

New York State Homes and Community Renewal
Office of Resilient Homes and Communities

**Hurricane Ida Resilient Investments through Support and
Capital (RISC)- Infrastructure**

Notice of Funding Availability



**Homes and
Community Renewal**

**Office of Resilient Homes
and Communities**

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I. OVERVIEW

A. PURPOSE

Resilient Homes and Communities (“RHC”), an office of the Housing Trust Fund Corporation (“HTFC”) and as part of New York State Homes and Community Renewal (“HCR”), invites eligible applicants to apply for funding under the Hurricane Ida Resilient Investments through Support and Capital (“RISC”) – Infrastructure Program (the “Program”). This Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) describes the purpose for which the available funds are to be used and the methodology for disbursing those funds.

Through this NOFA, RHC expects to make up to seventeen million dollars (\$17,000,000) in grant funding available to units of local government, public entities, or non-profit organizations in Dutchess, Nassau, Orange, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties for resilient upgrades to public facilities and infrastructure or other mitigation-focused construction activities.

The Program will prioritize sites in Westchester County (which HUD designates as the most impacted and distressed county by Ida) and sites that were directly damaged/impacted by Hurricane Ida.

Eligible applicants are invited to submit applications for funding. Applications must be submitted via email to RHC_NOFA_Applications@hcr.ny.gov no later than **3:00 PM (EST) on April 13, 2026**.

B. FUNDING BACKGROUND

The remnants of Hurricane Ida hit New York on September 1, 2021, causing record-breaking rainfall and widespread flooding throughout New York City, Long Island, and the Mid-Hudson region. HUD determined the State of New York will receive \$68,228,000¹ in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding to support long-term recovery efforts following Hurricane Ida (FEMA DR-4615) through RHC. CDBG-DR funding is designed to address needs that remain after all other assistance has been exhausted.

The New York State Action Plan for Disaster Recovery (“Action Plan”) outlines New York’s plan for expending CDBG-DR funds allocated by HUD to support long-term recovery efforts following Hurricane Ida. The Action Plan details how funds will be allocated to address remaining unmet need in the disaster-impacted areas of Dutchess, Nassau, Orange, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties, including the RISC Program.

II. FUNDING

A. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants should be eligible to receive federal awards and include: units of local/County government; State agencies and authorities; Soil and Water Conservation Districts; public schools

¹ To meet disaster recovery needs, the statutes making CDBG-DR funds available have imposed additional requirements and authorized HUD to modify the rules that apply to the annual CDBG program to enhance flexibility and allow for a quicker recovery. HUD has allocated \$68,228,000 in CDBG-DR funds to the State of New York in response to Hurricane Ida (FEMA DR-4615), through the publication of the Federal Register, Vol. 87, No.100, May 24, 2022, and Federal Register, Vol. 88, No. 11, January 18, 2023. This allocation was made available through the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Pub. L. 117-43) approved September 30, 2021 (the Appropriations Act) and the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2023 (Pub. L. 117– 180) approved September 30, 2022 (the “2023 Appropriations Act”).

(K-12) and universities; first responders, including volunteer fire and EMS facilities; not-for-profit entities that serve communities within Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, Orange, Dutchess County, and Westchester Counties; or a consortium of any of the above. Applicants must be registered to do business in New York State.

B. ELIGIBLE USES

Eligible RISC projects install mitigation upgrades that reduce the risks of community flooding, especially those due to severe rain events similar to Hurricane Ida. Projects that reduce the likelihood of flooding will also reduce the risk of damages and property losses due to flooding, both for the responsible entity and the community beneficiaries.

Mitigation upgrades are activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters (as defined by HUD in 87 FR 31636). Mitigation upgrades should respond to hazards identified in the local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Priority Project Types: Priority will be granted to projects that have completed some or all pre-development activities and are able to proceed with construction within one year of executing a Grant Agreement with RHC. Applicants must have ownership or control of the areas they propose to improve and/or have easements or access agreements necessary to facilitate construction. To the extent these agreements are not in place at the time of application, Applicants should identify what agreements will be needed in the Project Narrative and provide letters of support from the granting entities or individuals. **Construction must be completed no later than July 1, 2029** In addition, the Program will prioritize projects that meet the following criteria (as described in the Application and Award Process Section):

- Projects that sustained damage from Hurricane Ida,
- Projects located in Westchester County,
- Projects that benefit greater proportions of LMI residents, and
- Projects that include green infrastructure elements.

RHC will determine grant amounts based on the size, complexity, and needs of the proposed project. RHC anticipates making five awards total with four awards of up to \$3,000,000 per project and one award of up to \$5,000,000. Funds awarded under this NOFA may be used in combination with other grants and/or local funds to meet the total project need, subject to applicable regulations regarding duplication of benefits/order of assistance. Should subrecipients have an existing grant for that requires a specific local contribution percentage, the CDBG-DR award may be used to satisfy this requirement. Applicants may submit multiple applications for consideration but may only be awarded **one (1) project** under this NOFA.

C. ELIGIBLE COSTS

Eligible costs include:

- Infrastructure improvements, including improvements to neighborhood and public facilities

and facilities for persons with special needs.

- Site preparation and site infrastructure necessary for the proposed capital project.
- Soft costs including legal fees, filing fees, permitting, inspections, construction management, architecture and engineering, and environmental review are eligible uses of funds in conjunction with a capital project.
- The Program does not cover administrative or other general organizational operating expenses outside the Project Budget.

Ineligible costs include but are not limited to:

- Maintenance and repair.
- Operating costs.
- Buildings for the general conduct of government (i.e. buildings that house administrative functions of the government)
- Purchase of construction equipment

Funds will be disbursed on a cost incurred or reimbursement basis. Disbursement schedules will be determined by RHC prior to the execution of a program Grant Agreement.

Projects whose budgets exceed the Program maximum must submit documentation of the funding sources that will supplement the RISC award.

Note Regarding Maximum Award: RHC may make an exception to the maximum award to allow projects unable to secure gap financing to proceed on a case-by-case basis. This may include providing technical assistance to the project owner with the objective of securing alternate gap financing. Such exceptions shall be granted at the sole discretion of RHC.

III. LOW- AND MODERATE INCOME BENEFIT

RHC's goal is for 70% of all funds awarded under this NOFA to principally benefit low-and moderate-income areas and projects benefitting these communities will be prioritized. This means that the project's service area (defined by the applicant) is primarily residential and that at least 51% of the residents are low- and moderate-income (LMI). LMI is defined as income equal to or less than 80% of the county median income established by HUD.

Projects located in jurisdictions which qualify for "exception criteria" ([FY 2024 Exception Grantees, Based on 2016-2020 ACS - HUD Exchange](#)) may be considered to principally benefit low-and moderate-income areas if the service area is primarily residential and the proportion of LMI residents is equal to or greater than the top quartile of concentration of LMI residents in the jurisdiction (e.g. 38.2% or more in Westchester County). The current income limits can be found on HUD's Website using the following link: [CDBG IncomeLmts Natl 2025.xlsx](#).

IV. FINANCING

- RISC funding will be provided as a grant.
- Pre-development Cost Agreements may be available in certain circumstances where such eligible costs are proposed to be funded by the RISC award. Funding given through a pre-development costs agreement will be included in the total grant amount.

V. APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS

A. HOW TO APPLY

Applications should email the Required Application Materials in a single application package, clearly labeled and organized, to RHC_NOFA_Applications@hcr.ny.gov with the subject "RISC Application – [Project Name]."

RHC through HTFC will not be held liable for any cost incurred by the applicant for work performed in the preparation, production, or submission of a proposal in response to this NOFA. All proposal materials and information submitted as part of the application shall become the property of HTFC. No materials, curricula, media, or other content will be returned to the applicant.

Applicants that submitted applications for capital funding for the proposed infrastructure project to the following funding agencies in calendar years 2025 and 2026 may provide their previously submitted application and supporting documents in lieu of the Project Narrative: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Department of State, New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation. In the event of any materials changes to the project scope, budget, or timeline since the previous application, or if the previous application does not align with information provided in the Application Workbook, please provide a short explanation of those discrepancies and submit with the Application Workbook.

ALL Applicants must complete and submit the Application Workbook.

Required Application Materials:

- [RISC Infrastructure Application Workbook](#) and attachments (listed in Workbook) in PDF form.
- Project Narrative: Provide a 4 page or less narrative in PDF that includes:
 - Description of site and the area that will benefit from the project.
 - Description of the impact of Hurricane Ida to the site.
 - Description of mitigation scope of work:
 - Type, frequency, and severity of hazard that the mitigation upgrade responds to;
 - How the mitigation upgrade increases resilience to disasters and reduces or eliminates the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship;
 - Level of resilience the project will achieve (for example, flood mitigation measures designed to withstand 100-year flood); and
 - Does the project include greenways or green infrastructure elements?
 - Does the Applicant have site access and control? If necessary, identify all easements and/or agreements that will be needed for construction and their status. If agreements are not currently in place provide letters of support from the granting entities/individuals.
 - Applicant Experience:
 - Highlight relevant infrastructure project experience, including with CDBG-DR or other Federal funds, including Applicant's role in the projects;
 - Identify gaps in necessary skills and experience, with explanation of how these will

- be addressed for the proposed project; and
 - Description of ownership entity (if applicable).
 - Financing:
 - Narrative to support sources and uses, including clarification of any items that may appear out of the ordinary in an underwriting review.
 - Status of other funding commitments if project budget exceeds RISC grant.
 - Timeline:
 - Overview of status of proposed project, including percent design completed;
 - Steps completed to date and timeline for startup and completion;
 - Potential obstacles to timely start up and completion, and plan to overcome; and
 - Anticipated resident relocation, if applicable (including number of homes affected, expected displacement period, plan for addressing).

B. APPLICATION QUESTIONS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

RHC will offer multiple types of assistance to support applicants to RISC:

Information Session: RHC will hold an online information session on Monday March 2nd from 2:30pm-3:30pm for all interested applicants. Please use this link to register for the session: [Info Session: RISC Infrastructure Program](#). The session can also be accessed through this link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/24843515574634?p=atIQ25FGeMQXry82tI>. After the session, all questions answered will be posted to the Materials Section of the [Hurricane Ida Funding Opportunities](#) page.

Direct Technical Assistance: RHC will offer direct technical assistance to any applicant seeking guidance with their application. This could include (but is not limited to) help with:

- Identifying potential partnerships;
- Understanding eligibility requirements;
- Developing an RISC-Infrastructure eligible scope and budget;
- Understanding Federal and State requirements that apply to RISC-Infrastructure projects.

Please request technical assistance by March 16, 2026, to RHC_NOFA_Applications@hcr.ny.gov.

C. THRESHOLD ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

Incomplete applications and those that do not meet eligibility requirements may be rejected as ineligible, though RHC reserves the right to request clarifying information or documents from such applicants to make a threshold eligibility determination. Complete proposals and those that meet eligibility requirements will be reviewed and rated.

- **Completeness**: A complete application is one that includes all required forms and attachments.
- **Threshold Eligibility**: An eligible application meets general eligibility requirements, e.g., eligible applicant, number of units, use of funds, project timeline, ability to comply with regulatory requirements.

D. APPLICATION SCORING

A review committee (“Committee”) will evaluate proposals based on the qualifications the Applicant. Evaluation will be based on the selection criteria in the table below. The Committee may also conduct interviews to clarify or expand on the NOFA response (at the discretion of the Committee).

RHC/HTFC may also perform a due diligence review of the items submitted in the proposal, including but are not limited to, corporate and individual employee references, findings of non-compliance or non-performance by HUD or another federal, state, or local government agency, unresolved investigations or legal issues, audit findings, or other risk factors identified as part of a vendor responsibility review.

The Committee will score proposals based on how well they meet the selection criteria. RHC/HTFC will select proposals with the highest point scores. To ensure that high-quality projects are selected, the minimum threshold score is 65. The maximum rating is 100 points.

RHC reserves the right to select lower-scoring projects that meet the minimum threshold in order to meet its Federal requirement to allocate 80% of Ida CDBG-DR funding to Westchester County and 70% of funds to benefit LMI persons.

Selection Criteria	Maximum Points Available
Readiness to Proceed	20
Applicant Experience & Capacity	15
Nexus to Hurricane Ida	10
Connection to Mitigation Needs	20
Affordability and Access	15
Price/Cost Reasonableness	20
Total Points Available	100

1. Readiness to Proceed (20 points)

- a. Project timeline and predevelopment work completed to date demonstrate that the project can begin quickly following award and be completed within the two-year term.
- b. Financing has been secured to fund the full project budget (if applicable). If not fully secured, evidence of funding commitments provided.
- c. Applicant demonstrates access to capital needed to start project work prior to the first grant disbursement.

2. Applicant Experience & Capacity (15 points)

- a. Applicant has demonstrated capacity to perform similar projects, including handling Federal funds.
- b. Applicant and/or its developer partner have experience managing disaster resilience and/or mitigation projects specifically.

3. Nexus to Hurricane Ida (10 points)

- a. Project responds to unmet needs related to Hurricane Ida and clearly explains how the scope of work addresses these unmet needs.

- b. Project is located in Westchester County.
- c. Projects will be scored higher that demonstrate they received greater impact/damage from Hurricane Ida.

4. Connection to Mitigation Needs (20 points)

- a. Proposed project responds to a disaster risk identified as “high risk” in the current Hazard Mitigation Plan for that jurisdiction.
- b. Proposed project includes greenways or green infrastructure components.

5. Affordability and Access (15 points)

- a. Projects that will benefit areas occupied by 51% or more LMI residents will be scored higher.
- b. Projects that prioritize services in support of vulnerable populations will also be scored higher.

6. Cost Reasonableness (20 points)

- a. Application, narrative, and budget present clear, well-planned use of funds.
- b. Sources of funds and plan for construction and permanent financing are clearly outlined.
- c. Costs are substantiated and application explains how cost estimates were developed and reviewed for reasonableness.

E. APPLICATION STATUS AND NOTIFICATION

Applicants will receive one of the notifications below in response to their application:

- **Incomplete:** Application presents potentially eligible project but provides insufficient information. Applicant may be provided an opportunity to submit additional documentation.
- **Non-Award Notification:** Application presents an incomplete, non-competitive, not viable project and will not receive an award under this NOFA.
- **Preliminary Award Notification:** Application presents a complete, eligible, competitive, and feasible project. The project has been recommended to and approved by HTFC Board of Directors for funding.

F. AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS AND BOARD APPROVAL

Awards are recommended based on available funding, proposal quality and project feasibility as determined by the review and rating of an application. The evaluation and selection criteria are detailed in the NOFA. Recommendations are advanced to the HTFC Board for consideration and the award must be approved by that Board prior to the execution of a grant agreement.

G. FUNDING COMMITMENT LETTER

Awardees may be asked to revise parts of their proposal prior to entering into a program grant agreement with HTFC. After any required revisions are submitted and approved, a final program grant agreement and other documents as may be required will be executed. The program grant agreement will require that Awardees expend all funds and meet all program goals within a two-year (2) term. Extensions will be available only at the discretion of HTFC staff.

Applicant should not apply if the project will not begin within a reasonable time after receiving an executed grant agreement or will not be able to complete the project within a two-year term. Funds remaining at the end of the term are subject to de-obligation and reallocation.

H. GENERAL APPLICATION AND AWARD PROVISIONS

RHC/HTFC reserves the right to:

- Award all, a portion of, or none of the program funds based upon funding availability, competitiveness of applications received, feasibility of achieving project goals and objectives and completing proposed activities; and geographic needs;
- Change or disallow aspects of the applications and may make such changes conditions of its commitment to provide funding;
- Recommend funding in an amount less than requested;
- Not issue an award or grant agreement to any applicant if it has been determined that the applicant is not in compliance with existing state contracts and has not taken satisfactory steps to remedy such non-compliance;
- Waive any requirement contained in this NOFA;
- Revise this NOFA from time to time;
- Extend the submission due date; and/or
- Issue subsequent NOFAs.

I. APPLICATION AND AWARD TIMELINE

RHC/HTFC reserves the right to modify this schedule, at its discretion. Notification of changes in connection with this NOFA will be posted and made available to all interested parties via <https://hcr.ny.gov/funding-opportunities> and <https://hcr.ny.gov/hurricane-ida-cdbg-dr-funding-opportunities>.

Item	Deadline
NOFA Issued	Tuesday, February 17, 2026
Information Session (Meeting link: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/24843515574634?p=atIQ25FGeMQXry82tl)	Monday, March 2, 2026 at 2:30 PM
Deadline for Technical Assistance Requests email RHC_NOFA_Applications@hcr.ny.gov	Monday, March 16, 2026
Deadline for Proposal Submission	Monday, April 13, 2026, at 3:00 PM
Applicant Interviews (at RHC discretion)	Monday May 4 – Friday May 15, 2026
Anticipated Preliminary Award Selection <i>Award(s) will be contingent on HTFC Board approval, which may occur after this date</i>	Friday, May 29, 2026

VI. REGULATIONS, GUIDANCE AND APPLICATION OBLIGATIONS

Applicants are advised that, if awarded, they must comply with the requirements in this section, in addition

to the certifications contained in the Application Workbook.

A. COMPLIANCE WITH ALL FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

The Federal requirements included in this NOFA are not necessarily comprehensive, and it is the successful applicant's responsibility to remain knowledgeable of, and compliant with, any new or revised rules that are adopted during the life of the agreement. Where there are contradictions between this NOFA and Federal Law, Federal Law will prevail and control.

Such requirements include:

- Financial Management:
 - All services must be procured in conformance with 40 U.S.C 1101 and 2 CFR 200. 318 through 2 CFR 200.327.
 - Conformance with 2 CFR part 200, 24 CFR Part 58, 24 CFR 570 as modified by Federal Register Notices applicable to PL 117-43 and PL 117-180 CDBG-DR grants.
 - Single Audit compliance as defined in 2 CFR 200, subpart F
- Project Design and Implementation Requirements:
 - Uniform Relocation Act, regarding relocation and/or displacement.
 - Accessibility under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
 - Floodplain management: New construction and substantial improvements of non-residential buildings, and critical actions in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain must be elevated or floodproofed according to the requirements of 24 CFR Part 55.
 - Compliance with State and NEPA environmental and historic preservation reviews, i.e., SEQRA and SHPO, as applicable to the subrecipient's awarded scope.
- Labor Requirements:
 - HUD Section 3 labor requirements.
 - Davis-Bacon prevailing wage compliance and recordkeeping requirements
- Other:
 - Purchase and maintenance of flood insurance for structures built or repaired with award funds which are insurable and located in a special flood hazard area (i.e. in the 100-year floodplain).
 - Compliance with Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) and Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business Program requirements
 - Conformance with RHC's Citizen Participation Plan
 - Compliance with Equal Employment Opportunity requirements
 - State and Federal reporting

RHC will establish Resilience Performance Metrics for the Program before carrying out activities to construct, reconstruct, or rehabilitate residential or non-residential structures.

APPENDIX A: RESILIENCE RESOURCES

Applicants are encouraged to review the following resources to help identify resilience measures that respond to an identified disaster risk.

- Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMPs): An HMP includes a risk assessment to identify the main disaster risks to an area and presents a hazard-mitigation strategy for the area. Applicants may refer to their local HMP to help document the identified disaster risk that their project responds to.
 - [Dutchess County Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
 - [Nassau Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
 - [County Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
 - [Rockland County Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
 - [Suffolk County Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
 - [Westchester County Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- Mitigation and Resilience Project Ideas and Resources:
 - [Build for the Future - HUD Exchange](#)
 - [Invest in Sustainable Solutions - HUD Exchange](#)