

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

March 4, 2023
City of Saint Paul
1400 City Hall Annex
25 West Fourth Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102
(651)-266-6655

On or after March 15, 2023, the City of Saint Paul will submit a request to the Community Planning and Development Division of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, as authorized by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended 42 U.S.C. § 5301 et seq., to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: Ramsey County Lead Window Replacement Program FY'22-23

Purpose: Reduce Lead Exposure to Children.

Location: Citywide.

Project/Program Description: Lead poisoning can cause permanent damage to the brain and many other organs and can result in reduced intelligence and behavioral problems. A large portion of children at risk are in families of low income and are living in older housing units with heavy concentrations of lead-based paint. The most common sources of childhood exposure to lead are deteriorated lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust, and soil in the residential environment. This program will help protect children from exposure to lead. Ramsey County will enroll qualifying properties that will undergo lead hazard reduction activities following HUD's Window Replacement and Low Impact Stabilization Program guidelines. The primary focus of this program is to do lead hazard reduction work in units with children under six years of age. Ramsey County will manage the rehabilitation activities of enrolled properties until lead-based paint clearance testing is completed and work has been performed in a satisfactory manner, including payment of contractors and collection of lien waivers. The program goal is to reduce the incidence of undue lead absorption of children living in Saint Paul. It is anticipated that the program will treat 27 units for a total amount of \$110,000 using 2022 CDBG funding. It is anticipated 40 units will be treated in 2023 with an average City contribution of \$3,750 per unit for a total of \$160,000 in CDBG funds. The size of the units and extent of lead-based paint will have an impact on these projections of the total number of units remediated.

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.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: Categorically Excluded subject to the Federal laws and authorities cited in per 24 CFR Part 58.5 (CEST), and subject to laws and authorities per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3).

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, Flood Insurance,

Contamination and Toxic Substances, Floodplain Management, Historic Preservation, Environmental Justice.

Estimated Project Cost: (FY'22-FY'23): \$270,000.

The activity proposed is categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the City of Saint Paul and will be made available for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to Victor White, 1400 City Hall Annex, 25 West 4th Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102 or by email to victor.white@ci.stpaul.mn.us. The ERR can also be accessed online at the following website: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/environmental-review-records/>. This notice will be available for viewing at the following website: <https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/planning-and-economic-development/planning/current-activities/environmental-review>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Saint Paul, Department of Planning and Economic Development, Grants Management. Please submit comments to the City of Saint Paul by U.S. Mail to Beth Ulrich, 1100 City Hall Annex, 25 West 4th Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102 or by email to beth.ulrich@ci.stpaul.mn.us. All comments received by March 15, 2023, will be considered by the City of Saint Paul prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Saint Paul certifies to HUD that Luis Pereira, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Planning Director 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 Saint Paul to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Saint Paul's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or HUD's 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 Saint Paul; (b) the City of Saint Paul 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 via email in

accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the Minnesota Office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Community Planning and Development (CPD) via email at CPD_COVID-19OEE-MIN@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Luis Pereira, Planning Director, Certifying Officer
City Hall Annex
25 West 4th Street, Suite 1400
Saint Paul, MN 55102