



TOWN OF CAIRO

PO Box 728, Cairo, NY 12413

Building & Codes Department: 518 622 9894 Fax: 518 622 3217

Email: buildingandcodes@townofcairo.com

Date: March 14, 2012

Re: Floodprone Property Hazard Mitigation Program Interest Letter

Dear Sir/Madam,

Following the devastating floods from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in 2011, NYS Office of Emergency Management announced the availability of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds for Hazard Mitigation projects. This letter is to inform you that you may be eligible for a flood buyout or structural elevation of your home or business as a cost-effective mitigation option.

1. Flood Acquisition – if your structure was substantially damaged (defined as damages that equal or exceed 50% of the fair market value before the flood), as determined by the local floodplain administrator, and is in the floodplain as identified on the local Flood Insurance Rate Maps, you may be eligible for a buyout. The acquisition results in a sponsoring municipality facilitating the purchase of your property and structure, using federal FEMA funds, based on pre-flood fair market value (FMV). An eligible landowner can receive up to 75% of the pre-flood FMV for the structure and property. The property owner will be responsible for the 25% match. The floodprone structure would be demolished therefore eliminating future risks and costs to the homeowner and taxpayer. The property would be put in the sponsoring municipality's name and maintained as open floodplain space. Check here for Acquisition
2. Elevation – a second program involves raising or lifting structures to meet rebuilding requirements in the floodplain. To be eligible, there must be documentation to prove past flood damage (someone with a one-time only flooding problem would not be eligible). A cost benefit analysis is performed to determine if raising the structure is cost-effective based on data submitted. Examples of the type of documentation that lists damages and/or losses include receipts of repairs completed or estimates for work to be done, insurance claims paid, or surveys completed by the homeowner. (Note: homeowner's time for cleanup and/or repairs may be included.) If residents were displaced from the home, costs related to accommodating persons during and after the event (e.g., hotel costs) can be included as well. Check here for Elevation

Please check one of the boxes above for the program you are interested in exploring further to reduce your flood losses, and complete the property information and sign below. Signing this does not commit you to any action. Please return the signed letter by April 19, 2012 to the address above. (Note: if you submitted a Letter of Interest in February you do not need to resubmit.)

Property Address:

Owner(s) Mailing Address:

Owner(s) Name(s)

Contact Phone Number:

The local government is required by FEMA to inform you that your participation in this project for open-space acquisition is *voluntary*. Neither the *State* nor the *Local Government* will use its eminent domain authority to acquire the property for open-space purposes if you choose not to participate, or if negotiations fail.

Owner's Signature

Date

Should you have any questions, feel free to call me at the number above, or contact the Greene County Soil & Water Conservation District's Watershed Assistance Program at 518-589-6871. Thank you for your interest in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Sincerely,

Town Supervisor/Village Mayor

Cc: GCSWCD
GCEDTP