG@doa.ri.gov. To the maximum extent feasible, OHCD will request that all complaints be submitted in writing. However, allegations of fraud can be reported to the Bureau Fraud Line at 401-574-8175. All complaints will be investigated, and a formal response from sub-recipients may be requested. OHCD will consult/advise its HUD field office and/or the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), as appropriate.

Alternatively, allegations may be submitted to HUD Region 1 and/or the Office of the Inspector General directly.

A link to the Bureau's fraud reporting page will be available on OHCD's website, and HUD posters about reporting fraud, waste, and abuse may be placed at major project sites and sub-recipient offices.

Both the State and sub-recipients shall comply with CDBG Conflict of Interest provisions outlined at 24 CFR Part 570.489(h) "Conflict of Interest" and 24 CFR Part 85.36(b)(3) "Code of Conduct." Public officials are also subject to the State's Code of Ethics, enforced by the Rhode Island Ethics Commission.

Grant Implementation/Administration Capacity

The Office of Housing and Community Development will provide technical and management assistance to grant recipients. Assistance will be provided in the form of grantee workshops and training sessions, guidance via email and telephone, and on-site visits and instruction when necessary.

OHCD added a CDBG Disaster Recovery Program Manager after receiving a CDBG-DR allocation for the March 2010 Flood Disaster. The Disaster Recovery Program Manager, using CDBG-DR administrative funds, focuses on providing technical and management assistance to grantees, as well as performing the administrative, procurement, monitoring and reporting functions associated with the grant. The Project Manager will coordinate with existing OCHD programmatic and fiscal management staff to provide necessary assistance.

METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION

The State of Rhode Island has been allocated $3,240,000 in Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR Funds. Of this amount, $162,000 (5%) will be set aside for administrative purposes. The balance, $3,078,000, will be awarded to units of local government, non-profit organizations serving low

and moderate income (LMI) persons, or agencies of state government, through a competitive application process.

In order to ensure that program requirements, as listed in FR-5696-N-01, are met, at least 50% of CDBG-DR funds ($1,539,000) will be awarded to activities that primarily benefit low and moderate income persons. The remaining funds (up to $1,539,000) will be awarded to proposals that meet any of the three National Objectives.

Eligible Counties and Applicants

HUD allocated CDBG Disaster Recovery funds based on the best available Hurricane Sandy impact and unmet needs data. HUD's allocation methodology is described in Appendix A of the Federal Register, Volume 78, Number 43, Docket No. FR-5696-N-01. Pursuant to FR-5696-N-01, only Washington and Newport Counties are eligible counties; CDBG-DR funds are limited to expenditures in Washington and Newport Counties. Washington County is designated a "most impacted and distressed county." A minimum of 80% of the grant funds must be expended in Washington County.

All units of general local government in Washington and Newport Counties are eligible to apply for Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR funds.

As provided in Docket No. FR-5696-N-01, requirements at 42 U.S.C. 5306 are waived to the extent necessary to allow a state to use its disaster recovery grant allocation directly to carry out state-administered activities. OHCD reserves the right to distribute CDBG-DR funds to a State Agency, or to a direct sub-recipient of the state. Non-profit organizations serving LMI persons are eligible direct sub-recipients.

Agencies of state government, and non-profit organizations serving LMI persons are eligible to apply for Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR funds.

Every activity must meet one of the CDBG national objectives: Benefiting Low and Moderate Income Persons; Preventing or Eliminating Slums or Blight; and Meeting Urgent Needs.

Eligible Locations

Within Washington and Newport Counties, generally only projects and activities located outside of Coastal Barrier Resource System (CBRS) Units will be eligible for CDBG-DR funds, pursuant to HUD guidance provided March 19, 2013. Locations of CBRS Units are available on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website, at http://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Mapper.html.

Furthermore, no activity in an area delineated as a special flood hazard area or equivalent in FEMA's most recent and current data source will be eligible, unless the activity is designed or modified to minimize harm to or within the floodplain. At a minimum, actions to minimize harm must include elevating or floodproofing new construction and substantial improvements to one

foot above the base flood elevation and otherwise acting in accordance with U.S. Executive Order 11988 and 24 CFR part 55.

Eligible Activities

The overall list of eligible CDBG activities is set forth by 42 U.S.C. 5305 and amended by FR-5696-N-01. HUD's Environmental Review Procedures and Floodplain Management regulations, codified at 24 CFR 58 and 24 CFR 55, respectively, apply.

Every activity must meet one of the three CDBG national objectives:

- Benefiting Low- and Moderate-Income Persons;
- Preventing or Eliminating Slums or Blight; or
- Meeting Urgent Needs.

Eligible activities were determined primarily by applicable federal laws and regulations, and letters of interest submitted by municipalities and non-profit organizations. Each letter of interest identified one or more projects that units of local government would like to implement with CDBG-DR funds.

Basis for Allocations

By National Objective

A minimum of 50% of the State's total allocation must be expended on activities primarily benefiting low and moderate income persons. This Action Plan allocates $585,612 to activities. Thirty percent of the funds allocated in this Action Plan are designated for activities primarily benefiting LMI persons. The remaining 70% is allocated to activities meeting either of the other National Objectives and planning activities.

In substantial amendments to this Action Plan, OHCD will allocate Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR funds in approximately equal proportions by projected national objective, with approximately 50% designated for LMI projects and 50% to other National Objectives. A minimum of $1,539,000 will ultimately be designated for LMI projects.

By County and Municipality

The allocation to activities in Washington County must equal or exceed 80% of the State's CDBG-DR grant. Activities in Newport County may receive up to 20% of the State's CDBG-DR grant. This Action Plan allocates $81,975, or 14% of the Tier 1 awards and 2.5% of the State's total allocation, to Newport County activities. Within Washington County, damage estimates and unmet needs in coastal communities exceeded impacts in inland communities. The letters of interest submitted by municipalities and the allocation of funds in this Action Plan generally reflect the higher concentration of impacts in coastal Washington County communities.

By Activity Type

Unmet needs identified to date in the impacted communities include infrastructure/public facilities, housing, economic development, and planning. Funds are, or will be, allocated to activities in each category, and to grant administration.

Project Selection

On March 14, 2013, OHCD requested letters of interest from units of general local government and non-profit organizations serving LMI persons in Washington and Newport Counties (see Appendix 3). Respondents were asked to submit a narrative describing each project and address specific questions used to determine eligibility. Seven municipalities responded with requests for over 50 projects with cost estimates exceeding the State's total CDBG-DR allocation. In addition, two non-profits submitted letters of interest directly to OHCD.

OHCD staff is responsible for verifying that each proposed project fulfills at least one CDBG national objective, and meets threshold and eligibility requirements as articulated in the request for letters of interest and federal regulations, and that CDBG-DR funds are the best available resource for implementation of the proposal. Proposals that meet these criteria are then evaluated by the Review Committee (the Committee). The Committee is comprised of representatives from OHCD, RIEMA, the R.I. Economic Development Corporation, the Division of Planning, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Environmental Management, the Coastal Resources Management Council, and the Governor's Office.

The letters of interest included projects that did not meet eligibility requirements. The most common eligibility violations were location in a CBRS Unit (ineligible location) and purchase of mobile equipment (ineligible activity). Ineligible projects are not evaluated by the Committee. If a respondent submits both eligible and ineligible projects, only the eligible projects shall be evaluated by the Committee.

OHCD staff prepares reviews of each eligible, proposed project for the Committee, which include:

- A summary of the project;
- Identification of national objective;
- Mapping of physical location on CBRS Mapper and FEMA's most recent and current data source at time of application
- Quantitative metric data;
- Assessment of link to Hurricane Sandy impacts and unmet need;
- Qualitative analysis of the proposed timeline;
- Qualitative analysis of the project's feasibility, impact and other criteria.

The Committee reviews projects benefiting LMI persons separately from projects fulfilling other national objectives. Given the federal requirement that 50% of the Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR funds must be used to primarily benefit LMI persons, the Committee established two review categories based on national objective, 1) LMI Projects, and 2) Projects Fulfilling Other National

Objectives. Each project undergoes a competitive review by the Committee, within the appropriate national objective category.

Factors the Committee considers in evaluating proposals include, but are not limited to, the following:

Threshold Criteria

- Regulatory compliance
- Feasibility
- Timeliness of project implementation
- Unmet need
- Compliance with the State's Land Use 2025 Plan

High Priorities

- Fulfillment of low and moderate income National Objective
- Disaster recovery need in the area (neighborhood, municipality, or county) the project will affect. CDBG-DR needs assessment will be based on the most current data at the time of review of projects.

Moderate Priorities

- Geographic distribution
- Applicant capacity
- Ability to leverage other funding sources

Low Priorities

- Compliance with an approved hazard mitigation plan

Eligible projects identified in the letters of interest are divided by the Committee into multiple tiers. Tier 1 projects are recommended for award in this Action Plan. Before a contract can be executed by OHCD, complete application materials must be submitted and reviewed for each Tier 1 project. Tier 2 projects are not recommended for award at this time. Tier 2 projects will require further review. Full applications may be requested by OHCD for individual Tier 2 projects.

Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects are subject to the same quality of review by the State. All proposed projects will undergo a duplication of benefits analysis. Economic Recovery applications will be subject to an underwriting analysis. There are no differences in federal regulatory requirements between Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects. The only differences are the funding schedule and the application process, as shown in Table 11.

Tier 2 projects will be re-evaluated by the Committee. The State reserves to the right to solicit additional proposals for projects meeting any CDBG national objective. New proposals may compete with Tier 2 projects and will be subject to the review process described above. New proposals and Tier 2 projects must submit complete applications for review by OHCD and the Committee prior to any allocation of funds.

Table 11. Comparison of Tier 1 and Tier 2 requirements.

Characteristics	Tier 1 Projects	Tier 2 Projects
Funds Obligated	Original Action Plan	Substantial Amendments to Action Plan
Expenditure Deadline	Two years from HUD's adoption of original Action Plan	Two years from HUD's adoption of relevant substantial amendment
Letter of Interest	Letter of Interest required; Deadline 4/5/2013	Additional projects may be considered for funding in Tier 2
Application	Full application due after draft Action Plan posted for public comment	Full application may be requested; Due prior to posting of substantial amendment

If, at any time, OHCD determines that a project does not meet a national objective, or is otherwise ineligible for Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR funds, OHCD reserves the right to de-obligate and/or recapture funds.

In reviewing a letter of interest and/or application and awarding a grant, the State may eliminate or modify a proposed activity or modify proposed funding where it is determined that such changes are necessary to comply with program requirements, national objectives, and threshold requirements, or where certain activities are not competitive in relation to other applications under review.

Programs and Activities

Funds will be allocated to the following program areas: Housing, Public Facilities and Infrastructure, Economic Recovery, Planning, and Administration. CDBG-DR funds may be allocated to other program areas, such as buyouts, as needs are identified. Tier 1 projects have been allocated as shown in Tables 12 through 14. Table 12 divides Tier 1 awards by Program and National Objective. A minimum of fifty percent of the total allocation, less administrative costs, must primarily benefit low and moderate income persons (LMI National Objective). Compliance with a CDBG National Objective does not apply to planning-only projects and administration costs. Table 13 shows project costs by county. A minimum of eighty percent of the total allocation, less administrative costs, must be used for activities in Washington County, a "most impacted and distressed county."

Table 12. Tier 1 award allocation by program area and national objective (Administration costs excluded).

Program Area	Tier 1 Award	LMI National Objective	Other National Objective	Not Applicable
Housing	$ 103,592	$ 103,592	$ -	$ -
Public Facilities & Infrastructure	$ 460,020	$ 71,400	$ 388,620	$ -
Economic Recovery	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Planning	$ 22,000	$ -	$ -	$ 22,000
Total	$ 585,612	$ 174,992	$ 388,620	$ 22,000
Percentage of Tier 1 Awards	100%	29.9%	66.4%	3.8%

Table 13. Tier 1 award allocation by county (Administration costs excluded).

County	Tier 1 Award	% of Tier 1 Award
Newport County	$ 81,975	14%
Washington County	$ 503,637	86%
Total	$ 585,612	100%

The balance of the State's CDBG-DR allocation will be obligated in amendments to this Action Plan. Refer to Appendix 4 for activity details.

Table 14. Tier 1 award allocation by activity.

Municipality	Project Name	Type		Budget Estimate
Charlestown	Charlestown Animal Control Facility Rehabilitation	Public Facilities	$	10,000
Charlestown	Charlestown Disaster Resiliency Planning	Planning	$	3,500
Charlestown	Charlestown FEMA Match for Emergency Repairs	Public Facilities	$	84,523
Charlestown	Tipping Fees for Hurricane Sandy Debris Removal	Public Facilities	$	15,697
Hopkinton	Hopkinton Animal Shelter Improvements	Public Facilities	$	1,000
Hopkinton	Hopkinton Natural Hazards Planning	Planning	$	5,000
Middletown	Middletown FEMA Match for Debris Removal/Emergency Repairs	Public Facilities	$	27,400
Narragansett	Narragansett Housing Authority, Repairs to Scattered Site Housing	Housing	$	27,222
Narragansett	Col. John Gardner Road Reconstruction	Infrastructure	$	62,500
Newport	Newport Housing Authority FEMA Match for Debris Removal/Emergency Repairs	Housing	$	4,575
Newport	Newport Housing Authority Utility Repairs, Park Holm	Housing	$	50,000
South Kingstown	Welcome House, Repairs to Scattered Site Housing	Housing	$	21,795
Westerly	Westerly Senior Center Improvements	Public Facilities	$	71,400
Westerly	Mitigation Component of Westerly's Comprehensive Plan Update	Planning	$	6,000
Westerly	Westerly Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update	Planning	$	7,500
Westerly	Westerly Old Town Beach Facility Rehabilitation/Mitigation	Public Facilities	$	187,500
		Administration	$	40,000
	Tier 1 Total		**$**	**625,612**

Housing Activities

CDBG-DR funds may be used for assisting LMI households with rehabilitation, reconstruction, mitigation, clearance and demolition activities to address unmet housing needs as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Second homes, as defined in IRS Publication 936 (mortgage interest deductions), are not eligible for CDBG-DR funds.

Eligible Housing Activities include, but are not limited to:

1. Rehabilitation/reconstruction of existing LMI housing, damaged during Hurricane Sandy.
2. Clearance and removal of debris on LMI properties, and adjacent properties
3. Demolition of structures on LMI properties.

Public Facilities and Infrastructure Activities

CDBG funds may be used for projects that will repair, rehabilitate, or modify public infrastructure and facilities impacted during the disaster. Examples include repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of water and sewer systems, streets, storm drainage, and public buildings (eligible public buildings include structures for both citizen use and local government administration), and payment of non-federal share for emergency repairs.

Economic Recovery

CDGB-DR funds may be used for rehabilitation of small businesses, as defined by IRS Publication 936, that suffered physical damage to property or equipment due to the disaster. All economic recovery activities shall predominately benefit LMI persons, under the LMI Jobs National Objective.

Eligible Economic Recovery Activities include:

1. Rehabilitation/reconstruction of existing businesses damaged during Hurricane Sandy.
2. Replacement of fixed equipment damaged during Hurricane Sandy.
3. Clearance and removal of debris resulting from Hurricane Sandy.
4. Business relocation costs, pursuant to the Uniform Relocation Act.

Mitigation activities are only allowed if they are necessary to the further operation of the business due to ongoing severe storm or flood danger, and can be qualified under the LMI Jobs National Objective.

Funds will be distributed to units of general local government, who will then distribute funds to business owners.

Planning Activities

CDBG-DR funds may be used for the development of disaster recovery or hazard mitigation policies, plans, and capacity building.

Disaster recovery planning includes mapping, specific comprehensive plan updates, zoning/building code ordinance revisions, floodplain/coastal hazard plans, recovery ordinances, coastal hazard studies directly related to impacts of the disaster, infrastructure and engineering studies necessary for disaster recovery and mitigation, and updating building requirements. All planning activities must relate to the Hurricane Sandy disaster.

Administration

Grant administration, including grant administration by sub-recipients will include direct personnel expenses (salary and fringe benefits), direct and indirect expenses, equipment, consultants, and other operating expenses involved in selection, funding, assisting, and monitoring sub-grantee projects, detailed quarterly reporting to HUD, and documentation of adherence to all laws and regulations.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Outreach Efforts

OHCD invited representatives of local governments in Washington and Newport Counties and the Narragansett Indian Tribe to meetings regarding the State's Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR allocation. Meetings were held at Portsmouth Town Hall on March 5, 2013 and Charlestown Town Hall on March 7, 2013.

A request for letters of interest (see Appendix 3) was sent via email on March 14, 2013 to representatives of each eligible municipality, the Narragansett Indian Tribe, eligible public housing authorities, and non-profit organizations serving LMI persons. The letters of interest directly identified the activities described in this Action Plan.

At the quarterly meeting of the State's Housing Resources Commission (HRC) on March 22, 2013, OHCD staff announced the State's allocation and the request for letters of interest. The mission of the HRC is to ensure that all Rhode Islanders have access to safe and affordable housing. Additional information on the HRC, including a membership list, is available at http://www.planning.ri.gov/community/housingresources/.

Public Comments and Notification

OHCD will post a draft Action Plan for the use of the funds, and any substantial amendment to the plan as described above, online at http://www.planning.ri.gov/ for a period of not less than (7) calendar days; public comments will be accepted during this time.

Adequate notification will be given to local and regional Planning Commissions, units of local government, and public housing authorities. A Notice of Posting for public comments will be published in the following paper:

The Providence Journal
75 Fountain Street
Providence, RI 02902

OHCD will outreach to minority and non-English speaking populations in Washington and Newport Counties via the following community action programs:

South County Community Action Agency
1935 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, RI 02879
401-789-3016 | www.sccainc.org

Eastbay Community Action - Lower Bay Region
19 Broadway, Newport, Rhode Island
401- 847-7821 | www.ebcap.org

Any individual requiring a reasonable accommodation to review this Action Plan should contact James A. Pitassi, Jr. at 401-222-6395 or #711 (R.I. Relay).

All comments will be reviewed and incorporated into the draft plan for submission to HUD. E-mail your comments to Laura.Sullivan@doa.ri.gov or mail your comments to:

Laura Sullivan, CDBG Disaster Recovery Program Manager
Office of Housing and Community Development
One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor
Providence, RI 02908

ACTION PLAN AMENDMENTS

This document is a partial Action Plan. The balance of the State's CDBG-DR allocation will be obligated in amendments to this Action Plan. Substantial amendments will be subject to the Public Comment and Notification section, above.

The following modifications will constitute a substantial amendment:

1. A change in program benefit or eligibility criteria;
2. A change of more than 25% in the allocation for an individual activity;
3. The allocation or re-allocation of more than $1 million; or
4. The addition or deletion of an activity.

All approved amendments to this Action Plan, substantial and non-substantial, shall be available electronically at http://www.planning.ri.gov/community/development/disaster/.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Certifications

Appendix 2: Rhode Island Disaster Declaration Map

Appendix 3: Request for Letters of Interest

Appendix 4: Activity Detail Sheets

Appendix 5: Department of Administration Organizational Chart

Appendix 6: Public Notice of Action Plan Comment Period

Appendix 7: Public Comments Received

Appendix 1: Certifications

Sections 91.325 and 91.225 of title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations are waived. Each State or UGLG receiving a direct allocation under this Notice must make the following certifications with its Action Plan:

a. The grantee certifies that it will affirmatively further fair housing, which means that it will conduct an analysis to identify impediments to fair housing choice within its jurisdiction and take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis, and maintain records reflecting the analysis and actions in this regard (see 24 CFR 570.487(b)(2) and 570.601(a)(2)). In addition, the grantee certifies that agreements with subrecipients will meet all civil rights related requirements pursuant to 24 CFR 570.503(b)(5).

b. The grantee certifies that it has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the CDBG program.

c. The grantee certifies its compliance with restrictions on lobbying required by 24 CFR part 87, together with disclosure forms, if required by part 87.

d. The grantee certifies that the Action Plan for Disaster Recovery is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and that the grantee, and any entity or entities designated by the grantee, possess(es) the legal authority to carry out the program for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations and this Notice.

e. The grantee certifies that activities to be administered with funds under this Notice are consistent with its Action Plan.

f. The grantee certifies that it will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the URA, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24, except where waivers or alternative requirements are provided for in this Notice.

g. The grantee certifies that it will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u), and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 135.

h. The grantee certifies that it is following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105 or 91.115, as applicable (except as provided for in notices providing waivers and alternative requirements for this grant). Also, each UGLG receiving assistance from a State grantee must follow a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 570.486 (except as provided for in notices providing waivers and alternative requirements for this grant).

i. Each State receiving a direct award under this Notice certifies that it has consulted with affected UGLGs in counties designated in covered major disaster declarations in the non-entitlement, entitlement, and tribal areas of the State in determining the uses of funds, including method of distribution of funding, or activities carried out directly by the State.

j. The grantee certifies that it is complying with each of the following criteria:

(1) Funds will be used solely for necessary expenses related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas for which the President declared a major disaster in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, pursuant to the Stafford Act.

(2) With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG-DR funds, the Action Plan has been developed so as to give the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low- and moderate-income families.

(3) The aggregate use of CDBG-DR funds shall principally benefit low- and moderate-income families in a manner that ensures that at least 50 percent of the grant amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons.

(4) The grantee will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG-DR grant funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low- and moderate-income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements, unless: (a) disaster recovery grant funds are used to pay the proportion of such fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of such public improvements that are financed from revenue sources other than under this title; or (b) for purposes of assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of moderate income, the grantee certifies to the Secretary that it lacks sufficient CDBG funds (in any form) to comply with the requirements of clause (a).

k. The grantee certifies that it (and any subrecipient or recipient)) will conduct and carry out the grant in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601–3619) and implementing regulations.

l. The grantee certifies that it has adopted and is enforcing the following policies. In addition, States receiving a direct award must certify that they will require UGLGs that receive grant funds to certify that they have adopted and are enforcing:

(1) A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in nonviolent civil rights demonstrations; and

(2) A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location that is the subject of such nonviolent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

m. Each State or UGLG receiving a direct award under this Notice certifies that it (and any subrecipient or recipient) has the capacity to carry out disaster recovery activities in a timely manner; or the State or UGLG will develop a plan to increase capacity where such capacity is lacking.

n. The grantee will not use grant funds for any activity in an area delineated as a special flood hazard area or equivalent in FEMA's most recent and current data source unless it also ensures that the action is designed or modified to minimize harm to or within the floodplain. The grantee further certifies that at a minimum, actions to minimize harm will include elevating or floodproofing new construction and substantial improvements to

one foot above the base flood elevation and otherwise acting in accordance with Executive Order 11988 and 24 CFR part 55. The relevant data source for this provision is the latest issued FEMA data or guidance, which includes advisory data (such as Advisory Base Flood Elevations) or preliminary and final Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

o. The grantee certifies that its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR part 35, subparts A, B, J, K, and R.

p. The grantee certifies that it will comply with applicable laws.

q. The grantee certifies that it has reviewed the requirements of this Notice and requirements of Public Law 113-2 applicable to funds allocated by this Notice, and that it has in place proficient financial controls and procurement processes and has established adequate procedures to prevent any duplication of benefits as defined by section 312 of the Stafford Act, to ensure timely expenditure of funds, to maintain comprehensive websites regarding all disaster recovery activities assisted with these funds, and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds.

Michael Tondra — 6-6-13

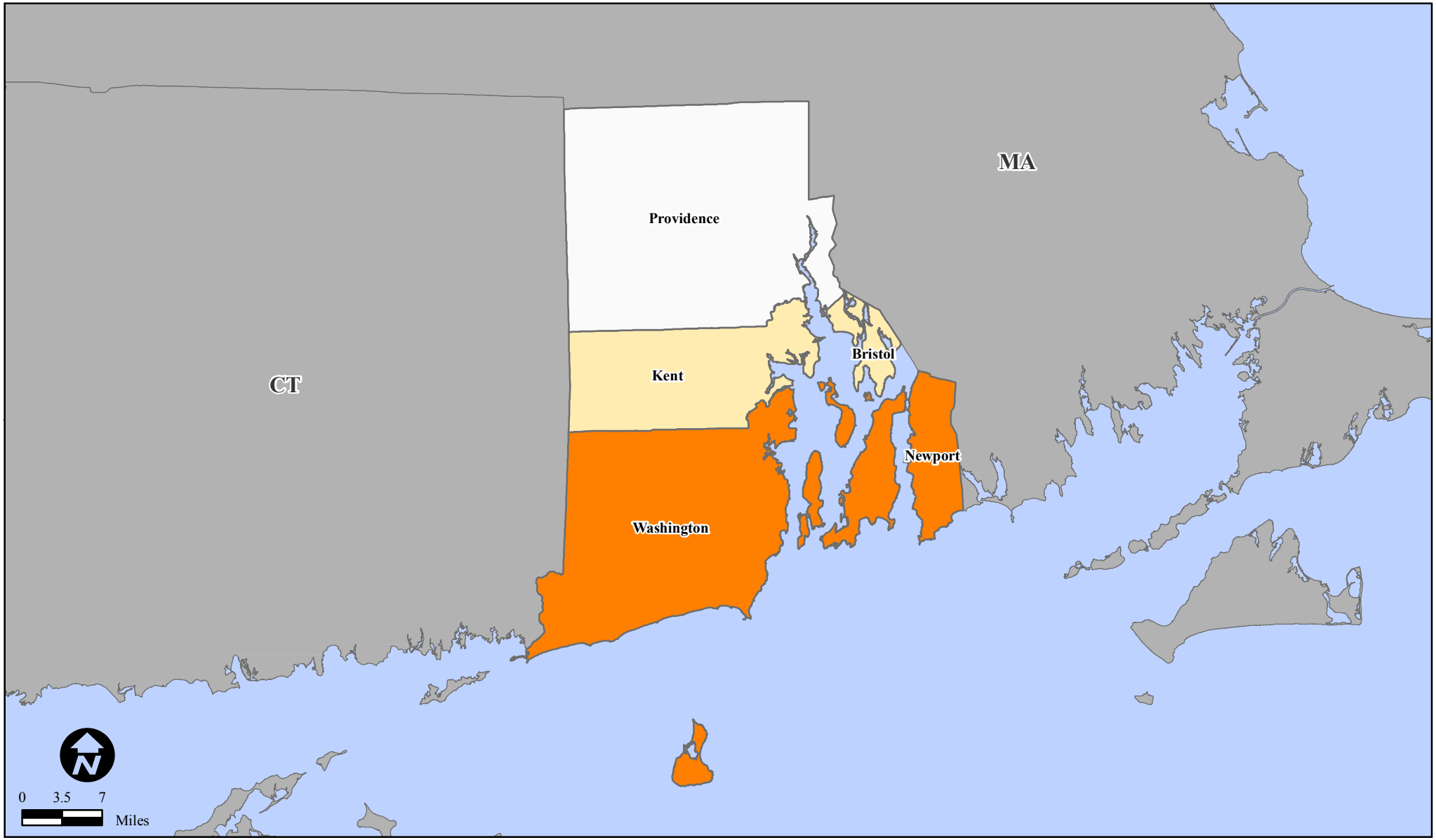
Signature of Authorized Representative — *Date*

Michael Tondra, Chief, Office of Housing and Community Development

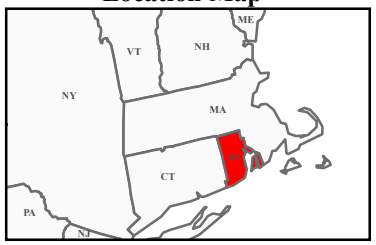
Name, Title of Authorized Representative

Appendix 2: Rhode Island Disaster Declaration Map

FEMA-4089-DR, Rhode Island Disaster Declaration as of 11/14/2012



Location Map



Designated Counties

- No Designation
- Public Assistance
- Individual Assistance and Public Assistance

All counties in the State of Rhode Island are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

FEMA

MS-CI-AE-EG

Mapping and Analysis Center

11/14/12 -- 19:52 PM EST

Source: Disaster Federal Registry Notice Amendment No. 2 - 11/14/2012

MapID 84e0affefd51114121949hqprod

Appendix 3: Request for Letters of Interest

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Administration
OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5890

DATE: **March 14, 2013**

TO: **All Newport & Washington County Municipalities**
Non-Profit Organizations active in Newport & Washington Counties

FROM: **Michael Tondra, Chief**
June House, Supervisor of Community Development
Laura Sullivan, Program Manager LS

RE: **HURRICANE SANDY FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

The Office of Housing and Community Development is requesting letters of interest for Hurricane Sandy recovery projects. The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development allocated $3.24 million in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding to Rhode Island. After deduction of administrative costs, $3.078 million will be available to fund projects. Funds must be used to support projects that directly or indirectly address the impacts of Hurricane Sandy.

Projects may include housing rehabilitation and new construction, economic revitalization, repair/replacement/improvement of public facilities and infrastructure, services, and disaster mitigation planning. Please note at least 50% of the funds must be spent on projects that primarily benefit low and moderate income (LMI) persons, pursuant to CDBG regulations. Eligible applicants include all municipalities in Newport and Washington Counties, and non-profit organizations active in Newport and/or Washington Counties.

Projects must be located in Newport and Washington Counties. Pursuant to the federal regulations, at least 80% of the funds ($2,462,400) must be allocated to activities in Washington County. A maximum amount of $615,600 is available for activities in Newport County.

Projects must be undertaken in compliance with all applicable Federal and State rules and regulations, including Labor Standards (Davis Bacon Wage Rates), Section 3, procurement, and environmental regulations.

To be considered, please send a letter of interest to Laura Sullivan at CDBG@doa.ri.gov by **3:00 PM on Friday, April 5, 2013.** Include the following information and attach a completed CDBG-DR Supplement form for each proposed project:

- Project description (include implementation status);
- Statement of Hurricane Sandy impacts and how the project addresses those impacts;
- Statement of project beneficiaries (include service area descriptions for infrastructure projects);
- Description of how the project will comply with one CDBG National Objective (i.e. LMI Jobs, LMI Area Benefit, LMI Housing, LMI Clientele, Urgent Need, Slums, Spot Blight); and
- Budget identifying all sources and uses of funds (include known, expected matching funds).

Non-profit applicants must also include:

- Organization profile;
- Description of disaster response and/or recovery activities; and
- Letter from municipal official acknowledging notification of the proposed project.

Non-profit applicants are encouraged to contact Laura Sullivan before applying for information on the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program.

Please contact Laura Sullivan at 401-222-6844 or laura.sullivan@doa.ri.gov with any questions.

Appendix 4: Activity Detail Sheets

Activity Title: Narragansett Housing Authority, Repairs to Scattered Site Housing

Activity Type: Housing Rehabilitation

National Objective: LMI Housing

Budget: $27,222

Projected Start Date: July 2013

Projected End Date: December 2013

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Narragansett

Location Description: Narragansett, RI

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: Hurricane Sandy's storm surge and high winds caused erosion in coastal areas, damage to buildings across Narragansett, and extensive tree damage. Narragansett Housing Authority's scattered site housing sustained damage to siding, windows, doors, fencing, landscaping, and down spouts, and erosion.

Activity Description: Repairs/improvements to building envelopes, including siding, windows, doors, and down spouts. Repairs/improvement to fencing, landscaping, walks/drives, etc.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Rehabilitation of eight (8) housing units

Proposed Beneficiaries: Eight (8) LMI households

Activity Title: Newport Housing Authority Utility Repairs at Park Holm

Activity Type: Public Facilities Improvements

National Objective: LMI Housing

Budget: $50,000

Projected Start Date: July 2013

Projected End Date: January 2014

Responsible Organization(s): City of Newport

Location Description: Park Holm Street, Newport, RI

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, approximately $10,000 in damages was discovered in the overhead electrical utility system in the Housing Authority's Park Holm development. The development consists of 259 units in 96 "row house" type buildings.

After the initial damage assessment, the contractor performing the emergency repairs identified other damage and needed repairs to the electrical utility system owned by Newport Housing Authority. Much of the damage is consistent with exposure to high winds, as experienced during Hurricane Sandy.

Six poles and six pole cross arms are in need of replacement. The bases of the poles show signs of stress from high winds. It has been determined that they are not in immediate danger of falling but would probably do so in another sustained high wind event. Additionally, it was noted in this inspection that a significant amount of insulation was missing from high voltage overhead cable in the southeast areas of the property and approximately 1,000 feet of this cable should be replaced.

Tree contact with the lines is most likely what caused this insulation to erode off the cable. In a normal weather situation the trees do not move enough to contact these cables. In this storm the winds were powerful enough to cause the branches to contact the lines. The trees have since been trimmed significantly to reduce this hazard.

Activity Description: Repair and/or replace damaged sections of the electrical utility system owned and operated by the Housing Authority of Newport. This system is a 4800 volt three phase system and consists of approximately 10 miles of cable, 8 step down transformers, 56 poles, and various switching and surge suppression devices.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to one (1) public facility

Proposed Beneficiaries: 259 LMI households residing in the Park Holm development

Activity Title: Newport Housing Authority (NHA), FEMA Match for Debris Removal/Emergency Electrical Repairs

Activity Type: Payment of Non-Federal Share (Debris Removal, Public Facilities Improvements)

National Objective: LMI Housing

Budget: $4,574.91

Projected Start Date: July 2013

Projected End Date: December 2013

Responsible Organization(s): City of Newport

Location Description: Park Holm & Chapel Streets, Newport, RI

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: Hurricane Sandy's high winds damaged and destroyed numerous trees and scattered debris throughout the region, including across Newport Housing Authority's Park Holm and Chapel Street properties. In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, approximately $10,000 in damages was discovered in the overhead electrical utility system in the Housing Authority's Park Holm development. The development consists of 259 units in 96 "row house" type buildings.

Newport Housing Authority incurred a total cost of $ 18,371 for CDBG eligible response/repair activities as a result of Hurricane Sandy. The activities included:

- Debris removal at Park Holm development
- Debris removal at Chapel Street development
- Temporary electrical repairs at Park Holm development

75% of the debris removal and electrical repair costs were reimbursed by FEMA.

Activity Description: Payment of non-federal share, or 25% of the debris removal and emergency electrical work costs resulting from Hurricane Sandy.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Debris removal at two (2) public facilities; Improvements to one (1) public facility

Proposed Beneficiaries: 286 LMI households residing in the Park Holm and Chapel Manor developments

Activity Title: Welcome House, Repairs to Scattered Site Housing

Activity Type: Rehabilitation of Housing

National Objective: LMI Housing

Budget: $21,795

Projected Start Date: September 2013

Projected End Date: December 2014

Responsible Organization(s): Town of South Kingstown

Location Description: 12-18 Green Street, Peacedale, RI 02879

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: During Hurricane Sandy the Welcome House of South County experienced severe wind and rain damage at 12-18 Green Street. Roof shingles were blown off in several areas, excessive aggregate washed off of the roof shingles, rain began pouring into the living units, and some of the exterior foundation stones were dislodged. Temporary roof repairs were made.

Activity Description: Rehabilitation of one 4-unit residential building, including roof and foundation repairs. Welcome Housing provides transitional housing for individuals, permanent supportive housing for families, and acts as a referral agency for mental health issues, medical, job placement and continuing education.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to four (4) housing units

Proposed Beneficiaries: Four (4) LMI households

Activity Title: Westerly Senior Center Improvements

Activity Type: Public Facilities Improvements

National Objective: LMI Limited Clientele

Budget: $71,400

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: September 2014

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Westerly

Location Description:

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: The coastal Town of Westerly was heavily impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Westerly's Senior Center is used as an emergency shelter, and sheltered several individuals during Hurricane Sandy. The lack of shower facilities made it difficult to maintain hygienic, sanitary conditions.

Activity Description: Installation of two ADA compliant shower facilities in the Town's Senior Center.

This project is consistent with the Town's FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to one (1) public facility

Proposed Beneficiaries: Senior citizens residing in the Town of Westerly

Activity Title: Charlestown Animal Control Facility Rehabilitation

Activity Type: Public Facilities Improvements

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $10,000

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: December 2014

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Charlestown

Location Description:

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: Hurricane Sandy winds damaged the roof of the Town-owned Animal Control building. Roof damage quickly leads to more extensive building damage, due to water penetration.

Damage to the animal control facility puts animals at risk and presents a danger to the public. The lack of an adequate animal shelter facility poses a public health risk if nuisance animals are loose in the community. Nuisance animals may include diseased animals and/or animals with a history of aggressive behavior towards humans.

Activity Description: Repair/replacement of the roof on the Charlestown Animal Control building.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to one (1) public facility

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 7,827 residents of the Town of Charlestown

Activity Title: Tipping Fees for Hurricane Sandy Debris Removal

Activity Type: Debris Removal

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $15,697

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: December 2013

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Charlestown

Location Description: Charlestown Beach area

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: Hurricane Sandy's high winds and storm surge damaged and destroyed numerous trees and scattered debris throughout the region, especially in coastal areas. Charlestown Beach, Charlestown Beach Road, and adjacent properties were covered with debris. Neighbors and volunteers mobilized to clean up the debris. The Town incurred disposal costs (tipping fees).

Activity Description: After Hurricane Sandy, the Town provided six roll-off containers in the beach parking lot for the dumping of storm debris in the Charlestown Beach area. This greatly increased residents' ability to clean their property and helped begin to restore the area to pre-storm conditions.

The Town organized a volunteer cleanup effort in the Charlestown Beach Road area on Earth Day, April 22, 2013, to restore the area to pre-storm conditions.

The Town is requesting reimbursement of tipping (disposal) fees associated with both debris removal events.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to two (2) public facilities (Charlestown Beach and Charlestown Beach Road) and adjacent properties

Proposed Beneficiaries: Area residents in Town of Charlestown

Activity Title: Charlestown Disaster Resiliency Planning

Activity Type: Planning and Capacity Building

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $3,500

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: May 2015

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Charlestown

Location Description: Town of Charlestown

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: In Charlestown, Hurricane Sandy altered the shoreline, damaged and destroyed buildings and infrastructure, spread debris, and caused multiday utility interruptions.

Activity Description: Community-wide planning for hazard mitigation and disaster resiliency.

The Town is seeking $3,500 in matching funds for its hazard mitigation plan.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: One (1) hazard mitigation/resiliency plan

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 7,827 residents of the Town of Charlestown

Activity Title: Charlestown, FEMA Match for Emergency Repairs

Activity Type: Payment of Non-Federal Share (Debris Removal, Public Facilities Improvements, Code Enforcement, Public Services)

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $84,523.45

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: December 2013

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Charlestown

Location Description: Scattered sites, Town of Charlestown

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: The Town incurred a total cost of $338,093.79 for CDBG eligible response/repair activities as a result of Hurricane Sandy. The activities included:

- Debris (trees and tree limbs) removal, town-wide
- Repairs to town buildings (Ninigret Park Beach Shed, Charlestown Town Beach Pavilion, Charlestown Soccer Shed, Ninigret Park Summer Office and garage, Ninigret Park horse barn, Charlestown Senior Center, Ninigret Park Tennis Restrooms, Town Hall)
- Code enforcement related to the storm
- Additional policing related to the storm
- Dune restoration at Blue Shutters Town Beach
- Repairs to parking lot at Charlestown Beach
- Relocation of power lines to the Well Pump at Charlestown Beach to prevent loss of power in future storms (buried overhead lines)
- Repairs to stormwater management systems (rain gardens) at both town beaches (Blue Shutters and Charlestown)
- Repairs and removal of sand at Charlestown Beach Road
- Replacement of signs at Ninigret Park that were destroyed by Sandy

75% of the emergency response/repair costs was reimbursed by FEMA.

Activity Description: Payment of non-federal share, or 25% of the response/repair costs resulting from Hurricane Sandy.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to seven (7) public facilities

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 7,827 residents of the Town of Charlestown

Activity Title: Hopkinton Animal Shelter Improvements

Activity Type: Public Facility Improvements

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $1,000

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: February 2014

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Hopkinton

Location Description: 395 Woodville Rd., Hopkinton, RI

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: The Hopkinton Animal Shelter is an all-day/seven day operation that lost power for hours during Hurricane Sandy. The Animal Shelter has a mobile generator, however, the Department of Public Works staff was very busy during the height of the storm and they were not able to set up the generator until late in the evening.

The animals need to be cared for, even in the worst weather conditions. Heat is important-especially with a cinderblock, non-insulated building, but more importantly we need access to water, for drinking and cleaning. During power outages, the shelter has provided vital fresh water for the livestock of many families. The delay in connecting the backup generator inhibited the operation of this facility during Hurricane Sandy.

Lack of power at the animal control facility puts animals at risk and presents a danger to the public. If the animal shelter facility is forced to close because of lack of power, people evacuating during a disaster have no place to safely leave animals. This poses a public health risk if nuisance animals are loose in the community. Nuisance animals may include diseased animals and/or animals with a history of aggressive behavior towards humans.

Activity Description: Modifications to a kennel run to house the generator in place on a permanent basis, thus avoiding another possibly long period of power interruption.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to one (1) public facility

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 8,188 residents of the Town of Hopkinton

Activity Title: Hopkinton Natural Hazards Planning

Activity Type: Planning and Capacity Building

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $5,000

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: May 2015

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Hopkinton

Location Description: Town of Hopkinton

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: Hurricane Sandy highlighted the need to reconsider local energy production/consumption as well as to reassess the impacts of natural hazards on a town-wide basis.

Activity Description: Community-wide planning for natural hazards, including local energy production and consumption, to minimize the adverse impacts of similar weather events in the future.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: One (1) updated Comprehensive Plan

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 8,188 residents of the Town of Hopkinton

Activity Title: Middletown, FEMA Match for Debris Removal/Emergency Repairs

Activity Type: Payment of Non-Federal Share (Debris Removal, Public Facilities Improvements)

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $27,400

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: December 2013

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Middletown

Location Description: Scattered sites, Town of Middletown

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: The Town incurred a total cost of $169,192 in debris removal and repair costs as a result of Hurricane Sandy. The activities included:

- Debris (vegetation and sand) removal, town-wide
- Debris removal on Aquidneck School grounds
- Repairs to town buildings (Peckham School and DPW Garage)

75% of the debris removal/emergency response costs were reimbursed by FEMA.

Activity Description: Payment of non-federal share, or 25%, of the costs of CDBG eligible response/repair activities resulting from Hurricane Sandy.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to two (2) public facilities

3,300 CY of debris removed

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 16,150 residents of the Town of Middletown

Activity Title: Col. John Gardner Road Reconstruction

Activity Type: Public Facility Improvements

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $62,500

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: September 2014

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Narragansett

Location Description: Bonnet Shores, Narragansett

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: A low-lying segment of Col. John Gardner Road in the Bonnet Shores neighborhood was significantly damaged by the flood surge of Hurricane Sandy. This section of roughly 1,000 feet took a direct hit from the easterly winds and rising flood waters. Much of the area was undermined and washed out.

Repairs and mitigation are eligible for the FEMA Public Assistance Program. Total estimated project costs are $250,000; the Town is requesting $62,500 in matching funds (25%).

Activity Description: Reconstruction of damaged road segment.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to one (1) public facility

1,000 linear feet of public improvement

Proposed Beneficiaries: Residents of Bonnet Shores, Narragansett

Activity Title: Westerly Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Activity Type: Planning and Capacity Building

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $7,500

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: May 2015

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Westerly

Location Description: Town of Westerly

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: Hurricane Sandy impacted the Misquamicut section of the Town of Westerly with a vengeance on October 29, 2012. The storm surge inundated the equivalent of two city blocks, impacting over 500 structures. Rapid assessments were conducted on all buildings for safety and they were placarded accordingly. The Town's re-entry procedures were put into place to delay re-entry into the area due to safety concerns and sand displacement that covered the roads 3-4 feet deep.

Activity Description: Update the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan and create a Mitigation Annex focused on Misquamicut.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: One (1) hazard mitigation plan

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 22,787 residents of the Town of Westerly

Activity Title: Mitigation Component of Westerly's Comprehensive Plan Update

Activity Type: Planning and Capacity Building

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $6,000

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: May 2015

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Westerly

Location Description: Town of Westerly

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: Hurricane Sandy impacted the Misquamicut section of the Town of Westerly with a vengeance on October 29, 2012. The storm surge inundated the equivalent of two city blocks, impacting over 500 structures. Rapid assessments were conducted on all buildings for safety and they were placarded accordingly. The Town's re-entry procedures were put into place to delay re-entry into the area due to safety concerns and sand displacement that covered the roads 3-4 feet deep.

Activity Description: Conduct comprehensive planning activities associated with addressing natural hazard mitigation and prepare a mitigation plan element for inclusion in the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: One (1) hazard mitigation element

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 22,787 residents of the Town of Westerly

Activity Title: Westerly Old Town Beach Facility Rehabilitation/Mitigation

Activity Type: Public Facility Improvements

National Objective: Urgent Need

Budget: $187,500

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: December 2014

Responsible Organization(s): Town of Westerly

Location Description: 365 Atlantic Ave., Westerly, RI

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: The Town of Westerly sustained damages to the Old Town Beach Pavilion during Hurricane Sandy. Repairs and mitigation are eligible for the FEMA Public Assistance Program. Total estimated project costs are $750,000; the Town is requesting $187,000 in matching funds (25%).

Activity Description: Rehabilitation and mitigation of the Old Town Beach Pavilion, including repairs, elevation of the structure, and installation of an Onsite Wastewater Treatment System. The structure must be elevated to comply with current National Flood Insurance Program standards.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: Improvements to one (1) public facility

Proposed Beneficiaries: The 22,787 residents of the Town of Westerly

Activity Title: Hurricane Sandy CDBG-DR Administration

Activity Type: Program Administration

National Objective: NA

Budget: $40,000

Projected Start Date: June 2013

Projected End Date: May 2015

Responsible Organization(s): State of Rhode Island,
Office of Housing and Community Development

Location Description: NA

Hurricane Sandy Impact and Unmet Need: NA

Activity Description: Program and grant administration, and provision of technical assistance to sub-recipients.

Proposed Accomplishments/Performance Measures: NA

Proposed Beneficiaries: NA

Appendix 5: Department of Administration Organizational Chart

Department of Administration

Richard A. Licht
Director

Fred Stolle
Legal Services

Kelly K. Mahoney
Policy

Ronald Renaud
Operations Management

- Capital Projects
- Facilities Management
- Risk Management
- State Properties
- Library and Information Services
- Energy Resources
- Sheriffs

Thomas Mullaney
Budget

Marc Leonetti
Accounts and Control

Kevin Flynn
Planning and Community Development

- Statewide Planning
- Housing/Community Development

Kenneth C. Kirsch
Finance and Administration

- Purchasing
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Central Business Office
- Bureau of Audits

May-2011

Appendix 6: Public Notice of Action Plan Comment Period

State of Rhode Island
Office of Housing and Community Development
Hurricane Sandy CDBG Disaster Recovery Grant

The State of Rhode Island, Office of Housing and Community Development intends to submit an Action Plan for the State's Hurricane Sandy CDBG Disaster Recovery allocation to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, in accordance with the Federal Register Notice, Vol. 78, No. 43, dated Tuesday, March 5, 2013. The Action Plan is available online at http://www.planning.ri.gov/ or can be obtained at One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor, Providence, R.I. by contacting Laura Sullivan at 401-222-6844. Comments will be accepted through 3 PM on Monday, June 3, 2013.

Michael Tondra, Chief

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Administration
OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Housing Resources Commission
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

State of Rhode Island
Office of Housing and
Community Development
Hurricane Sandy CDBG
Disaster Recovery Grant

The State of Rhode Island, Office of Housing and Community Development intends to submit an Action Plan for the State's Hurricane Sandy CDBG Disaster Recovery allocation to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, in accordance with the Federal Register Notice, Vol. 78, No. 43, dated Tuesday, March 5, 2013. The Action Plan is available online at http://www.planning.ri.gov/ or can be obtained at One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor, Providence, R.I. by contacting Laura Sullivan at 401-222-6844. Comments will be accepted through 3 PM on Monday, June 3, 2013.

Michael Tondra, Chief

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State of Rhode Island Office of Housing and Community Development Hurricane Sandy CDBG Disaster Recovery Grant The State of Rhode Island, Office of Housing and Community Development intends to submit an Action Plan for the State's Hurricane Sandy CDBG Disaster Recovery allocation to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, in accordance with the Federal Register Notice, Vol. 78, No. 43, dated Tuesday, March 5, 2013. The Action Plan is available online at http://www.planning.ri.gov/ or can be obtained at One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor, Providence, R.I. by contacting Laura Sullivan at 401-222-6844. Comments will be accepted through 3 PM on Monday, June 3, 2013. Michael Tondra, Chief

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Appendix 7: Public Comments Received

The following comments were received relative to the State's Draft Hurricane Sandy Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Action Plan. The Plan was available for public comment from May 23, 2013 to June 3, 2013. Notice of availability was posted in the Providence Journal on May 24, 2013, and in the online Legal Notices section of http://www.providencejournal.com/.

1. Comment on p. 2, paragraph 1: *Actually, tropical force winds (40mph or greater) spanned almost 900 miles. See: http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/hurricanes/archives/2012/h2012_Sandy.html*

Response: Comment incorporated in revised Action Plan.

2. Comment on p. 2, paragraph 2: *Southern not southeastern. Washington County is not in the southeastern portion of the state.*

Response: Comment incorporated in revised Action Plan.

3. Comment on p. 2, paragraph 3: *Define the period of time (hours, days?)*

Response: Comment incorporated in revised Action Plan.

4. Comment on p. 10, paragraph 4: *Add at the end of the sentence "as required under the state building code." Add new sentence as follows: "In addition, new or rebuilt structures immediately along the coastline will be relocated landward, where possible, in accordance with Coastal Resources Management Council requirements."*

Response Part 1: The requirement that new construction and substantially improved structures be elevated one foot higher than the latest FEMA base flood elevations has been clarified. The requirement for these funds is differs from the state building code, as it also applies to advisory base flood elevations, where applicable.

Response Part 2: Language regarding landward relocation was incorporated in revised Action Plan, as recommended by CRMC staff.