



TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Development Division, RIHousing

DATE: April 7, 2021

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 ten (10) days in an area readily accessible to the public. Any comments may be sent to the address contained in the Notice.



## NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

April 7, 2021

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation  
44 Washington Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 457-1129

This Notice shall satisfy a procedural requirement for an activity to be undertaken by Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”).

### REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about April 20, 2021 RIHousing 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:

**Church Community Housing Corporation**  
**Forest Farm Assisted Living Facility**  
191 Forest Avenue  
Middletown, RI 02842

Church Community Housing Corporation proposes re-financing and moderate rehabilitation to the Forest Farms Assisted Living Facility, an existing fifty-unit (50), senior and disabled multi-family housing development. The planned scope for the rehabilitation of the existing two-story building includes replacing the roof and installing solar panels, replacing boilers and hot water tanks with new efficient systems, installing new efficient heat pumps for each unit for improved heating and cooling, upgrading the sprinkler and fire alarm systems to meet current code requirements and improve life safety, upgrading the commercial kitchen and decommissioning one market rate unit to allow for expanded kitchen operations with space for food preparation and storage space, replacing the generator, and making site improvements. The forty-nine (49) one-bedroom apartments, for very-low to low income households will have full kitchen renovations and upgrades to the bathrooms.

Eleven (11) residential units will be HOME Program assisted.

HOME Award: \$850,000



The activity proposed is categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determination for this project is on file at RIHousing, 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U. S. mail.

Please submit your request via email to Anne Berman, Assistant Director of Development at RIHousing at [aberman@rihousing.com](mailto:aberman@rihousing.com)

The Environmental Review Record may be viewed at:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/environmental-review-records>

The ERR Statement can be accessed online at the following website: [www.rihousing.com](http://www.rihousing.com)

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to Anne Berman, Assistant Director of Development at RIHousing at 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903) or via email at [aberman@rihousing.com](mailto:aberman@rihousing.com)

All comments received by April 19, 2021, will be considered by RIHousing prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify the Notice they are addressing.

#### RELEASE OF FUNDS

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

#### OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and RIHousing'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 bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of RIHousing (b) RIHousing 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 via email 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, at: [CPD\\_COVID-19OEE-BOS@hud.gov](mailto:CPD_COVID-19OEE-BOS@hud.gov).

Potential objectors should contact HUD at Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

DocuSigned by:

*Carol Ventura*

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Carol A. Ventura

Executive Director

April 7, 2021

Date