



Borough of Manville
Resolution #2024-54

**Resolution To Adopt Blue Acres Municipal Guidelines
Recommending Standards of Review
for NJDEP Blue Acres Proposed Buyouts
of properties in the Borough of Manville**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Blue Acres program, NJ Coastal Management Program, Office of Climate Resilience (hereinafter in this Resolution referred to as the "NJDEP Blue Acres program") has stated its intent to act "in consultation with its state and local partners" in implementing its Blue Acres buyout programs of flood plain properties in the Borough of Manville; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor & Council believe it is in the best interest of the Borough of Manville to formally adopt recommended policies to NJDEP for all Blue Acres buyout programs, including but not limited to the "FEMA Swift Current" program and the "FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)"; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Manville, that

- (1) All Blue Acres buyout programs and proposed property buyouts in the Borough of Manville should be evaluated with inclusion for the following criteria:
 - (a) All NJDEP Blue Acres buyouts should include consultation with the Borough of Manville, the Flood Plain Manager (Cleighton Smith) and the Mayor (Richard M. Onderko) and input from the Borough as what makes environmental and financial sense for the Borough and provides for the public health and safety of Borough residents and taxpayers;
 - (b) All homes existing in the 100-year (AE) or 500-year (X) zones should be eligible for a buyout, where the homes incurred significant floodwaters on the first floor and were classified as substantially damaged, severe repetitive loss (SRL), or repetitive loss (RL) under NFIP guidelines;
 - (c) Homes outside the mapped flood zones with significant first floor damages should also be eligible for buyout programs;

- (d) Homes with basement-only water damage should be candidates for elevation grants, rather than buyouts;
 - (e) Homes with a record showing a sale of the property after September 1, 2021 should be given lower priority, since an owner purchasing the property after that date has never experienced a flood; if such a post September 1, 2021 purchaser has never actually resided in the home, such a home should be ranked even lower in priority since an investor or speculator who has never been a resident should not be profiting from a buyout program
- (2) The Acting Borough Clerk shall forward a copy of this Resolution (a) to Governor Philip Murphy, (b) to the NJDEP Blue Acres program; [c] to the State Legislators from the Legislative Districts to which the Borough of Manville presently belongs and to which the Borough will belong as of January 2024; and (d) to the Somerset County Board of Commissioners.

ATTEST:

Traci Dillingham
 Traci Dillingham
 Acting Borough Clerk

Richard M. Onderko

Richard M. Onderko
 Mayor

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Manville, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey at a Regular Meeting held at 325 N. Main St., Manville, NJ 08835 on March 11, 2024.

ATTEST:

Traci Dillingham
 Traci Dillingham
 Acting Borough Clerk

Introduced	Seconded	Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
	✓	Councilman Agans				X
✓		Councilwoman Camacho	✓			
		Councilman DeVito	✓			
		Councilwoman Madak	✓			
		Councilwoman Puia	✓			
		Councilman Skirkanish	✓			
		Onderko				