

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

Date of Notice: October 22, 2024
Name of Responsible Entity: City of El Paso
Address: 300 N. Campbell St
City, State, Zip Code: El Paso, TX 79901
Telephone Number of RE: 915.212.0038

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 November 23, 2024 the City of El Paso will authorize the Department of Community and Human Development on behalf of sub-recipient, HACEP dba HOME (Housing Opportunities Management Enterprises) submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Ft. Worth, Texas for the release of 49th Year 2023-2024 HOME Entitlement Grant funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act as amended through December 31, 1998, to undertake a project known as HACEP dba HOME South Mesa Hills Apartments for the purpose of Re-examination to include additional funding TDHCA Tax Credit defined as new construction on a vacant lot located at 6.325 acre land site west of South Mesa Hills Drive, El Paso, TX 79912 Lot 3 ,Block 1, Coronado Del Sol. Mesa Hills is a new construction, all affordable, rental residential property for families with a total of 104 units with Phase I (HOME EN Funding) 64 units 1-3 bedroom units, and Phase II (TDHCA Tax Credit) 40 units 1-3 bedroom units, will of which are either public housing serving families with extremely low income; or project based voucher units serving families with incomes up to 50% of AMI. The project will include site work to provide infrastructure to provide wet and dry utilities, streets, etc. as well as a community center to provide resident services with a playground and outdoor seating. The project will include new infrastructure site work as site is currently vacant. District 1; \$5,783,260 HOME EN Funding and \$16,000,000 TDHCA Tax Credits.

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 may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M. and is available online at City of El Paso, Department of Community and Human Development website: <https://www.elpasotexas.gov/community-and-human-development/nofa-forms-and-notices/>

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. All comments received by November 23, 2024 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 certifies to Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Ft. Worth, Texas that Elda Rodriguez-Hefner in her capacity as Grants Administrator 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 thirty 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 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) Office of Community Planning and Development, Fort Worth Regional Office, Region VI at 307 W. 7th Street, Suite 1000, Ft. Worth, Texas 76102 or via email to: CPDRROFFTW@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, Grants Administrator for Certifying Officer
Office of the Comptroller
City of El Paso
Dionne Mack, City Manager
300 N. Campbell (CITY 1)
El Paso, Texas 79901
915.212.1170**