

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR TIERED PROJECTS

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City of Rockford
425 E. State Street
Rockford, IL 61104
779-348-7162

On or after 1/20/2026 the City of Rockford will submit request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Chicago Field Office for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title 1 of the Housing & Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136) to undertake the following project:

Tier I Broad Review Project/Program Title: CDBG-CV-HVAC/Radon-Project

Purpose: Provide rehabilitation assistance, specifically HVAC system replacement and radon testing/mitigation, for residential buildings with one to four units located within the City's municipal boundaries.

Location: Within the City of Rockford municipal boundaries. Specific addresses will be assessed in the site-specific reviews.

Project/Program Description: The City of Rockford(City) proposes to utilize an estimated \$391,117.60 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-CV funds to assist Investment Property Owners with funding for the costs associated with HVAC systems replacement in single-family(1-4 unit) residential buildings within the City's municipal boundaries. To qualify, Owners must certify that their rental business suffered financial hardship associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, verify at least 51% of the units are occupied by tenants with household incomes at or below 80% of the area median income(LMI), and that rents are affordable. There is exception for a two-unit building that at least one unit must be occupied by an LMI tenant. Radon testing will be completed in each assisted building and if necessary, radon mitigation systems will be installed and clearance testing performed. Besides this Tier I review, each individual activity will have a Tier II review to evaluate the following Factors required for compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities: Flood Insurance, Contamination and Toxic Substances, Floodplain management, Historic Preservation, and Wetlands Protection.

Level of Environmental Review Citation:

Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5: 58.35(a)(3)

Tier II Site Specific Review: The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier I broad reviews: Flood Insurance, Contamination and Toxic Substances, Floodplain management, Historic Preservation, and Wetlands Protection.

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any):

During the Tier II evaluation, each property address will be evaluated to determine that the property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area; that there exist no on-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that may potentially affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property; that the subject property is not situated in the FFRMS floodplain; that the property is not historic or contributing to a local or national historic

district; and that the project will have no impact on wetlands. If the property does not meet the requirements indicated above and the City pursues the property rehabilitation, appropriate mitigation measures will be followed based on consultations with proper authorities.

Estimated Project Cost: \$391,117.60 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-CV funds

The City of Rockford has determined that the project proposed is categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5:58.35(a)(3).

An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the City of Rockford, Community & Economic Development Department, 425 E. State, Rockford, IL 61104 and may be examined or copied weekdays from 8 AM to 5 PM. The complete environmental review record can also be viewed at <https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Rockford Community & Economic Development Department, Christine Manley, 425 E State St, Rockford IL 61104 or by emailing Christine.manley@rockfordil.gov. All comments received by January 19, 2026 will be considered by the City of Rockford prior to authorizing submission of request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Rockford certifies to HUD that Thomas P. McNamara in his capacity as Mayor 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 Rockford to use program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Rockford's certifications for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the requests (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certifications were not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Rockford; (b) the City of Rockford 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 projects are 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: U.S. Department of HUD, Office of Community Planning & Development, Donald Kathan, CPD Director at 77 W. Jackson 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604, CPDRROFCHI@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Mayor Thomas P. McNamara, Certifying Officer