

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

March 26, 2015
City of Houston
Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD)
601 Sawyer, 4th Floor
Houston, TX 77007
(832) 394-6183

This Notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about Monday, April 13, 2015 City of Houston's Housing and Community Development Department, will submit a request to the Texas General Land Office (GLO), who is acting in the role of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of federal funds for the release of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Round 2.2 (CDBG-DR) funds authorized by Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, (Public Law 110-329), enacted on September 30, 2008, as amended. These particular funds are part of a CDBG grant administered by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) for Hurricane Ike Disaster Relief. GLO will act in the stead of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and be overseen by HUD.

The funds will be utilized to undertake the following project:

Project Title: Bringhurst Infrastructure Project (Bayou 5th)

Location: 43 Acre Former MDI Site (Bringhurst Street on West, Railroad on East, Hare Street on North, and Cline Street on South), Houston, Harris County, Texas 77020

Purpose of project: Development of infrastructure on the remediated former Many Diversified Interests (MDI) site for the purpose of potential future residential development.

Grantee shall construct a new storm drainage system with culverts ranging from twenty-four to sixty inches (24 in. to 60 in.), inlets, manholes, detention ponds, concrete streets and curbs, and related interconnections, bore and jack, railroad crossing, driveway aprons, and demolition, removal or relocation of existing infrastructure. Proposed improvements will enable proper conveyance of storm water, reduce flooding risk and provide improved access for residents. Total length of street is approximately 6,950 feet and estimated width averages 28 feet, for an estimated total of 4.47 acres to be disturbed on an approximately 43 acre site. The project area shall include the following locations in Houston, Texas:

- Construct and/or reconstruct storm drainage infrastructure in Bringhurst Street (Stretch of Bringhurst Street is approximately 700 linear feet and area of interest would extend from Baer to Baron.)
- Extend Cline and Baer Streets across the MDI site to create east/west access to increase mobility through this portion of the 5th Ward and allow for better emergency vehicle access and create more escape routes for residents in the event of a natural disaster. Construct storm drainage infrastructure under these streets which will drain water from Bringhurst into an existing storm sewer under the MDI site. (Area of interest for Cline is approximately 1,650 linear feet and extends from Bringhurst to railroad crossing. This part of Cline is a proposed new street. Area of interest for Baer is approximately 1,200 linear feet and extends from Bringhurst to Frank Teich. This part of Baer is a proposed new street).

- Construct Frank Teich Drive across the MDI site on a north/south orientation to connect Hare and Clinton Streets to increase mobility through this portion of the 5th Ward which will allow for better emergency vehicle access and create more escape routes for residents in the event of a natural disaster. Construct the necessary trunk line for storm drainage under Frank Teich Drive. (Area of interest for Frank Teich, a new street, is approximately 1,400 linear feet and extends from Hare to 250 feet south of Cline).
- Storm drainage work described in opening paragraph shall also be performed on Capron from Hare to Nance (*which is approximately 250 linear feet*); Nance from Bringham to Capron (which is approximately 300 linear feet); Hare from Press to Capron (approximately linear 1,250 feet); Press from Hare to 100 feet south (100 linear feet); and the Railroad Right of Way (ROW) from Press to 100 feet east (100 linear feet). These are existing thoroughfares bordering the former MDI project site and are all connected to the other existing and proposed streets, and hence are part of the project area that has been reviewed.

The subject property was a former Superfund site which has been cleared by the EPA, working in conjunction with the TCEQ. Any and all applicable requirements for development stemming from the EPA action must and will be followed as a part of this project.

GLO Contract No.: 14-236-000-8329

Total DIDR2 Federal Funding: \$7,456,986.00

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 is available for public examination or copying weekdays 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments 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, April 10, 2015 will be considered by the City of Houston 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 City of Houston certifies to GLO, acting in the role of HUD, that Neal Rackleff, in his capacity as Director and Certifying Officer, 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. GLO'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

GLO will consider objections to its release of funds and the City of Houston certification received by the close of business on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 or 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 City of Houston

approved by GLO; (b) the City of Houston, as Responsible Entity, 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 GLO; 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: Texas General Land Office, 3429 Executive Center, Suite 150, Austin, Texas 78731. Potential objectors should contact GLO to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Neal Rackleff, Certifying Officer/Director
Housing & Community Development
City of Houston