

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF INTENT TO REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF FUNDS

March 14, 2025 Essex County Division of Housing & Community Development 20 Crestmont Road Verona, NJ 07044 (973) 655-0200

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by The Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about March 30, 2025, the County of Essex will authorize The Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges (YMCA) to submit a request to the the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of Community Project Funding (CPF) funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42) (the FY2024 Act), and the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-47) (The Further FY2024 Act) to undertake a project known as The Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges for the purpose of constructing a new YMCA facility to be located at 304 South Livingston Avenue, Livingston, Essex County, New Jersey. The proposed activity will include construction of a fitness and recreation facility, which will include a fitness center, gymnasium, group exercise studios, childcare services, community spaces, and office space. The amount of CPF funding is \$850,000.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Essex County Division of Housing & Community Development has determined that the project described herein 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 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.; please note an appointment is required and copy requests are subject to all requirements of the Open Public Records Act.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on this project or the Finding of No Significant Impact may submit written comments to the Division of Housing & Community Development at 20 Crestmont Road, Verona, New Jersey 07044 by or before March 29, 2025. All comments received by March 29, 2025, 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.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

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 effect of the certification is that upon its approval, The Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges (YMCA) is allowed to use the proposed Community Project Funding (CPF) funds, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and related laws and authorities.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and Essex County'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) 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 or other participants in the development process, 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, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the Newark HUD grant administration office at <u>CPDRROFNJN@hud.gov</u>. 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. County Executive

Hall of Records 465 M.L. King, Jr., Blvd. Newark, New Jersey 07102

JOHN M. SOARES Director

Essex County Division of Housing & Community Development 20 Crestmont Road Verona, New Jersey 07044