Homes and Community Renewal
Office of Resilient Homes and Communities

To: Potential Respondents

From: Office of Resilient Homes and Communities

Date: July 31, 2025

Subject: Addendum #1 - Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
Blue Buffers Voluntary Property Buyout Program

Includes: Modifications to NOFA

MODIFICATIONS TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

The following are official modifications which are hereby incorporated into the **Notice of Funding Availability for the Blue Buffers Voluntary Property Buyout Program.** The information contained in this Addendum prevails over the original NOFA language for all modifications below.

Real Estate Closing Facilitation

Real Estate Closing Facilitation: Awardee(s) will not be required to take ownership of properties as part of the Blue Buffers program. Third parties, such as local units of government or land trusts, will take ownership of the acquired properties directly at closing. However, the Blue Buffers program will provide all necessary services to facilitate those closings. Provision of those services will include:

- **Due Diligence:** Procure, hire, and manage certain professional service firms, such as environmental compliance services. Additional due diligence services, such as appraisers, surveyors, and closing attorneys will be hired directly by a previously selected nonprofit organization.
- ~~**Financial Management:** Set up escrow accounts for HTFC to wire EBA capital, covering the costs of each transaction. Transactions must comply with the requirements of the EBA, as well as other applicable laws and regulations associated with property acquisition~~
- **Coordination of Real Estate Closings:** Conduct real estate closings and ensure open space covenants are recorded on acquired properties.
- **Buyer Identification:** Assist RHC in identifying short and/or long-term land stewards to assume ownership of purchased property, as applicable and if needed. RHC anticipates the local unit of government to take ownership of acquired land for most participating communities.

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Staff from HCR will score applications and make award determinations. Respondents' proposals will be examined for completeness and eligibility. Incomplete proposals and those that do not meet eligibility requirements will be rejected as ineligible. Complete proposals and those that meet eligibility requirements will be reviewed and rated.

The maximum rating is 100 points.

Homes and Community Renewal
Office of Resilient Homes and Communities

1. Section I. Expertise and Experience (Up to 30 points)

   a) Describe your organization's experience ~~successfully managing homeownership and or renter programs in which working closely with residents was a fundamental part of the program.~~ working in the affordable housing space.
   b) Describe your organization's experience working ~~on flood recovery/resiliency programs, and provide details of those programs~~ in the climate adaptation and resilience field, as it relates to housing and/or infrastructure, including but not limited to, the demographics of people served, number of people served, geographic data showing where in the State assistance was provided, the amount of assistance provided to applicants and how the assistance was delivered.
   c) Provide a list, with dates and grant amounts, of large-scale New York State and/or local government programs your organization has successfully administered, and measurable indicators describing the success of those programs.
   d) Provide information about your organization's management structure and staff's internal capacity to manage multiple external vendors.
   e) Describe what experience, if any, your organization has had working ~~with residents needing to relocate and what services you provided to ensure successful outcomes working~~ directly in disadvantaged communities located in New York State, including with local stakeholder groups such as homeowner associations, tenant associations, local community-based organizations, affordable housing providers, local elected officials and advocacy organizations.