



Public Notification - Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act Review of Proposed Programmatic Agreement for FY 2025 Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Members of the General Public:

This notice is intended to inform the general public that Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”), the principal housing finance agency for the state, is conducting a Tier I Level Environmental Review as required by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes and pursuant to 24 CFR Part 58 for the responsibility and compliance with the requirements pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2 (a), assuming the responsibilities of HUD, regarding the HUD FY 2025 Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program (“LHRD”) Grant RILHB0819-25, which necessitates a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act review in accordance with 36 CFR 800.

The LHRD Grant will be used to fund a four-year program to provide forgivable loans/grants to qualifying homeowners to address lead hazard reduction work and other unsafe conditions for approximately two hundred (200) existing housing units. Activities under the grant program include, but are not limited to, interim lead hazard controls, the installation of new windows and doors, interior and exterior painting, and soil remediation.

RIHousing has determined that administration of the program may affect properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). The Rhode Island State Historic Preservation Office/Rhode Island Historical & Heritage Commission (“RIHPHC”) and RIHousing are proposing to enter into a Programmatic Agreement (“PA”) outlining the specific categories of projects that will be exempt from RIHPHC review, to establish a process for obtaining RIHPHC approval for non-exempt projects in a programmatic manner, and to assist RIHousing cost-effectively to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on non-exempt historic properties.

Public outreach is required in the Section 106 review process, as specified in 36 CFR 800.2(d). This input is essential to creating and executing the Programmatic Agreement.

Visit our website at <https://www.rihousing.com/public-information> to review a draft copy of the PA and the required supporting documentation under § 800.11(a).

Written comments may be addressed to Christine Hunsinger, Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer of RIHousing, at 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903, by telephone (401) 450-1312, or by email at chunsinger@rihousing.com. Written comments must be received on or before March 26, 2026.



Name / Location of Grant program:

HUD LHRD Grant RILHB0819-25 – A 4-year grant program
State of Rhode Island (except for cities Pawtucket, Providence, & Woonsocket, RI)

Describe the undertaking and nature of federal involvement:

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”), the principal housing finance agency for the state, is conducting a HUD Part 58 Tier 1 Environmental Review as required by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) and 24 CFR Part 58 for the federal funds of the HUD FY 2025 Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program (“LHRD”) Grant RILHB0819-25 (the “LHRD Grant”), which necessitates a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act review in accordance with 36 CFR 800.

Describe the Area of Potential Effects (APE): State of Rhode Island (except for cities Pawtucket, Providence, & Woonsocket, RI)

Describe steps taken to identify historic properties:

1. In accordance with the Section 106 Review process, RIHousing sent a letter to the RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission (“RIHPHC”), dated January 23, 2026, to initiate the Section 106 Review process.
2. RIHPHC sent a response letter dated January 28, 2026, requesting RIHousing and the RIHPHC develop a programmatic agreement related to the LHRD Grant activities.
3. RIHPHC sent a response letter dated February 17, 2026, stating a final draft of the Programmatic Agreement has been approved by both agencies, and adhering to the PA will allow RIHousing to fulfill consultation under the Section 106 historic review.
4. RIHousing sent consultation request letters dated March 9, 2026, requesting Tribal Historic Section 106 Review of the Programmatic Agreement to the Narragansett, Aquinnah Wampanoag, Mashpee Wampanoag, Mashantucket Pequot, and Mohegan Tribal Historic Preservation Officers.

Describe the undertaking’s effects on historic properties:

Activities under the LHRD Grant include, but are not limited to, interim lead hazard controls, the installation of new windows and doors, interior and exterior painting, and soil remediation.

Explain how this undertaking would adversely affect historic properties:

RIHousing has determined that administration of the LHRD Grant and the program funded by such grant (the “Program”) may affect properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). RIHousing can effectively fulfill its Section 106 review responsibilities for the Program if a programmatic approach is used, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.14, to delegate Section 106 compliance responsibilities and to identify activities which can be excluded from the Section 106 review because they have limited potential to adversely affect historic properties. The Programmatic Agreement is proposed to specify categories of projects that will be exempt from RIHPHC review, to establish a process for obtaining RIHPHC approval for non-exempt projects in a programmatic manner, and to assist RIHousing cost-effectively to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on non-exempt historic properties.

The draft copy of the Programmatic Agreement with support documentation that meets the documentation requirements noted at §800.11 (a) is attached.

