

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

Date of Notice: September 28, 2021
City of El Paso, Department of Community + Human Development
801 Texas Ave., 3rd Floor
El Paso, Texas 79901
915.212.0138

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of El Paso.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about October 18, 2021 the City of El Paso on behalf of Housing Authority of the City of El Paso will submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Ft. Worth, Texas for the release of Public Based Vouchers (PBV) and Public Housing funds under Section 9 of the 1937 Housing Act as amended, to undertake a project known as HACEP “Cielo Tower” Apartments for the purpose of low-income housing property located at 201 Cortez Dr., El Paso, TX 79905, built in 1991, is a 9-story high rise building consisting of 123 units, will undergo substantial rehabilitation to the property completing interior demolition to the studs will be a full, gut renovation of the property to include asbestos and lead-based paint abatement, replacement of mechanical, electrical and plumbing, updated interiors, new appliances, cabinets, flooring, windows, updated amenities, landscaping and updated façade. The existing housing located at the same address is substandard and in need of substantial repairs. District 3.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of El Paso 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 City of El Paso, Department of Community and Human Development, 801 Texas Ave., 3rd Floor (CITY 3), El Paso, Texas 79901 and is available online at City of El Paso, Department of Community and Human Development website: <https://www.elpasotexas.gov/community-and-human-development>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of El Paso, Department of Community and Human Development, 801 Texas Ave., 3rd Floor, El Paso, Texas 79901 or submitted via email to DCHDCompliance@elpasotexas.gov. All comments received by October 18, 2021; mailing and posting date plus eighteen days will be considered by the City of El Paso prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of El Paso on behalf the Housing Authority of the City of El Paso certifies to Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Ft. Worth, Texas that Elda Rodriguez-Hefner, Grant Administrator for Margarita Muñoz in her capacity as City Comptroller for the City of El Paso 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. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of El Paso to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of El Paso certification for a period of fifteen 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 El Paso; (b) the City of El Paso on behalf of Housing Authority of the City of El Paso 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 Department of Housing and Urban Development (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 Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at 801 Cherry St., Unit #456, Ste. 2500, Ft. Worth, Texas 76102 or via email to: CPD_COVID-19OEE-FTW@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at Ft. Worth, Texas to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

**Elda Rodriguez-Hefner, Grant Administrator for Certifying Officer
Margarita Muñoz, City Comptroller
Office of the Comptroller
City of El Paso
300 N. Campbell (CITY 1)
El Paso, Texas 79901
915.212.1170**
