

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

April 17, 2013

Honorable Shaun Donovan
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Donovan:

On April 4, 2013, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) wrote Matthew Nelson, President of the New York State Office of Community Renewal, regarding the administration of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (“CDBG-DR”) funds related to the recovery from Superstorm Sandy in Westchester County. In that letter, the Deputy Assistant Secretary indicated that New York State would be the administrator of the CDBG-DR funds allocated to Westchester. The April 4th letter likewise references the current situation regarding the federal housing settlement entered into between HUD and the County in 2009.


Westchester County has been in contact with the Governor’s office in this matter. All County departments have been directed to provide any assistance to facilitate the state’s role in the administration of these funds.

On March 25, 2013, the Director of Community Planning and Development (“CPD”) indicated that HUD intended to terminate and reallocate the FY2011 payment of \$7.4 million awarded to the County as of April 25, 2013. The majority of this \$7.4 million, nearly 80%, is slated to go to municipalities and organizations that are not subject to the settlement.

In view of the fact that New York State will already be administering the CDBG-DR funds, the County respectfully requests that HUD authorize New York State to administer the FY 2011 CPD funds. This would provide for an immediate release of the \$7.4 million to municipalities and not-for-profit organizations that have relied upon these CPD funds. Further, it addresses HUD’s concerns regarding the County viz-a-viz the settlement, since the County will neither administer nor benefit in any way from the allocation. It will go to the Westchester municipalities and not-for-profit agencies via New York State.

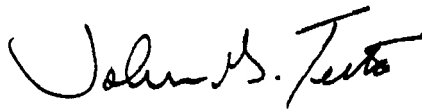
Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. A prompt response is appreciated since the April 25th deadline set by HUD is fast approaching. A letter has been sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo seeking the state's acquiescence to this proposal.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Astorino
Westchester County Executive

Chairman Kenneth Jenkins



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District 1



Legislator Michael Smith
District 3

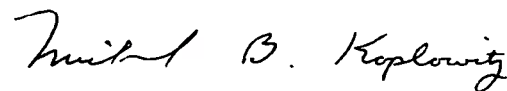
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District 5

Legislator Judith Myers
District 7

Legislator Catherine Borgia
District 9

Vice Chairman Lyndon Williams

Legislator Peter Harckham
District 2

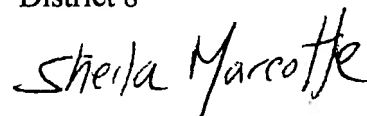


Legislator Michael Kaplowitz
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Legislator David Gelfarb
District 6

Legislator Alfreda Williams
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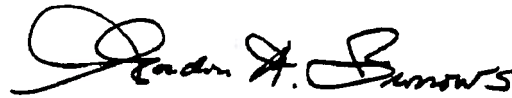


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Legislator Mary Jane Shimsky
District 12



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District 14



Legislator Gordon A. Burrows
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Legislator Virginia Perez
District 17

Cc: Honorable Andrew Cuomo
U.S. Senator Charles Schumer
U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Representative Eliot Engel
U.S. Representative Nita Lowey
U.S. Representative Sean Patrick Maloney