## NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

August 14, 2024

City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) 2100 Travis St., 9th floor Houston, TX 77002 (832) 394-6319

This notice shall satisfy procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by C 60, Inc. (Historic LULAC Council 60), via a Congressionally designated Community Project Fund (CPF) Grant.

### REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about August 22, 2024, on behalf of grant recipient the *C* 60, *Inc.* (*Historic LULAC Council* 60), HCD will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), for the release of Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, (P.L. 117-328) (the Act), Congress made available "grants for the Economic Development Initiative for the purposes of Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" for a project known as *Historic LULAC Council* 60 *Clubhouse*. These Community Project Funding (CPF) awards are administered by HUD.

**Project Location:** 3004 Bagby St., Houston, TX 77006 (29.74593, -95.38155)

### **Project Description:**

C60, Inc., a 501 c3 nonprofit organization seeks to utilize funding from the US House Appropriations Committee for the restoration of the Historic LULAC Chapter 60 Clubhouse (The Clubhouse), a deteriorating structure and its renovation into a multi-use community hub dedicated to preserving Latino civil rights history and activating a new generation of civic service leaders. The Clubhouse, a designated National Treasure, played a significant role in Latino advocacy and civil rights organizing in the 1950s and '60s, and it is a landmark of immense historic and cultural significance to the Latino community. LULAC House will be a historical restoration project. A restoration depicts a property at a particular period of time in history, while removing evidence of other periods. In this case, the house will be restored to when it was purchased by LULAC in 1955.

The total amount that will be spent on this phase of the Clubhouse rehabilitation is approximately \$844,352.00. The funds will come from 3 primary sources.

- a. FY2023 CFP Grant in the amount of \$750,000.00 will wholly go to physical "brick and mortar" expenditures.
- b. The Texas Historical Commission has awarded C 60, Inc. a \$30,000.00 reimbursement Grant for use in doing Design and Engineering work at the Clubhouse.

c. The additional funds needed to meet the projected short fall of \$64,352.00 will come from Individual donors, Historic LULAC Council 60 and a small amount from a Houston Endowment unrestricted grant.

The entirety of the project is to rehab the building's interior and install ADA compliant restrooms. There will not be any acquisition of land or buildings. No new construction is planned. The disturbance to the ground might occur when a wheelchair ramp is added to access the building entrance. No exterior demolition will occur. Interior plaster and drywall will be removed to install new electrical, telecommunications and plumbing services.

The entire FY2023 CFP Grant monies will be dedicated to the direct costs associated with the physical rehabilitation work to the interior of the building. The Design and Engineering cost will be partially cover through a \$30,000.00 Texas Historical Commission Reimbursement Grant.

The City of Houston has classified the project as Categorically Excluded activity/project per (24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5: 24 CFR 58.35(a)(2), 24 CFR 58.35(a)(1) and (iii), and 24 CFR 58.35(a)(6).

# **Funding Information**

Grant Number	HUD Program	Uses	<b>Funding Amount</b>
	Community Project	Rehabilitation/	\$750,000.00
B-23-CP-TX-1407	Fund (CPF)	Improvement	

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$750,000.00

**Estimated Total Project Cost** \$844,352.00

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department, ATTN: Environmental Review Officer, 2100 Travis, 9th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 or by email to <a href="https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews">https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews</a>. All comments received by the close of business on August 21, 2024 will be considered by the City of Houston prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

On behalf of grant recipient the *C* 60, *Inc.* (*Historic LULAC Council 60*), the City of Houston certifies to HUD that John Whitmire, 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 accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Houston certification for a period of fifteen (15) days following the anticipated submission date or its actual 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 of the City of Houston; (b) the City of Houston 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 development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities 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, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD), 1331 Lamar Street, Suite 550, Houston, Texas 77010 or e-mail at cpdrrofhou@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period and may do so via email or calling (713) 718-3199.

John Whitmire, Mayor City of Houston