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Mayor

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Barney S. Heath
Director

September 16, 2022



TO: Interested Individuals, Groups, and Agencies
FR: Eamon Bencivengo, Housing Program Manager
RE: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds

The City of Newton, as participating jurisdiction of the WestMetro HOME Consortium, has completed an environmental review record for the following project that is proposed for funding with the Town of Brookline and the Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds, DHCD Housing Choice Vouchers, and Town of Brookline Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Project Title: 108 Centre Street

For the Purpose Of: The project includes the new construction of a 54-unit rental housing development for those 62 years of age and older, with approximately 4,200 square feet of community space. All of the Project's proposed units will be affordable to households earning not more than 60% of the area median income (AMI), including units for households earning less than 30% AMI and 50% AMI, respectively; all units in the project will be one-bedroom. An existing structure on the property will be demolished.

Location: 108 Centre Street, Brookline, MA 02446

Estimated HOME Funding: \$ 1,861,300.00
Estimated CDBG Funding: \$ 628,637.00
Estimated HUD Funding: \$ 2,489,937.00
Estimated non-HUD Funding: \$34,375,283.00

In consultation with DHCD, the City of Newton has drafted a combined Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds for this project. Enclosed is a copy of the combined notice. Please post this notice in a public location. Written comments postmarked by October 3, 2022 will be accepted by the City of Newton. The City of Newton 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 ebencivengo@newtonma.gov.

Publication Date: 9/17/2022

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

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Housing and Community Development
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02114
617-573-1100

Town of Brookline
Department of Planning and Community Development
333 Washington Street, 3rd Floor
Brookline, MA 02445
617-730-2130

WestMetro HOME Consortium
City of Newton Department of Planning and Development
Room 213
1000 Commonwealth Ave.,
Newton, MA 02459
617-796-1000

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, Town of Brookline Department of Planning and Community Development, and the WestMetro HOME Consortium acting through the City of Newton Department of Planning and Development.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about October 3, 2022, the WestMetro HOME Consortium, acting through the City of Newton Department of Planning and Development (Consortium), the Town of Brookline, acting through the Department of Housing and Community Development (Town), and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting through the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), will individually submit requests to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Federal funds through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program pursuant to the authority of Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 12701 et seq.), for the release of Housing Choice Vouchers Program (HCVP) funds under Section 8 of the Housing Act of 1937, as amended, for the release of Federal Funds through the Community Development Block Grant Program authority of Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, for the project known as 108 Centre Street (Project) located at 108 Centre Street, Brookline, MA 02446.

The project includes the new construction of a 54-unit rental housing development for those 62 years of age and older, with approximately 4,200 square feet of community space. All of the

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Project's proposed units will be affordable to households earning not more than 60% of the area median income (AMI), including units for households earning less than 30% AMI and 50% AMI, respectively; all units in the project will be one-bedroom. An existing structure on the property will be demolished.

Anticipated sources of federal funds include approximately \$1,000,000 in HOME funds administered by DHCD; Housing Choice Vouchers administered by DHCD; approximately \$861,300 in HOME funds administered by the Consortium; and approximately \$628,637 in CDBG funds administered by the Town of Brookline.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Consortium has determined for itself, and the Town and DHCD concur, 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 WestMetro HOME Consortium, City of Newton Department of Planning and Development, Room 213, 1000 Commonwealth Ave., Newton, MA 02459 or at the Town of Brookline Department of Planning and Community Development 333 Washington Street, 3rd Floor, Brookline, MA 02445 or at DHCD, 100 Cambridge St, Suite 300, Boston, MA, 02114, and may be examined or copied weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding legal holidays.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Consortium at WestMetro HOME Consortium, City of Newton Department of Planning and Development, Room 213, 1000 Commonwealth Ave., Newton, MA 02459 or via email at ebencivengo@newtonma.gov; to the Town at 333 Washington St. 3rd Floor, Room 309, Brookline, MA 02445 or via email at jviola@brooklinema.gov or elindo@brooklinema.gov; to DHCD at 100 Cambridge St, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114 or via email at Nate.Robinson@mass.gov or Dan.Tobyne@mass.gov. All comments received by October 2, 2022 will be considered by the Consortium, the Town, and DHCD prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Consortium certifies to HUD that Barney Heath, in his official capacity as Certifying Officer, the Town certifies to HUD that Kara Brewton in her capacity as Certifying Officer, and DHCD certifies Catherine Racer, in her official capacity as 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. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the Consortium, Town, and DHCD to use Program Funds for the purpose specified.

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OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the Consortium's, Town's, and DHCD'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 either the Consortium, the Town, or DHCD; (b) the Consortium, the Town, or DHCD has omitted a step or failed to make a decision of finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has 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 CPD_COVID-19OEE-BOS@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.

Barney Heath, Planning Director
WestMetro HOME Consortium
City of Newton Department of Planning and Development Room 213
1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton, MA 02459

Kara Brewton, Director
Town of Brookline Department of Planning and Community Development
333 Washington Street, 3rd Floor
Brookline, MA 02445

Catherine Racer, Director
Department of Housing and Community Development
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02114