

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

Date of Notice: 12/21/2024

Name of Responsible Entity: City of Brownsville

Address: 1150 E. Adams, 3rd Floor

City, State, Zip Code: Brownsville, TX 78520

Telephone Number of Responsible Entity:(956) 548-6199

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by The Housing Authority of the City of Brownsville.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about **January 9, 2025**, the Housing Authority of the City of Brownsville (HACB) will start the process of demolishing the Bougainvillea Development located at 725 W. Jefferson St., Brownsville, Texas 78520. This is part of a Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) conversion approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The RAD transaction included site demolition.

Because Bougainvillea is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the demolition will have an adverse effect. The Texas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) requested that the HACB follow the Section 106 process to mitigate this effect. The HACB followed the required process, and a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was developed and approved by SHPO in November 2024.

The purpose of demolishing Bougainvillea is to redevelop and construct affordable housing. The following Capital Fund Grant funds will be used for the demolition:

Funds from Capital Fund Grant TX59P007501-20 \$700,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The HACB has 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 the HACB office located at 2606 Boca Chica Blvd, Brownsville, Texas. It may be examined or copied Monday through Thursday, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., and Friday from 9 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the HACB. All comments received by **January 9, 2025**, will be considered by the HACB before authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The HACB certifies to HUD that **Ms. Helen Ramirez** in her capacity as City Manager 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 HACB to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the HACB 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 HACB;(b) the HACB 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 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street S.W., Washington DC 20410. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Helen Ramirez, City Manager
Published: December 21, 2024