

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
LAND USE MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF COASTAL AND LAND USE PLANNING
RESILIENT NJ GRANT PROGRAM**

Notice of Grant Fund Availability

Take notice that the Department of Environmental Protection (Department), in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, hereby publishes notice of the availability of the following grant funds:

A. Name of Grant Program

Resilient NJ Grant Program

B. Purpose

The purpose of this competitive grant program is to reimburse staff counties, municipalities, regional planning commissions, utility authorities, and community-based organizations (CBO) for participating as regional teams in the development and implementation of Regional Resilience and Adaptation Action Plans (Action Plans). These action plans will identify innovative solutions to coastal and/or riverine flooding, environmental resource protection, and the promotion of sustainable/smart growth development within the nine Sandy Most Impacted and Distressed counties, as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Program will be implemented in two phases. Phase 1 will include development of up to five Action Plans. Phase 2 will implement selected planning and design actions identified in Phase 1. This program includes funds for both the identification and implementation of planning projects.

C. Amount of Money in the Grant Program

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded the State Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds through the

National Disaster Resilience Competition to facilitate regional resiliency planning. Of this award, \$1 million has been approved to fund Regional Teams to participate in the Resilient NJ program.

Up to five awardees selected through this Notice will be granted up to \$200,000 to reimburse expenses, including salary, fringe benefits, indirect, travel, and supplies costs associated with participation in both phases of the program. The final total grant amount to each successful application will be based on the submitted budget.

Applications will be judged upon the ability of the proposal to achieve the goals of the grant program discussed above, with scoring of individual applications to be based upon the factors identified in the Application Requirements section below. Publication of this notice does not guarantee either that funds will be available to all applicants or that any proposal will be selected for funding. If an applicant incurs any costs prior to receiving an award agreement signed by an authorized Department official, it does so at its own risk as the application for funding may not be selected or such costs may not be included in a subsequent award. In no event will the Department be responsible for any proposal preparation costs.

Additional information on this funding source is available in the Federal Register at 81 FR 36557 (Docket No. FR-5936-N-01) published June 7, 2016. Additional information on funding available through this program is posted on the Resilient NJ program website listed in F. below.

D. Eligible Applicants

The Program is designed for regional projects. Eligible entities should form regional teams and submit a joint application, available on the Resilient NJ website.

Eligible entities include counties, municipalities, regional planning commissions, utility authorities, and CBOs within Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Union, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, and Cape May Counties. For the purposes of the Program, a CBO is an organization that serves the community that has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service to be tax-exempt under the terms of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

To be eligible for the Program, applicant teams must include participants from at least three contiguous municipalities and at least one CBO that represents underrepresented or socially vulnerable population(s). Applicants are encouraged to include partners beyond these minimum requirements.

Further guidance on potential eligibility of a particular organization or applicant team may be obtained from the Department in writing in accordance with F below.

E. Application Requirements

To be considered for funding, applicants must submit an application for a Regional Planning Grant. Applications must be prepared using the Resilient NJ Regional Planning Grant Application, which is available on the Resilient NJ website. A hard copy of the application may be requested from the Department by e-mail or by calling the Department in accordance with F. below. Applicants must provide all information identified in the grant application including letters of commitment from all team members, a detailed budget including a list of the staff that will be assigned to the project, and a description of the region proposed to be addressed in an Action Plan detailing the need for regional resiliency planning.

This is a competitive grant program. Scoring of applications will be based on the demonstration of need, demonstration of capacity, and any unique characteristics of the region covered by the application. More information on the requirements for the application are available at the website listed in F. below.

F. Address for Application Submittal and Inquiries, and Filing Deadline:

There will be three public information sessions on Resilient NJ held at locations throughout the program area. The details for these sessions are available on the Resilient NJ website. All inquiries regarding eligibility, application requirements, or other programmatic questions must be made via email to ResilientNJ@dep.nj.gov by 12:00 P.M. EST on June 30, 2018. Inquiries and responses will be posted on the Resilient NJ website:
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/oclupe/resilientnj>.

Both electronic and hard copies of the application are required. **One electronic copy** of the application must be submitted to the Department at ResilientNJ@dep.nj.gov by **12:00 P.M. EST on July 21, 2018** to be eligible for funding. Additionally, three hard copies of the application and all the required documentation **postmarked on or before 12:00 P.M. EST on July 21, 2018** must be sent to:

Attn: Carmen Valentin
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Office of Coastal and Land Use Planning
P.O. Box 420 Mail Code 401-07B
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

A notice of receipt for both the hardcopies and electronic copies will be provided to the applicant by email. An applicant that submits an incomplete application shall be deemed ineligible. Problems with electronic submission of the application should be directed to Carmen Valentin at ResilientNJ@dep.nj.gov, who can also be contacted at (609) 984-0058 from Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. All other inquiries regarding the application process must be submitted in writing to the email address above.

G. Date by which Applicants will be notified:

Applicants will be notified by October 21, 2018 if their application is selected for a Resilient NJ grant.

Dated: 04/26/2018



Nicholas Angarone, Bureau Chief

Office of Coastal and Land Use Planning