

LEGAL NOTICE
COMBINED NOTICE OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST
RELEASE OF FUNDS

November 1, 2024

Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC)
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02114

City of Newton & WestMetro HOME Consortium
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

This notice shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by EOHLC, WestMetro HOME Consortium (WMHC), and the City of Newton.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about November 16, 2024 EOHLC, WMHC, and the City of Newton will submit requests to the HUD Boston Regional Office for the release of; HOME funds available through the HOME Investment Partnerships Act, under Title II of the Cranston Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended; the release of Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) funds under Section 8, The Housing Act of 1937, as amended; CDBG funds, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; and HOME-ARP funds, under CPD Notice 21-10, as amended; for the purpose of attaching project-based vouchers, HOME, CDBG, and HOME-ARP funds to be utilized in a project known as the West Newton Armory. The project will provide forty-three (43) units of affordable family housing at a variety of income levels located on parcel of 33,000 square feet at 1135-1137 Washington Street in Newton, Massachusetts.

The project will use an estimated \$3,382,665 in HUD funds:

Estimated CDBG Funding (local):	\$930,000
Estimated HOME Funding (state and local):	\$1,822,665
Estimated HOME-ARP Funding (local):	\$630,000

Additional sources of state and federal funds include: AAHG, AHTF, CBH, HIF, HSF and TOD. Expected additional public funding includes Federal and State low-income housing tax credits. The project sponsor is MetroWest Collaborative Development. The total estimated project cost is approximately \$28,084,740 million.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

EOHLC, WMHC, and the City of Newton have determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at EOHLC, Bureau of Rental Assistance, 100

Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114 and at the City of Newton, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, MA 02459 and may be examined or copied weekdays from 9am to 4pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Dan Tobyne, Bureau of Rental Assistance, 100 Cambridge Street Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114 and to Allison McIntyre, City of Newton, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, MA 02459. All comments received by November 15, 2024, will be considered by EOHLC and the City of Newton prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Commonwealth of MA acting through EOHLC certifies to HUD that Catherine Racer is in her capacity as Certifying Officer, and Barney Heath, in his capacity as the Director of the Planning and Development Department for the City of Newton, 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 the project, to use HUD program funds for the purpose specified.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the Commonwealth of Mass. 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 Commonwealth of MA or the City of Newton, MA; (b) the Commonwealth of MA or the City of Newton, MA have 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 project have committed funds or incurred costs 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 via email to CPDRROFBOS@hud.gov in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to the Environmental Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Boston, MA. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

For EOHLC
Catherine Racer, Undersecretary

For the City of Newton and WestMetro HOME Consortium
Barney Heath, Director of Planning and Development