

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST THE RELEASE OF FUNDS**

October 23, 2018

TOWN OF WEST SPRINGFIELD  
26 CENTRAL STREET, W. SPRINGFIELD, MA 01089  
(413) 263-3044

To All Interested Agencies, Groups and Persons:

On or about December 1, 2018 the Town of West Springfield will request the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to release CDBG funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act 1974 (PL 93-383) as amended for the following project:

### **WEST SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM TOWN OF WEST SPRINGFIELD, HAMPDEN COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS**

- A Housing Rehabilitation Program earmarked at \$250,000 to provide low and moderate income homeowners residing within the Southeast Target Area, with grants and low interest loans to repair their homes.
- A Housing Sanitary Code Enforcement Program earmarked at \$60,000 to provide sanitary code inspections and enforcement in the Southeast Target Area CDBG of West Springfield.
- Creation of Merrick Neighborhood Master Plan earmarked at \$100,000 to integrate historical data and look forward to the future uses and development of the area.
- A construction project to improve sewer lines and street paving on Garden Street, earmarked at \$225,600 to replace aging infrastructure.
- Social Services Programs earmarked at \$61,400 designed to benefit low and moderate income West Springfield residents. Five social service programs will be funded including: a summer camp scholarship program by the West Springfield Boys & Girls Club; an English for Speakers of Other Languages program by the West Springfield Public Library; a Head Start Program for disadvantaged children; a family self sufficiency program; and a first-time homebuyer education program.
- A General Administration cost earmarked at \$128,000 to cover staff salary and benefit costs to administer the comprehensive CDBG program over a fourteen month program year.

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 respecting the within project has been made by the Town of West Springfield which documents the environmental determination for the project. This Environmental Review Record

is on file and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, at The Office of Community Development, 26 Central Street, West Springfield between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M..

**Public Comments:** Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the West Springfield Office of Community Development. All comments received by November 5, 2018 will be considered by the Town of West Springfield prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

**Release of Funds:** The Town of West Springfield certifies to the State that William C. Reichelt, in his official capacity as Mayor, 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. The State's approval of the Certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Town of West Springfield to use Program funds.

**Objections to Release of Funds:** The State will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of West Springfield'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 Town of West Springfield; (b) the Town of West Springfield 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 the State; 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 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant, Department of Housing and Community Development, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114.

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William C. Reichelt, Mayor

26 Central Street, West Springfield, MA 01089