

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Town Board Amends Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan To Grant Preference Status To Town Residents Impacted By Natural Disasters**

**(Endwell, New York – July 13, 2006)** – The Town Board has approved an amendment to the Administrative Plan for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program that will add a new local preference designed to allow eligible Town residents who are involuntary displaced from their dwelling units by natural disasters to receive priority waiting list status.

According to Planning Director Paul A. Nelson, “While FEMA and other agencies provide temporary shelter or housing allowances for people who are displaced by natural disasters, this amendment is designed to provide permanent decent, safe, and sanitary replacement housing for qualified households that will be unable to return to their units”. A significant number of dwelling units in the Village of Johnson City and Fairmont Park, Westover, West Corners, and Endwell areas were substantially damaged or completely destroyed by the recent flood.

In order to receive priority waiting list status, Town residents who lived in effected areas must:

1. Provide proof of residency in designated areas affected by the disaster;
2. Complete and submit an application for assistance by Monday, July 31, 2006;
3. Meet income (see below) and all other eligibility requirements for the Housing Choice Voucher Program including a criminal background check for all household members 18 or older.

Applications for assistance are available at the following location:

**Town of Union Planning Department  
Town Hall  
3111 East Main Street  
Endwell, New York 13760**

The Town of Union is temporarily suspending acceptance of applications from all other applicants until August 1, 2006.

Funding for the Housing Choice Voucher program is provided through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

For further information, please contact the Town of Union Section 8 Rental Subsidy Program at 786-2985.

**Housing Choice Voucher Program - Very Low Income Guidelines By Household Size**

	1 Person	2 Persons	3 Persons	4 Persons	5 Persons	6 Persons	7 Persons	8+ Persons
<b>Maximum Gross Income</b>	\$18,950	\$21,650	\$24,350	\$27,050	\$29,200	\$31,400	\$33,550	\$35,700

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