COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

February 11, 2016
City of Houston
Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD)
601 Sawyer, 4th Floor
Houston, TX 77007
(832) 394-6183

This Notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about Monday, February 29, 2016, the City of Houston’s Housing and Community Development Department will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of the following funds:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds authorized by Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA), in accordance with Section 288 (42 U.S.C. 4852), to undertake a project known as:

Project Title: Sunrise Orchard

Location: 5300 Sunrise Rd., Houston, Harris County, Texas 77021

Purpose of project: Land acquisition and new construction of Sunrise Orchard, a 52-unit affordable housing community, geared towards youth aging out of foster care who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The project will include one and two bedroom units, with all units considered permanent supportive housing, with extensive social services provided to tenants. Any and all necessary demolition of existing structures on site (totaling 6,124 sq. ft) is included in the scope of this project.

Exterior noise levels at the subject property have been measured at 72.67 decibels (dB), which is in the Normally Unacceptable range per 24 CFR 51. Noise mitigation measures that ensure that interior noise levels are below 45 dB as determined by an architect or acoustical engineer will be required as a condition of the contract. Penalties for failing to document that these goals are met include but are not limited to the possible payback of federal funds.

Grant No. & Amount: M-13-MC-48-0206..................$735,702.62
M-14-MC-48-0206.............$2,764,297.38

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Houston has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the above address and is available for public examination or copying.
weekdays 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department, ATTN: Environmental Review Officer, 601 Sawyer, 4th Floor, Houston, Texas 77007. All comments received by the close of business on Friday, February 26, 2016 will be considered by the City of Houston prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Houston certifies to HUD that Sylvester Turner, in his capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD’s approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the City of Houston to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and the City of Houston certification received by the close of business on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 or a period of fifteen days from its receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer or other officer of the City of Houston approved by HUD; (b) the City of Houston, as Responsible Entity, has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the project have committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1301 Fannin Street, Suite 2200, Houston, Texas 77002. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Sylvester Turner, Mayor
City of Houston