

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

September 7, 2018

## Town of North Providence

2000 Smith Street, North Providence, RI 02911

On or about September 18, 2018, the Town of North Providence will submit a request to the Rhode Island Community Development Block Grant Program operated by RI Office of Housing & Community Development for release of Community Development Block Grant program funds under Section 105(a) of the Housing & Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the St. Mary's Home for Children Energy & Resiliency Project (E&R Project). E&R Project will replace critical elements of existing substandard heating and cooling system for the year-round special education school and one residential facility in the 3-level George N. Hunt Campus School and Mauran House (CS/Mauran House), 440 Fruit Hill Ave. This is the first critical step in St. Mary's long-term strategy to decrease energy costs, use renewables & become resilient. Estimated funding for the E&R project is \$283,796.

The activities of the St. Mary's Home for Children Energy & Resilience Project are categorically excluded from environmental review per 24 CFR § 58.35 (a)(3)(ii) and 58.35(a)(3)(iii), for which a finding of Categorical Exclusion was posted on September 7, 2018 at North Providence Town Hall, 2000 Smith Street, North Providence, RI 02911, and at the following locations:

- North Providence Union Free Public Library, 1810 Mineral Springs Ave., North Providence;
- North Providence Public Safety Building, 2226 Mineral Springs Ave., North Providence;
- St Mary's Home for Children, 420 Fruit Hill Avenue, North Providence;
- This notice is also being posted on the Town's web site at [www.northprovidenceri.gov](http://www.northprovidenceri.gov).

An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Mayor's Office, North Providence Town Hall, 2000 Smith Street, North Providence, RI 02911, where the ERR can be examined and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR. Comments shall be submitted in writing to North Providence CDBG Office, c/o Mayor's Office, 2000 Smith St., North Providence, RI 02911, and must be received by 12 noon, September 17, 2018. The North Providence CDBG Office will acknowledge & respond to all comments submitted by the deadline of 12 noon, September 17, 2018. All comments will be considered by North Providence CDBG office prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

**RELEASE OF FUNDS:** The Honorable Charles Lombardi certifies to the Rhode Island Community Development Block Grant Program Office and the RI Office of Housing & Community Development that in his capacity as Mayor of the Town of North Providence 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. The Rhode Island Community Development Block Grant program's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the Town of North Providence to use Program funds.

**OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS:** Rhode Island Office of Housing & Community Development will accept objections to its release of funds and the North Providence'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 North Providence; (b) North Providence 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 has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD/State; 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) and shall be addressed to RI Community Development Block Grant Program, RI Office of Housing & Community Development, One Capitol Hill, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Providence RI 02908. Potential objectors should contact HUD/State to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Certifying Officer: Charles A. Lombardi, Mayor, Town of North Providence, Rhode Island