#### **COMBINED NOTICE**

# NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Date of Notice: June 17, 2022

Name of Responsible Entity: County of Fayette, Pennsylvania

Contact Agency: Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, Pennsylvania (RACF)

Address: 86 West Main Street

Uniontown, Pennsylvania 15401

**Telephone:** 724-437-1547

## TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

The purpose of this notice is to satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the County of Fayette, Pennsylvania by the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, Pennsylvania (RACF).

### **REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or after **July 7, 2022** the County of Fayette will authorize RACF to submit a request to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the following project:

Tier I Broad Review Project/Program Title: County-wide Demolition – Fayette County, Pennsylvania

**Purpose:** This project involves demolition of residential and/or commercial structures throughout Fayette County. The sites are yet to be identified. This activity will eliminate slums and blight in Fayette County through the demolition of blighted, vacant, and/or condemned structures. Structures targeted for demolition will meet the definition of blight as contained in local and state law, including the Pennsylvania Urban Redevelopment Law and Eminent Domain Code. This review will be good for 5 years from the date of the Authority to Use Grant Funds (AUGF). Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: §58.36 Environmental Assessments.

**Tier 2 Site Specific Review:** The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review: Flood Insurance, Contamination and Toxic Substances, Endangered Species, Floodplain Management, and Historic Preservation.

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): Flood Insurance and Floodplain Management will be reviewed to determine if sites are located in flood zones. If a structure is located in a 100-year floodplain or floodway, the Eight Step Review Process (EO#11988) will be completed as required and the property owner may be required to obtain flood insurance. Contamination and Toxic Substances will be reviewed for proximity to hazardous and/or contaminated sites withing 3,000 ft using the EnviroMapper site. Endangered Species will be reviewed using the PNDI website to determine if there is any known or anticipated impact on endangered, threatened, or sensitive species and the appropriate agency/ies will be contacted for consultation if required. Potential impact on Historic Preservation will be reviewed using the PA-SHARE system to determine if there are any above ground resources or archaeological concerns. If any are identified, interested parties will be invited to consult via a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).



**Estimated Project Cost:** This is a multi-year funded, multi-site project involving demolitions over the next 5 years. The exact project cost is yet to be determined. Fayette County currently has approximately \$535,781.00 available through its FY2018-2021 CDBG Programs.

The activity/activities proposed are an environmental assessment under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per §58.36 Environmental Assessments.

#### FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

RACF has determined that this project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) 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 the 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 8:30am 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 persons with disabilities and LEP persons, upon request. Please call 724-437-1547 ext. 210 at least 72 hours in advance to request technical assistance.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to RACF (86 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401). All comments received by the end of the day on **July 6, 2022** will be considered by Fayette County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which activity and notice they are addressing.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION / REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

RACF certifies to DCED that Andrew P. French, Certifying Officer, in his official capacity as RACF's 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 and RACF to use HUD program funds.

## **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

DCED will accept objections to its release of fund and RACF'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 the RACF; (b) RACF 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 <a href="mailto:chrhowe@pa.gov">chrhowe@pa.gov</a>. Potential objectors should contact DCED to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

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

