

**New York City Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)**

Demolition and Landmarks Historic Preservation Grant Programs – 2026 – Queens County

**Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in
a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Floodplain**

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals:

This is to give notice that the City of New York (the City) has determined that the following proposed actions under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program may contain sites that are located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain. In the absence of Climate-Informed-Science-Approach (CISA) data, the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance (500-Year) Flood Approach is being used to define the FFRMS floodplain, which uses the elevation and flood hazard area as depicted by the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance floodplain as delineated on the latest Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) or preliminary FIRMs, whichever is more stringent.

The City will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the floodplain and the potential impacts in the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 and in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management. The proposed projects would occur at scattered sites throughout Queens County, as described below.

Program Description

Demolition Program activities would be carried out by the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). HPD is tasked with demolishing or stabilizing structures, throughout the five boroughs of the City, that are, or may become, dangerous or unsafe, structurally or as a fire hazard, or dangerous or detrimental to human life and public health when the property owner fails to act. HPD performs both emergency and non-emergency demolition activities, which include full and partial demolitions and associated work (e.g., asbestos testing and air monitoring; securing the work area; clearing, cleaning, backfilling, and grading land). CDBG funds would only be used for the purpose of demolition of debilitated properties, and would not be used to redevelop the sites.

The **Landmarks Historic Preservation Grant Program** provides financial assistance to rehabilitate, preserve, and restore historic properties that are designated individual New York City landmarks, within designated New York City historic districts, or listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. To qualify for an interior restoration grant, the building's interior must be designated. Eligible properties must meet CDBG national objective criteria and are limited to residential properties (both owner- and tenant-occupied) and properties owned by public or private nonprofit organizations. Eligible façade work includes, but is not limited to, masonry rebuilding and repointing; restoration of façades, sills, lintels and roofs; paint removal; and repair and replacement of windows, cornices, and front doors. Ground disturbance would be limited to activities within previously disturbed soil, such minor repairs to the exterior of the structure (e.g., stoop repair). Activities involving significant ground disturbance or disruption of undisturbed soils are not eligible for the Program.

As activities for both programs are limited to previously disturbed sites, project activities are not expected to adversely affect intrinsic values of the floodplain.

CDBG funds are allocated on an annual basis to the City and, due to the nature of the programs, the specific locations where implementation would occur is unknown. It is estimated that approximately \$10,000,000 of CDBG funds would be allocated to the Demolition Program each year, and that approximately 97 sites would be served by the program annually across the entire city. For the Landmarks Historic Preservation Grant Program, it is estimated that approximately \$114,000 of CDBG funds would be allocated annually, and that approximately ten sites would be served by the program each year citywide. It is unknown how many of these sites would fall within a floodplain or within each borough. The total approximate number of acres in Queens County that fall within the FFRMS floodplain is as follows:

	100-Year Floodplain (Zones A, AE, VE)	500-Year Floodplain (Shaded X or 0.2-percent-annual-chance)
Effective FIRM (2007)	1,542	219
Preliminary FIRM (2015)	1,938	470

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate project impacts on the floodplain. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

All interested persons, groups and agencies are invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed use of federal funds to support program activities which may be located in a floodplain. The minimum 15 calendar day comment period will begin the day after the publication and end on the 16th day after the publication.

Written comments must be received by the City of New York at the following address on or before July 17, 2026: New York City Office of Management and Budget, 255 Greenwich Street, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10007, Attention: Juliet Jacobs, Environmental Unit Head, or by phone at (212) 788-1653. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9:30am to 5:30pm at the address stated above, or may be requested by email. Comments and project information requests may be submitted via email to CDBGComments@omb.nyc.gov.

City of New York Zohran Kwame Mamdani, Mayor
Sherif Soliman, Director of Management and Budget

Date: July 1, 2026