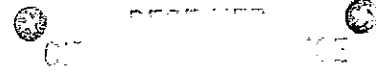


Office of the Mayor
City of Methuen
41 Pleasant Street, Methuen, MA 01844
(978) 983-8560



NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS 2016 AUG 19 AM 10:47

RELEASE OF FUNDS: On or about September 7, 2016, the City of Methuen will submit a request to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development for the release of CDBG funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended to the following projects, all of which are located in the City of Methuen, Essex County, MA, to undertake a project known as FY16 CDBG (CDF I – Competitive Community) for the purposes of the following: Comprehensive Community Development Program (\$812,825.00 in funds) including activities of Housing Rehabilitation (8 units), Arlington Neighborhood sidewalk improvements, and Public Social Services (Neighborhood-Based Youth Services, Childcare Scholarships, Transportation Assistance for Seniors & Disabled, and Adult Literacy).

FINDING OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION: The activities described above 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 this project is on file in the City of Methuen, Community Development Dept., 41 Pleasant Street, Ste 217, Methuen, MA 01844 and may be examined or copied Monday through Thursday, between 8:00am to 4:30pm and Fridays, 8:00am till noon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Methuen, Community Development Dept., 41 Pleasant Street, Ste 217, Methuen, MA 01844. All comments received by 4:30pm on or before September 6, 2016 will be considered by the City of Methuen prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION: The City of Methuen certifies to DHCD that Joseph T. Giarrusso in his official capacity as the Environmental Certifying Officer and Conservation 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. DHCD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Methuen to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS: DHCD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City'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) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Methuen; (b) the City of Methuen 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 development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by DHCD; 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 Community Development Block Grant, Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114. Potential objectors should contact DHCD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

- Stephen N. Zanni, Mayor

- Joseph T. Giarrusso, Environmental Certifying Officer

Publish in Eagle Tribune on Friday, August 19, 2016

Posted: City Hall, Searles Building
Lena Lahey Community Center
Nevins Memorial Library
Methuen Senior Center
Methuen YMCA