

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date of Notice: March 12, 2024
Responsible Entity: Fayette County, PA
Contact Agency: Redevelopment Authority of the
County of Fayette, Pennsylvania (RACF)
86 West Main Street
Uniontown, PA 15401
Telephone: (724) 437-1547

TO: ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS:

On or about **March 26, 2024** the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, Pennsylvania the County of Fayette, PA (RACF) on behalf of the County of Fayette will submit a request to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for the release of HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, to undertake the following project/s:

Tier I Review: 2023-2024-H-T-ER-CEST-01 Homeowner Rehabilitation Program - Fayette County, Pennsylvania:

This project is associated with the Fayette County Redevelopment Authority Homeowner Rehabilitation Program. This Program assists low- to moderate-income homeowners to make repairs helping to prevent displacement, eliminate blight, and strengthen communities. Funding will be utilized to rehabilitate at least 8 owner-occupied homes that are in disrepair. The homes to be rehabilitated under this program are yet to be determined throughout Fayette County with the exception of the Cities of Uniontown and Connellsville, who administer their own programs.

This project involves a Tiered Environmental Review. Tier I was evaluated for Rehabilitation of homeowner-occupied single-family homes according to 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i). Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier I Borad Review for each address under this program when addresses become known and prior to obligation of funding.

The Tier 2 Site Specific Reviews will cover the following laws and authorities: Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a] and Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55 to determine if the site is in a floodplain; Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2) to determine if there are any potentially hazardous sites in proximity to the property and if radon exceeds safe levels; Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402 to evaluate potential impacts on endangered species; Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800 to determine if the site is eligible, contributing, or listed in a national historic district; and Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B to evaluate if the home is in proximity to excessive noise generators. Following the Tier 2 Site Specific Review, any formal permitting or licensing or mitigation measures necessary to comply with any of the laws and authorities listed will be completed prior to the commitment of funds.

HOME C0000TBD - \$500,000 (ESA#202309151940)

The above activity/ies proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for these projects are on file at Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, Pennsylvania located at 86 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA where the ERR may be examined or copied weekdays from 9:00am to 4:00pm. This location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Every effort will be made to provide the needed materials to all residents, including LEP persons, as needed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the RACF (86 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401). All comments received by the end of the day on **March 22, 2024** will be considered by RACF on behalf of the County of Fayette, PA prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

RACF on behalf of the County of Fayette, PA certifies to DCED that Andrew P. French, in his official capacity as Executive Director 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. DCED's approval of this certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the County of Fayette, PA and RACF to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

DCED will accept objections to its release of funds and RACF's certification on behalf of the County of Fayette, PA 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 RACF on behalf of the County of Fayette, PA; (b) RACF on behalf of the County of Fayette, PA 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 DCED; 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 the Department of Community and Economic Development, Center for Community Building, 4th Floor, Commonwealth Keystone Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0225. Objections may also be submitted electronically to chrhowe@pa.gov. Potential objectors should contact DCED to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

*Andrew P. French, Certifying Officer / Executive Director
Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette*

