

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

March 20, 2014
City of Houston
Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD)
601 Sawyer, 4th Floor
Houston, TX 77007
(713) 868-8324

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about Monday, April 7, 2014 City of Houston's Housing and Community Development Department will submit a request to the Texas General Land Office (GLO), who is acting in the role of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), for the release of federal Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Round 2.2 (CDBG-DR) funds authorized by Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, (Public Law 110-329), enacted on September 30, 2008, as amended. These particular funds are part of a CDBG grant administered by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) for Hurricane Ike Disaster Relief. GLO will act in the stead of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and be overseen by HUD.

The funds will be utilized to undertake the following project:

Project Title: **The Village at Palm Center**

Location: **5110 Griggs, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77021**

Purpose of project: Demolition and new construction for the purpose of development of a low to moderate income apartment complex. The purpose of this project is to provide quality affordable housing for low to moderate income individuals and families and address the need for decent affordable housing created by Hurricane Ike and its effects on the Houston area. The subject property has a Remediation Plan in place to address limited on-site soil and groundwater contamination. In order for the project to be completed, recommendations of the Remediation Plan must be followed with regards to managing soil and groundwater, and no groundwater may be used at the project site. Post-demolition mitigation will take place through the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). After mitigation is performed, the TCEQ is expected to issue a letter confirming completion of mitigation. Noise mitigation will also be performed so that interior noise levels are below 45 decibels (dB) as certified by an architect or acoustical engineer.

GLO Contract No.: **13-181-000-7294**

Total Federal Funding: **\$15,300,000.00**

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, April 4, 2014 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 GLO, acting in the role of HUD, that Annise Parker, in her 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. GLO'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

GLO will consider objections to its release of funds and the City of Houston certification received by the close of business on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 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 GLO; (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 GLO; 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: Texas General Land Office, 3429 Executive Center Drive, Austin, Texas 78731. Potential objectors should contact GLO to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Annise Parker, Mayor
City of Houston