

RMSN-G1301

July 26, 2013

Borough of Rumson
80 E River Rd
Rumson, NJ 07760

**Re: Hurricane Sandy HMGP Elevation Program
ReNEW Jersey Stronger
Program Application Guidelines and Description**

Dear Resident:

As you may or may not know, the State of NJ has announced a \$100 million dollar home elevation program available to residents located within Atlantic, Bergen, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean and Union Counties. Primary Single Family residents and owner occupied at the time of Superstorm Sandy are eligible to apply through the www.renewjerseystronger.org website for a \$30,000 grant to elevate their home. Please understand this is the State of NJ's new process for the FEMA-DR-4086 HMGP Elevation Program and is specific to Hurricane Sandy.

To be eligible to receive HMGP Elevation Grant assistance, an applicant must meet the following eligibility factors:

- The residence must be located in one of the nine (9) most impacted Counties [Atlantic, Bergen, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Union].
- At the time of Superstorm Sandy the residence must have been owned and occupied by the applicant as the applicant's primary residence.
- The residence must be located in the 100-year floodplain.
- The applicant may not be a recipient of funding from the Department of Community Affairs' RREM program.
- The property may not be targeted for acquisition under the HMGP acquisition program.
- No elevation work has been started.

Note: An application can be made to both RREM and HMGP but funds may be accepted from one or the other, not both.

Applications will be ranked according to priority status determined by Risk (decided by the elevation required for the first floor to be 1 foot above the FEMA base flood elevation) and Sustained Damages (homes sustaining minimum \$8,000.00 in damages of 1 foot of flooding will be given higher priority).

When completing the HMGP Residential Elevation application (available at www.renewjerseystronger.org) you should be able to answer the following questions (Please be advised you may need to supply supporting data in the future for justification):

- Homeowner contact information.
- Residence Information:
 - Foundation Type
 - Is home structurally sound to elevation
 - What flood Zone is it located
 - What is the BFE requirement in feet?
- Do you know how high you need to elevate, if so how high?
- Do you have an elevation certificate?
- Do you have Engineering plans including soil evaluation, elevation method, cost and timing?

All applications will be prioritized primarily by elevation risk. “Elevation risk” is determined by how many feet a home needs to be elevated to meet the State design flood elevation (ABFE or best available data + 1 ft.) or as local codes require. The elevation risk groupings are the following:

1. Homes which need to be elevated more than or equal to 8 ft.;
2. Homes which need to be elevated more than or equal to 5ft., but less than 8 ft.; and
3. Homes requiring elevation of less than 5ft.

Within each elevation grouping, the following factors will be used to prioritize applications:

1. Major damage greater than 1 foot of flood water on the first floor or damages equal to or greater than \$8,000; and
2. Less than major damage, including no damage.

The State mandates that you add one additional foot to the Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFEs) unless they have been replaced by the Preliminary Base Flood Elevations (BFEs). If no ABFE exists, the existing BFE would be used, plus one additional foot. Your municipality

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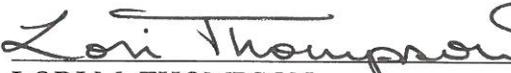


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may also require additional elevation. If new Preliminary BFEs have been released for your community—the Preliminary BFE plus one additional foot will be required. If a community added an additional elevation requirement, then you must elevate to the local government standard. You should check with your local Flood Plain Administrator for details.

If you have any questions or concerns, please visit the program website at www.renewjerseystronger.org or call 1-855-726-3946 for grant related assistance.

Thank you,


LORI M. THOMPSON
GRANTS PROGRAM MANAGER

LMT: KE: