

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

9/25/2024

On or about October 15, 2024 the City of Sumter will submit a request to the HUD/Columbia Field Office for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Activities being conducted as part of the Demolition, Economic Development/Historic Preservation, Housing Rehabilitation and Public Facilities/Drainage, Paving and Parks and Recreation projects for which the funds are being requested are described below.

The Housing Demolition Project is intended to demolish unsightly single family housing on scattered sites which have been condemned and deemed substandard for human occupancy. The Housing Rehabilitation Project is intended to provide grants to LMI citizens for housing repair on scattered sites. These projects will involve the rehabilitation of units and the demolition of single family housing units over the next year (2024–2025) on scattered sites throughout the City of Sumter, SC. Following the criteria of the Tiered Environmental Review Monitoring Strategy developed for these projects, activities covered under this Notice will be limited to activities on scattered sites. Project activities meeting the aforementioned criteria will be reviewed for compliance with applicable laws and authorities in accordance with the Strategy prior to committing funds (federal or non-federal) for the proposed activity. Project activities that do not meet Strategy criteria and receive HUD assistance will be reviewed separately. The total estimated cost for these projects is \$240,000: (Housing Rehabilitation - \$230,000, Historic Preservation - \$10,000.)

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the office of Clarence Gaines, Community Development Director, 12 West Liberty Street (Office H), Sumter, SC. The ERR may be examined or copied weekdays from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City Manager. All comments received by October 15, 2024 will be considered by City of Sumter prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

City of Sumter certifies to HUD that Deron McCormick in his capacity as City Manager 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 Sumter to use program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Sumter's 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 Sumter; (b) the City has omitted a step or failed to make a decision of finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 (c) the grant recipient has 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:

Mr. Bradley S. Evatt, Director
Community Planning and Development
US Department of Housing and Urban Development
Columbia Field Office
Strom Thurmond Federal Building
1835 Assembly Street
Columbia, SC 29201-2480
www.hud.gov
bradley.s.evatt@hud.gov

Potential objectors should contact HUD/Columbia Field Office at 803.765.5344 to verify the actual last day of the objection period.



Deron McCormick, City Manager
Certifying Officer