

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

April 3, 2023

Town of Vernon, 14 Park Place, Vernon, CT 06066

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS:

Request for Release of Funds

On or about April 12, 2023, the Town of Vernon will submit a request to the Department of Housing for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDGB) funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383) to undertake the following project:

Grove Court Major Renovations, 55 Grove Street, Vernon, CT, census tract 09110530100. The project scope includes but is not limited to general program administration, roofing, gutters, ADA upgrades to laundry rooms and common bathrooms, asbestos abatement and site improvements.

Environmental Statement:

The activities proposed are either #1) *categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58 from the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (PL-91-190) or #2.) comprise a project for which a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on the environment was published on date.* An Environmental Review Record (ERR) respecting the within project has been made by the Town of Vernon, which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such Statement is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the Mayor's Office, Vernon Town Hall, 14 Park Place, Vernon, CT 06066 and is available for public examination and copying, upon request between the hours of Monday – Wednesday 8:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M., Thursday 8:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M., Friday - closed. No Further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted.

Public Comments:

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with the ERR decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Town of Vernon, Office of the Mayor, Vernon Town Hall, 14 Park Place, Vernon, CT 06066. Such written comments should be received at the Mayor's Office, Vernon Town Hall, 14 Park Place, Vernon, CT 06066 on or before April 10, 2023. All such comments so received will be considered prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds or taking any administrative action on the within project prior to the date specified on the proceeding sentence. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

Environmental Certification

The Town of Vernon will undertake the project described above with Block grant funds from the Department of Housing under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Daniel Champagne, the Mayor is certifying to the state that Town of Vernon and Daniel Champagne, in his official capacity as Mayor consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental review, decision making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of

the certification is that upon its approval the Town of Vernon may use Block Grant funds and the state and HUD will have satisfied their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities.

Objection to Release of Funds

The state will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of Vernon certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission dates or its' actual receipt for the request (whichever is the later) only if they are only one of the following bases:

- (a) The certification was not in fact executed by the Town of Vernon Certifying officer.
- (b) The Town of Vernon has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to §58.41 or to make the written determination decision required by §578.57, 58.53, or 58.64 for the project, as applicable.
- (c) The Town of Vernon has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at Subparts F and G for the preparation and completion of an EA.
- (d) No opportunity was given to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation or its Executive Director to review the effect of the project on a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places or found to be eligible for such listing by the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.
- (e) The recipient or other participants on the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR part 58 before approval of the release of funds and approval of the Environmental Certification by HUD or the State.
- (f) 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. 58.75) and shall be addressed to the Department of Housing, Small Cities Program, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106 or rivera.miguel@ct.gov.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the state. No objection received after April 27, 2023, will be considered by the state. Potential objectors should contact the Department of Housing to verify the actual last day of comment period.

Daniel Champagne, Mayor
14 Park Place
Vernon, CT 06066