



TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Development Division, RI Housing

DATE: August 12, 2020

RE: Environmental Legal Notice

For your information, the enclosed Legal Notice will notify all interested parties of Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation's intent to request the release of Federal HOME Investment Partnership funds. This is being done in compliance with HUD's Environmental Review process in accordance with 24 CFR Part 58.

Please post this Notice for eighteen (18) days in an area readily accessible to the public. Any comments may be sent to the address contained in the Notice.



**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

August 12, 2020

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation
44 Washington Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 457-1129

This Notice shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for an activity to be undertaken by Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”).

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about September 1, 2020, RIHousing will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 for the following project:

**Omni Development Corporation & The Wingate Companies, LLC
Barbara Jordan II Apartments**

224 Pearl Street, 242 Pearl Street (20 Hayward Street), 18-26 Portland Street, 28-30 Portland Street, 16-42 Somerset Street, 23 Somerset Street, 14 Linden Street, 6 Taylor Street, 14-26 Taylor Street, 34 Taylor Street, 23-25 Taylor Street, 102 Chester Avenue, Providence, RI 02907

Omni Development Corporation, (ODC), and The Wingate Companies, LLC, Wingate, together with ODC, referred to collectively as “OmniWingate”, propose a joint venture as the developer of Barbara Jordan II BJII multi-family apartments and homeownership development project, to redevelop twenty-two, blighted properties, an existing scattered-site family housing development consisting of 74 units in 26 walk-up apartment buildings, on multiple streets in two areas of Upper South Providence. The first area, referred to as the north area and comprised of eighteen (18) buildings, is primarily bounded by Pine, Somerset, Hayward, and Pearl Streets. The second area, the south area, is comprised of eight (8) buildings and is focused primarily along Taylor Street along with Chester Avenue. The proposed redevelopment project is for acquisition, demolition of all the current building structures, and new construction of twelve new buildings in a neighborhood cluster of affordable housing units containing seventy-nine (79) rental apartments and four (4) homeownership residential units, with open green space and parking spaces at each site address, for very low to low-income households. There will be thirteen (13) units in the development for 30% AMI family households.

Proposed: Eleven (11) residential rental units will be HOME Program assisted
Proposed HOME Award: \$1,600,000

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

RIHousing has determined that this project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, Environmental Impact Statements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) are not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at RIHousing, 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903. The Environmental Review Record may be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U. S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to Eric Alexander, Assistant Director of Development at RIHousing, 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903 or via email at calexander@rihousing.com. The Environmental Review Record may be viewed at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/environmental-review-records>

PUBLIC COMMENTS

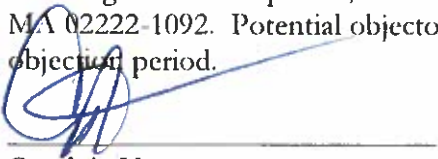
Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to Eric Alexander, Assistant Director of Development at RIHousing, via mail (RIHousing, attn.: Eric Alexander, 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903) or via email at calexander@rihousing.com. All comments received by August 31, 2020, will be considered by RIHousing prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify the Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

RIHousing certifies to HUD that Carol A. Ventura, in her capacity as Executive Director 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. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows RIHousing to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and RIHousing'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 RIHousing (b) RIHousing 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 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 HUD at Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Thomas P. O'Neil Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02222-1092. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.



Carol A. Ventura
Executive Director

8/12/2020
Date