

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The State of Connecticut, Department of Housing is seeking public comment and will be holding two (2) PUBLIC HEARINGS on the DRAFT CDBG-DR National Disaster Resilience Competition Phase II Application.

Connecticut is participating in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC). Of the original \$16 billion federal Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Congressional appropriation to HUD after Hurricane Sandy, approximately \$1 billion remains unallocated and will be distributed via the NDRC.

NDRC is a two-phase process that will competitively award the remaining \$1 billion in CDBG-DR funds to an initial 67 eligible states, counties, and cities nationwide. The competition will help communities recover from prior federally declared disasters in 2011, 2012, and 2013, and improve their ability to withstand and recover more quickly from future disasters, hazards, stresses and shocks. This two-phase competition allows eligible jurisdictions to compete for Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds, as appropriated by the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113-2).

Phase 1

In the first phase, the State of Connecticut described its unmet resiliency needs stemming from Hurricane Sandy. The Phase 1 application did not require the State to identify specific projects. During the process of creating the Phase 1 application, released in March 2015, the State engaged residents, business owners, elected officials and other stakeholders to identify risks and vulnerabilities in communities.

The State's Draft Phase 1 Application that was made available for public comment in March 2015 and can be viewed at circa.uconn.edu/ndrc/pubs/FinalSAFRConnecticutConnectionsJune22.pdf.

Phase 2

On June 22, 2015, HUD announced that the State of Connecticut was selected to advance to Phase 2 of NDRC. During this phase, the State will identify specific projects for which it seeks funding through the competition. The State will use this opportunity to strengthen social and economic resiliency in climate-vulnerable communities, and to enhance the city's coastal defenses in response to the evolving risks associated with climate change and other 21st century threats.

A fifteen (15) day comment period on the State of Connecticut's DRAFT Phase 2 application to the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) will begin on Monday, October 12 and end on Tuesday, October 27, 2015.

Beginning on October 12, 2015 the DRAFT application will be available for review at the Department of Housing website, www.ct.gov/doh, or may be viewed in person at the Department of Housing.

All State residents are invited to attend the multiple OPEN HOUSES and PUBLIC HEARINGS to comment on the State of Connecticut DRAFT Phase 2 application to the National Disaster Resilience Competition.

Bridgeport - Open House & Public Hearing

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Monday, October 12, 2015

Housatonic Community College

Beacon Hall

900 Lafayette Boulevard

Bridgeport, CT 06604

New Haven - Open House & Public Hearing

4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Gateway Community College

Community Room

20 Church Street

New Haven, CT 06510

Written comments may be submitted via the Connecticut Department of Housing email address, CT.Housing.Plans@ct.gov, or in hard copy to NDRC Phase 2 Comments, Department of Housing, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106. All comments received on or before October 27, 2015 will be considered and included in the final submission to HUD.

The Department of Housing programs are administered in a nondiscriminatory manner, consistent with equal employment opportunities, affirmative action, and fair housing requirements. Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for information in alternative formats must be directed to the ADA (504) Coordinator at 860-270-8261.