



Department Of Planning

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Town of Union Seeks Input On Potential Uses For Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief Funding

(Union, New York – May 4, 2012) — On April 16, 2012 the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published a notice in the Federal Register (Docket No. FR-5628-N-01) regarding ***Allocations, Common Application Waivers, and Alternate Requirements for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery Grantees Under the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2012.*** The effective date of the notice is April 23, 2012. Pursuant to this notice, the Town of Union (including the villages of Endicott and Johnson City) is scheduled to receive a direct allocation of \$10,137,818 for necessary expenses related to disaster relief, long term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization. The Town is required to submit an Action Plan for Disaster Recovery to HUD by July 23, 2012.

According to Deputy Supervisor Rose A. Sotak, "Town of Union residents are extremely fortunate to receive this direct allocation of funding to address critical long term recovery needs and the Town Board intends to work with our entire Congressional delegation to ensure that these funds provide maximum flexibility to achieve a full and complete recovery effort".

CDBG-DR funding can be used to address a wide range of unmet needs directly resulting from the September 2011 flood including, but not limited to:

- **Infrastructure Improvements**
- **Homeownership Incentives**
- **Acquisition of Real Property**
- **New Housing Construction**
- **Housing Rehabilitation**
- **Public Facilities and Improvements**
- **Clearance and Demolition**
- **Economic Revitalization**

Additional information regarding the disaster recovery grant is available under the Flood Recovery Information section link near the top of the Town's web site at: www.townofunion.com

Residents can submit written suggestions for potential uses of the grant funds to the address below and may also submit suggestions using the Public Comment section of the Town web page by using the following link and selecting "Flood Recovery Grant" from the Department drop down menu:

http://www.townofunion.com/tell_us_what_you_think.html

Each eligible activity must also address one of three National Objectives established for the CDBG program by:

- **Benefitting low and moderate-income persons;**
- **Preventing or eliminating slums or blight;**
- **Meeting other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.**

At least fifty (50) percent of the funds must be spent on activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income.

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