

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

Publication Date: January 17, 2011

HIDALGO COUNTY - URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM
1916 TESORO BLVD
PHARR TEXAS 78577
956-787-8127

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS:

On or about, but not before, February 1, 2011, the Urban County Program of Hidalgo County will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of HOME funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; to undertake the following projects within the County of Hidalgo:

<i>HOME-Community Housing Development Organizations (C.H.D.O.) Program</i> to fund lot acquisition, new construction, down payment assistance and all related soft costs as allowed by HUD regulation of approximately one hundred and thirty five (135) single-family homes to qualified low to moderate-income families within a three-year period as follows:		
<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Approx. Funding Amount</i>	<i>Approx. Number of Units</i>
2010	\$1,374,000	45
2011	\$1,500,000	45
2012	\$1,500,000	45
<i>Multi Year Funding Totals</i>	<i>\$4,374,000</i>	<i>135</i>

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Urban County Program has completed a preliminary TIERED Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the projects as a whole. The ERR identifies the environmental review of each project which entails all pertinent information that is available to the Urban County Program at this time. The ERR is on file and available for the public's examination and copying, upon request, between the hours of 8:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday (except holidays) at the above address.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

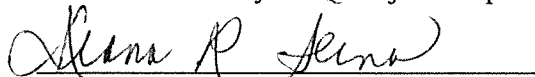
Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Urban County Program of Hidalgo County. All comments received by **January 31, 2011** will be considered by the Urban County Program prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Urban County Program of Hidalgo County certifies to HUD that Diana R. Serna in her capacity as Director of the Urban County Program 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 the *Urban County Program* to use Program funds once all sites have been named and individually cleared.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and Urban County Program of Hidalgo County's certification received for a period of fifteen days from its 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 or other officer of the Urban County Program of Hidalgo County approved by HUD; (b) the Urban County Program of Hidalgo County 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 project have committed funds or incurred costs 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) and shall be addressed to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at One Alamo Center 106 St. Mary's Street, San Antonio, Texas 78205. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.



Diana R. Serna, Director
Urban County Program

Request for Release of Funds and Certification

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development

OMB No. 2506-0087
(exp. 11/30/2004)

This form is to be used by Responsible Entities and Recipients (as defined in 24 CFR 58.2) when requesting the release of funds, and requesting the authority to use such funds, for HUD programs identified by statutes that provide for the assumption of the environmental review responsibility by units of general local government and States. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 36 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control number.

Part 1. Program Description and Request for Release of Funds (to be completed by Responsible Entity)

1. Program Title(s) HOME CHDO - MULTI YEAR PROJECT	2. HUD/State Identification Number M-10/11/12-UC-4801	3. Recipient Identification Number (optional)
4. OMB Catalog Number(s) 14.239	5. Name and address of responsible entity URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM 1916 TESORO BLVD PHARR TX 78577	
6. For information about this request, contact (name & phone number) DIANA R SERNA, UCP DIRECTOR (956)787-8127	7. Name and address of recipient (if different than responsible entity)	
8. HUD or State Agency and office unit to receive request US DEPT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT 106 S ST MARY'S STREET, SUITE 405 SAN ANTONIO TX 78205		

The recipient(s) of assistance under the program(s) listed above requests the release of funds and removal of environmental grant conditions governing the use of the assistance for the following

9. Program Activity(ies)/Project Name(s) HIDALGO COUNTY - URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM	10. Location (Street address, city, county, State) 1916 TESORO BLVD PHARR TX 78577
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11. Program Activity/Project Description

THE URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM (UCP), IN CONJUNCTION WITH CERTIFIED COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS (C.H.D.O's) WILL UNDERTAKE A MULTI-YEAR PROJECT OVER A THREE YEAR PERIOD WHICH WILL ENTAIL LOT ACQUISITION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION OF SINGE FAMILY HOMES LOCATED IN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO. THE UCP IS REQUESTING A RELEASE OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,374,000 TO BE UTILIZED AS FOLLOWS:

FISCAL YEAR	APPROXIMATE FUNDING AMOUNT	APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF UNITS
2010	\$1,374,000	45
2011	\$1,500,000	45
2012	\$1,500,000	45
FUNDING TOTALS	\$4,374,000	135

THE PROPERTIES TO BE PURCHASED HAVE NOT YET BEEN IDENTIFIED HOWEVER THE UCP WILL ENSURE THAT ALL ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS ARE REVIEWED ACCORDINGLY BEFORE THE COMMITMENT OF ANY FUNDS TAKES PLACE. PRESENTLY, A TIERED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW HAS BEEN COMPLETED FOR HIDALGO COUNTY AS A WHOLE. SITE SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW WILL BE CONDUCTED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.

Part 2. Environmental Certification (to be completed by responsible entity)

With reference to the above Program Activity(ies)/Project(s), I, the undersigned officer of the responsible entity, certify that:

1. The responsible entity has fully carried out its responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action pertaining to the project(s) named above.
2. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the environmental procedures, permit requirements and statutory obligations of the laws cited in 24 CFR 58.5; and also agrees to comply with the authorities in 24 CFR 58.6 and applicable State and local laws.
3. After considering the type and degree of environmental effects identified by the environmental review completed for the proposed project described in Part 1 of this request, I have found that the proposal did did not require the preparation and dissemination of an environmental impact statement.
4. The responsible entity has disseminated and/or published in the manner prescribed by 24 CFR 58.43 and 58.55 a notice to the public in accordance with 24 CFR 58.70 and as evidenced by the attached copy (copies) or evidence of posting and mailing procedure.
5. The dates for all statutory and regulatory time periods for review, comment or other action are in compliance with procedures and requirements of 24 CFR Part 58.
6. In accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b), the responsible entity will advise the recipient (if different from the responsible entity) of any special environmental conditions that must be adhered to in carrying out the project.

As the duly designated certifying official of the responsible entity, I also certify that:

7. I am authorized to and do consent to assume the status of Federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.5 list of NEPA-related authorities insofar as the provisions of these laws apply to the HUD responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action that have been assumed by the responsible entity.
8. I am authorized to and do accept, on behalf of the recipient personally, the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the enforcement of all these responsibilities, in my capacity as certifying officer of the responsible entity.

Signature of Certifying Officer of the Responsible Entity

Title of Certifying Officer

HIDALGO COUNTY JUDGE

Date signed

X

Address of Certifying Officer

**1615 SOUTH CLOSNER, SUITE J
EDINBURG TEXAS 78539**

Part 3. To be completed when the Recipient is not the Responsible Entity

The recipient requests the release of funds for the programs and activities identified in Part 1 and agrees to abide by the special conditions, procedures and requirements of the environmental review and to advise the responsible entity of any proposed change in the scope of the project or any change in environmental conditions in accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b).

Signature of Authorized Officer of the Recipient

Title of Authorized Officer

Date signed

X

Warning: HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)