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RECEIVED
By City Clerk at 3:47 pm, Mar 21, 2017

Barney Heath
Director

March 21, 2017

TO: Interested Individuals, Groups, and Agencies
FR: Liz Valenta, Housing Program Manager
RE: Notice of Environmental Review Findings

POSTED
City Clerk

The City of Newton, on behalf of the WestMetro Consortium, has completed an environmental review record for the following project that is proposed for funding with HOME funds:

Project Title: 5 Keeler Farm Way
For the Purpose Of: Acquisition of 2 Bedroom House for Affordable Rental
Location: 5 Keeler Farm Way, Lexington, MA 02420
Estimated HOME Funding: \$143,400.00
Estimated non-HUD Funding: \$47,800.00

On March 21, 2017, the City drafted a combined Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI/RROF) for this project. Enclosed is a copy of the combined notice. Written comments will be accepted by the City of Newton Planning and Development Department until 5 p.m. on April 3, 2017. The City will then submit the notice to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which will accept public comment for fifteen days following the submission date.

Questions or comments related to the environmental review process and record may be directed to this office by mail or via e-mail at evalenta@newtonma.gov.

Enclosure

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

March 21, 2016

City of Newton, Planning and Development Department

1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton MA 02459-1449
(617) 796-1145

On or about **April 4, 2017** the Newton Housing and Community Development Program will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of HOME Investment Partnership Program funds under Title II of the Cranston Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, to undertake a project known as:

Project Title:	5 Keeler Way
For the Purpose Of:	Acquisition of a 2-bedroom house to be used for affordable rental
Location:	5 Keeler Farm Way, Lexington, MA 02420
Estimated HOME Funding:	\$143,400.00
Estimated non-HUD Funding:	\$ 47,800.00

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at both the City of Newton Planning and Development Department, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton MA 02459; Contact Liz Valenta 617-796-1145 and The Lexington Planning Department, 1625 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA 02420; Contact Aaron Henry, 781-698-4560. Documents may be examined or copied weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Friday until 12:00 p.m.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Newton. All comments received by April 3, 2017 will be considered prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing. Comments should be directed to: Liz Valenta, Planning and Development Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Newton certifies to HUD that Barney Heath in his capacity as the City of Newton Director or Planning and Development 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 City of Newton to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Newton 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 Newton; (b) the City of Newton 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 Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02222. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.