



NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE

September 7, 2021

Honorable Deanne Criswell
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Administrator Criswell:

We are deeply appreciative of President Biden's anticipated visit to New Jersey later today and his recent declaration of a major disaster in areas affected by Hurricane Ida. Nevertheless, we write to respectfully request your urgent intervention in expediting the work of FEMA's assessment teams and the swift addition of Hudson County to the major disaster declaration.

We are struggling to explain the omission of our county to our many constituents who waded through neck-deep water in their own homes during Ida to get to safety and experienced total losses of their homes and cars. Surely, from your time as Commissioner of NYCOEM, you are familiar with the importance of Hudson County (the New Jersey access points to both the Lincoln and Holland Tunnels) – the state's most densely populated county and one prone to devastating flooding – to the region.

We understand that this is a rolling process. Acting with haste will help alleviate the concerns of the residents of the sixth most densely populated county in the United States, home to the four most densely populated municipalities in the United States, and one of the most diverse counties in the United States. We deeply appreciate your kind consideration and service to our country.

Respectfully,

Legislative District 31
Senator Sandra B. Cunningham
Assemblywoman Angela V. McKnight
Assemblyman Nicholas Chiaravalloti

Legislative District 32
Senator Nicholas J. Sacco
Assemblywoman Angelica M. Jimenez
Assemblyman Pedro Mejia

Legislative District 33
Senator Brian P. Stack
Assemblyman Raj Mukherji
Assemblywoman Annette Chaparro

Cc: Honorable Phil Murphy
Honorable Robert Menendez
Honorable Cory Booker

Honorable Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Honorable Donald Payne, Jr.
Honorable Albio Sires