

Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds for Residential Rehabilitation Projects Using ERR/Appendix A Tiered Review

Date of Publication: July 9, 2020
County of Orange/Housing & Community Development
1501 E St Andrew Place
Santa Ana, CA 92705

On or about July 27, 2020 the County of Orange/Housing & Community Development will submit a request to the US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as Housing Rehabilitation Program. The purpose of this program is to provide grants/loans for residential single family and multi-family rehabilitation. During the period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023 approximately \$2,617,500 will be used to provide loans/ grants to rehabilitate approximately 300 - 400 homes/units. The area of consideration for this program is participating cities (City of Brea, Cypress, and Seal Beach), unincorporated areas of Orange County, and metro cities (City of Placentia and Yorba Linda), except any property located in a Special Flood Hazard Areas.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) per 24 CFR 58.35(a)(3). Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to 1501 E. St Andrew Place, Santa Ana, CA 92705 or by email to jaclyn.canzone@occr.ocgov.com. The ERR can be accessed online at the following website www.occommunityservices.org/hcd/community. County of Orange will use the Appendix A format to supplement this ERR with additional site-specific reviews further addressing Airport Hazards, Flood Insurance, Contamination and Toxic Substances, Endangered Species, Explosive and Flammable Hazards, Floodplain Management, and Historic Preservation prior to approving any loan or grant under these programs.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to County of Orange. All comments received by Friday, July 24, 2020 will be considered by the County of Orange prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The County of Orange certifies to HUD that Craig Fee, Community Development Manager/Housing & Community Development in his capacity as Certifying Officer 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 County of Orange to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to the County of Orange Request for Release of Funds and Environmental Certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission

date specified above 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 County of Orange; (b) the County of Orange has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58 or by CEQ regulations at 40 CFR 1500-1508, as applicable; (c) the County of Orange has omitted one or more steps in the preparation, completion or publication of the Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Study per 24 CFR Subparts E, F or G of Part 58, as applicable; (d) the grant recipient or other participant in the development process has committed funds for or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before release of funds and approval of the environmental certification; (e) another Federal, State or local agency has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD at CPDLA@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Craig Fee, Community Development Manager

Housing & Community Development