

PROGRAM YEARS 2016, 2017,2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF INTENT TO REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF FUNDS

July 11, 2022
Essex County Division of Housing & Community Development
20 Crestmont Road
Verona, NJ 07044
(973) 655-0200

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

To all interested agencies, groups and persons: On or about July 22, 2022 the County of Essex proposes to submit a request to the the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of \$2,213,064 in federal CDBG funds from Program Years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended (P.L. 98-181) to be used for the following projects:

TOWNS/ACTIVITIES	AMOUNT
<u>West Caldwell</u> ADA compliant rest rooms and entry door at Memorial Park recreation building 10 Fairmount Road, West Caldwell	\$ 156,000
<u>Essex County DPW</u> Road rehabilitation of Stuyvesant Ave from South Orange Ave intersection in Newark down through Irvington to Union County border	\$2,057,064
TOTAL	\$2,213,064

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for these projects are on file at the Essex County Division of Housing and Community Development, 20 Crestmont Road, Verona, New Jersey 07044 and are available for public examination and copying upon request during regular business hours between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Essex County will undertake the projects described above with the Community Development Block Grant Funds from the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983. Essex County is certifying to HUD that Essex County and Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. in his official capacity of County Executive, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if any action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal affect of the certification is that upon his approval, Essex County may use the Consolidated Annual Grant Funds from Program years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and related laws and authorities.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on these projects may submit written comments to Division of Housing & Community Development. All comments received by July 21, 2022 will be considered by the Division of Housing & Community Development prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases (a) that the certification was not, in fact, executed by the chief executive officer or other office of applicant approved by HUD; or (b) that applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review required by HUD regulations at 24CFR 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 the Newark HUD grant administration office at CPD_COVID-19OEE-NK@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the HUD office via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period. Objections to the release of funds on the basis other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD.

JOSEPH N. DIVINCENZO, JR.

Essex County Executive

Hall of Records

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JOHN M. SOARES

Director

Essex County Division of

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Verona, New Jersey 07044