



Rhode Island Housing

TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: HOME Investment Partnership Program, RI Housing

DATE: October 25, 2017

RE: Environmental Legal Notice

For your information, the enclosed Legal Notice will notify all interested parties of Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation's intent to request the release of Federal HOME Investment Partnership funds. This is being done in compliance with HUD's Environmental Review process in accordance with 24 CFR Part 58.

Please post this Notice for eighteen (18) days in an area readily accessible to the public. Any comments may be sent to the address contained in the Notice.



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

October 25, 2017

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation
44 Washington Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 457-1135

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by Rhode Island Housing.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about November 15, 2017 Rhode Island Housing will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 for the following project:

East Bay Community Development Corporation
Palmer Pointe – Sweetbriar Development
91-97 Sowams Road
Sweetbriar Road/167 Washington Highway
Barrington, RI 02806

The Palmer Sweetbriar Development involves the new construction of forty-six (46) affordable apartments by the East Bay Community Development Corporation at two locations: 40 units at Palmer Pointe - Sowams Road and 6 units at Sweetbriar - Sweetbriar Road/167 Washington Highway, Barrington. Together the development will be called Palmer Sweetbriar. The entire development will consist of 10 one-bedroom, 18 two-bedroom and 18 three-bedroom units - 6 of the 3-bedroom units will be in Sweetbriar. Palmer Pointe has been designed along a Traditional Neighborhood Development model, emphasizing a range of housing sizes and styles, with integrated community facilities and open spaces. Two of the units will be targeted to households at the 50% AMI HOME Program income level, and the remainder of the units will be restricted at 60% AMI low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) income level. The Palmer Sweetbriar project development directly supports both the Barrington Affordable Housing Plan and the Statewide Comprehensive Community Plan and addresses the Town of Barrington's need for additional affordable housing units.

Eleven (11) residential units will be HOME Program assisted.
HOME Award \$1,000,000

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Rhode Island Housing has determined that this project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, Environmental Impact Statements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) are not required. Additional project information is contained in each Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at Rhode Island Housing, 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903 and may be examined or copied weekdays from 9A.M. to 5 P.M. or the Environmental Review Record may be viewed at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/environmental-review-records>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to Eric Alexander, Assistant Director of Development at Rhode Island Housing, via mail (Rhode Island Housing, attn.: Eric Alexander, 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903) or via email at ealexander@rihousing.com

All comments received by November 14, 2017, will be considered by Rhode Island Housing prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

Rhode Island Housing certifies to HUD that Carol A. Ventura, in her capacity as Deputy 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. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Rhode Island Housing to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and Rhode Island Housing's 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 basis: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of Rhode Island Housing (b) Rhode Island Housing 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 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 HUD at Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Thomas P. O'Neil Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02222-1092. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.



Carol A. Ventura
Deputy Director

10/25/2017
Date