

Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds [Tiered Reviews]

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Date of Publication: July 27, 2022

Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

On or after August 17, 2022, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs will submit a request to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds authorized by Federal Register Notice 85 FR 4681, released on January 27, 2020, to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Level Review Project/Program Title: Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program – Decatur County

Purpose: Provision of rehabilitation, elevation, and/or reconstruction activities on single-family owner-occupied housing units that were damaged by Hurricane Michael.

Location: Scattered sites in Decatur County, Georgia, concentrated in zip code 39819. Site specific reviews will be prepared for each qualified property slated to undergo repair/elevation/reconstruction.

Project/Program Description: The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) proposes to use Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds to meet the unmet housing needs in Decatur County that were caused by Hurricane Michael. The DCA allocated \$10,459,250 total to the state-wide program. This broad level Tier 1 review is for the following activities: rehabilitation, repair, remediation, elevation, and/or reconstruction of single-family residences that were impacted by Hurricane Michael.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR Part 58.5(a)(3)(i).

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review: Airport Hazards [24 CFR part 51 Subpart D]; Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a; Contamination and Toxic Substances [24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]; Floodplain Management [Executive Order 11988]; Historic Preservation, National Historic Preservation Act of 1966; Noise Abatement and Control, Noise Control Act of

1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978 [24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B]; and Wetlands Protection [Executive Order 11990].

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any):

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| Airport Hazards | Airport hazards will be evaluated on a site-specific basis. Each site will be reviewed to verify it is not located in a Runway Protection Zone, Clear Zone, or Accident Potential Zone. This will be verified in the Noise Abatement and Control Section of the Site-Specific Checklist. |
| Flood Insurance | Compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 will be conducted on a site-specific basis. Each site will be identified on FEMA DFIRM maps to determine if it is located within a floodplain. If a site is located within a floodplain, flood insurance will be required. |
| Contamination and Toxic Substances | Contamination and toxic substances will be evaluated on a site-specific basis via mapping and site inspections. |
| Floodplain Management | Compliance with Executive Order 11988 will be conducted on a site-specific basis. Each site will be identified on FEMA DFIRM maps to determine if it is located within a floodplain. If a site is located within a floodplain, flood insurance will be required. |
| Historic Preservation | Compliance with the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 will be evaluated on a site-specific basis. |
| Noise Abatement and Control | Compliance with Noise Abatement and Control requirements will be evaluated on a site-specific basis. |
| Wetlands Protection | Compliance with Executive Order 11990 will be evaluated on a site-specific basis. |

Estimated Project Cost: \$10,459,250

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per g 24 CFR Part 58.5(a)(3)(i). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, 60 Executive Park South, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329 and may be examined or copied weekdays 9: 00A.M to 4:00P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, 60 Executive Park South, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329. Comments may also be sent via email to cdbg-drer@dca.ga.gov. All comments received by August 17, 2022, will be considered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs certifies to HUD that Rusty Haygood, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Deputy Commissioner, 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 Georgia Department of Community Affairs to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs' 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 Georgia Department of Community Affairs; (b) the Georgia Department of Community Affairs 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's Atlanta Regional Office of Community Planning and Development, Five Points Plaza Building, 40 Marietta Street, Atlanta, GA 30303.

Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Rusty Haygood, Deputy Commissioner
Certifying Officer