

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

Date of Notice: June 20, 2023
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 for Opportunity Center for the Homeless.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 11, 2023 the City of El Paso will authorize the Opportunity Center for the Homeless submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Ft. Worth, Texas for the release of Economic Development Initiative Community Project funds under Section [14.251] of the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023(Public Law 117-328, as amended, to undertake a project known as Casa De Los Abuelitos for the purpose of defined as new construction on a vacant lot located at 150 Brown St. El Paso, TX 79901. The facility will be three stories, providing Transitional and Permanent Supportive Housing for elderly homeless men. It will include an 11-unit Elderly Homeless Men Transitional Living Center (TLC) on the first floor and 24 Single Room Occupancy (SRO) units on the second and third floors. The programs include offices for service provider management. The first-floor entrance faces Brown Street with a secondary access off the side parking spaces. Both programs include common bathrooms, dining, and laundry rooms as shown on plans. A centralized kitchen on the first floor will be used for preparation of all meals. District 8.

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-notice/>

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 July 11, 2023 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, 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 for Opportunity Center for the Homeless 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 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: 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**