

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

December 20, 2012
City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD)
601 Sawyer, 4th Floor
Houston, TX 77007
(713) 868-8401

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD).

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about Monday, January 7, 2013 the City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD) will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of the following funds:

Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funds authorized by Section 2301(c)(2) of the Housing Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-289), as amended by Section 1497 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (75 FR 64322). This Act authorizes NSP funds (including NSP1 as well as NSP3 funding),

In order to undertake a project known as:

Project Title: Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Activities

Location: This project will take place in all NSP Target Zones in Houston, Harris County, Texas. NSP1 funds will be spent in Target Zones 1, 2, and 3. NSP3 funds will be spent in NSP target zones 1, 2, 3, and 4. NSP Target Zone 1 is located in northern Houston; NSP Target Zone 2 is located in northeast and east Houston and stretches into eastern Harris County; NSP Target Zone 3 is located in southern Houston, and NSP Target Zone 4 is located in southwest Houston.

Purpose of Project: To undertake the following affordable housing and community development related activities under funds available from NSP, with a specific goal of counteracting blight.

NSP3 Funds: Acquisition, Demolition, Reconstruction, & New Construction of Single Family Homes in NSP3 Target Zones. This includes the construction of approximately 20 single family homes;

NSP1 Funds: Multifamily and single family scattered site demolition in NSP 1 Target Zones. This entails the demolition of approximately 100 single family and multifamily properties.

**Federal Funding: \$2,051,035.00 of B-11-MN-48-0400 (NSP3)
 \$1,510,900.00 of B-08-MN-48-0400 (NSP1)**

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Houston has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement 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 above address and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 5 P.M.

REVIEW PROCESS

In accordance with §58.15, a tiered review process has been structured, whereby some environmental laws and authorities have been reviewed for the target area and other applicable laws and authorities will be complied with, when individual projects are ripe for review. Once the lots are selected, each lot will undergo an environmental review.

None of the properties selected will adversely impact a floodplain, a wetland, an endangered species zone, or a historical property. No lot will be adversely affected by hazardous operations or toxic, hazardous or radioactive materials, contamination, chemicals or gases. Noise attenuation will be performed on the dwellings as necessary per 24 CFR Part 51. Lead and asbestos will be treated in a manner consistent with program requirements and Federal, state and local law, including NESHAP where applicable.

The ERR on file documents the environmental determinations for this project, and more fully describes the tiered review process cited above.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department, ATTN: Environmental Review Officer, 601 Sawyer, 4th Floor, Houston, Texas 77007. All comments received by the close of business on Friday, January 4, 2013 will be considered by the City of Houston prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Houston certifies to HUD that Annise Parker, in her capacity as Mayor, 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 City of Houston to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Houston's certification before the close of business on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 or for a period of fifteen days following 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 or other officer of the City approved by HUD; (b) the City of Houston 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 has 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, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1301 Fannin Street, Suite 2200, Houston, Texas 77002. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Annise Parker, Mayor
City of Houston