



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

**DEC 20 2019**

The Honorable Ed Gaunch  
Secretary  
Department of Commerce  
State of West Virginia  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Building 3, Suite 600  
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Gaunch:

The Department is approving the State of West Virginia's Action Plan substantial Amendment (APA#4) for Community Development Block Grant disaster recovery (CDBG-DR) funds appropriated under Public Laws 114-223, 114-254, and 115-31. The State received a total of \$149,875,000 for long-term disaster recovery efforts from catastrophic flooding that occurred in 2016. The State submitted its initial APA#4 on October 7, 2019. After completing a 14-day public comment period, the Department received its final submission on November 6, 2019.

With this substantial amendment, the State will make three changes to its Action Plan. The amendment reduces the total amount allocated to planning activities by \$5,200,000 and reallocates these funds to the Bridge Home Program, increasing the amount of that program to \$7,280,000. In addition, the amendment divides the Restore Riverview Program and its budget of \$5,712,000 into two programs: the Restore Riverview Onsite program, which now has a budget of \$1,000,000; and the Restore Riverview Offsite program, which has a budget of \$4,712,000. This change facilitates the offsite housing activities that are required under the Department's waiver of certain requirements related to the previous use of Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds for the property. Finally, the amendment changes the name of the State's "Slum and Blight" program to "Clearance and Demolition," clarifies that participation in the program is voluntary, and provides that eligible properties must meet the State's definition of slum and blight.

The Department remains committed to assisting the State of West Virginia in its efforts to recover from the devastating flooding that occurred in 2016 and looks forward to working with you and your staff to address the State's long-term recovery needs. If you or any members of your staff have any questions, please contact Jessie Handforth Kome, Director (Acting), Office of Block Grant Assistance, at (202) 708-3587.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David C. Woll, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

David C. Woll, Jr.  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Community Planning and Development