

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOIRROF)

September 14, 2023

Town of Brimfield
23 Main Street
Brimfield, MA 01010



Telephone (413) 245-4100 ext. 1104

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS;

On or about September 2023, the Town(s) of Brimfield, Holland and Wales will submit a request to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, for the purpose of the following project;

FY 2022 Tri-Towns Community Development Fund Program:

Wales Food Pantry: Provide emergency food to low-income residents of Brimfield, Holland and Wales, Massachusetts. Total CDBG funds: up to \$158,000

Housing Rehabilitation: Offer low or interest-free loans to property owners in Brimfield, Holland and Wales. This program will help offset costs of retrofitting homes.

Total CDBG Funds: \$510,000

The activity proposed is 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 at the office of the Administrative Assistant to the Select Board, Brimfield Municipal Office Building, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, Massachusetts, and may be examined or copied weekdays from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM with prior arrangement by calling (413) 245-4100 x 1104.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the office of the Chief Administrative Officer. All comments received by **October 6, 2023** will be considered by the Environmental Certifying Officer prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Town of Brimfield certifies to the DHCD that Theresa Cofske, in his official capacity as Environmental Certifying 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. The DHCD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Town(s) of Brimfield, Holland and Wales to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The DHCD will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of Brimfield'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 Brimfield;
- (b) The Town of Brimfield 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 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. 55.76) and shall be addressed to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development at 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114. Potential objectors should contact the DHCD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Theresa Cofske, Administrative Assistant to the Select Board
Environmental Certifying Officer
Town of Brimfield
23 Main Street
Brimfield, MA 01010
413-245-4100 ext. 1104