

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

Date of Publication: *November 5, 2024*

*City of Gastonia
150 S. York Street
PO Box 1748
Gastonia, NC 28052
(704) 866-6758*

On or after November 14, 2024, the City of Gastonia will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Community Planning Division for the release of FY24 Community Project Funding (CPF) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: *FY24 Community Project Funding (CPF)/FY24 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Rehabilitation*

Purpose: The City of Gastonia seeks to expand its Housing Rehabilitation Program to address housing and community-related issues and will assist 15-22 households. A portion of each annual CDBG budget is used to administer the Housing Rehabilitation Program. Additional funds were secured through FY24 Community Project Funding (CPF). Funds requested through Community Project Funding (CPF) will supplement the annual allocation as received for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and allow for program expand and enable the City of Gastonia to assist citizens in need of repairs.

The objective of the program is to provide housing repair assistance to low-income citizens who utilize the property as the primary residence. The program helps to maintain safe, stable housing for individuals and families at greatest risk of homelessness and further works to preserve and sustain the current affordable housing stock within the community.

Location: The program area is the corporate limits of Gastonia.

Project/Program Description: The program is designed to provide housing repair assistance up to a maximum of \$25,000 for multiple operating systems to include electrical, flooring, plumbing, roof and HVAC. Secondary assistance may be provided for tree removal that may impact the integrity of the structure. Program assistance is provided based upon program eligibility criteria. The applicant's household income level determines whether assistance is provided as either a grant or loan.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: This program falls under the broad level review of Tiering as outlined at 40 CFR 1508.28 and 24 CFR 58.15, and is the Tier I review. Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known. The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

- Airport Hazard
- Flood Insurance
- Contamination-Toxics
- Floodplain Management
- Historic Preservation
- Noise
- Wetlands
- Environmental Justice

This project may remain CEST.

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): *There are no extraordinary circumstances which would require completion of an EA, and this project may remain CEST.*

Estimated Project Cost: \$640,000

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per give citation listed above. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at City of Gastonia, Housing and Community Engagement Department, Garland Municipal Business Center, 150 S. York Street, Gastonia, NC 28052, Housing and Community Development office where ERR can be examined and name and address of other locations where the record is available for review and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30 A.M to 4:30 P.M. or if the review was completed in HEROS at <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/environmental-review-records/>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Gastonia, Housing and Community Engagement Department, PO Box 1748, Gastonia, NC 28053-1748 which is responsible for receiving and responding to comments. All comments received by Wednesday, November 13, 2024, will be considered by Danette Dye, Director of Housing and Community Engagement prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Gastonia certifies to HUD that Michael C. Peoples, Certifying Officer, in his/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 City of Gastonia to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Gastonia'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 the City of Gastonia; (b) the RE 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 *Lenwood E. Smith, Field Environmental Officer, HUD Greensboro field office at 1500 Pinecroft Road, 401, Asheville Building, Greensboro, NC.* Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Michael C. Peoples, City Manager
1-C November 5, 2024