

CITY OF GARDNER

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
115 PLEASANT STREET, ROOM 202 | GARDNER, MA 01440



NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOIRROF)

August 31, 2023

City of Gardner, Department of Community Development & Planning

Lyndsy Butler

115 Pleasant Street

Gardner, MA 01440

(978) 630-4011, Ext. 1

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS; REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS:

On or about **September 29th 2023**, the City of Gardner will submit a request to the Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) for the release of FY21 Community Development Block Grant funds under Title 1 Section 106(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, for the purpose of expending \$1,347,627 of Community Development Block Grant funds on the following projects: Streets and Sidewalks Downtown Phase IV project which will include the rehabilitation of sidewalks, lighting, and crossings at West/Oak/Parker/ Nichols Street Intersection; Construction of a Park at the Greenwood Pool Facility with installation of an Outdoor Pavilion; Demolition of 205-213 Main Street.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the City of Gardner's Community Development & Planning office at 115 Pleasant Street, Room 202, Gardner, MA 01440 and may be examined or copied Monday through Thursday 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and Friday 8:30 A.M. to Noon with prior arrangement by calling 978-630-4014, ext. 3.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Gardner's Community Development & Planning Office, Room 202. All comments received by **September 25th, 2023** will be considered by the City of Gardner prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Gardner certifies to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts DHCD that Lyndsy Butler, in her capacity as Environmental Certifying Officer, 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

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts DHCD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Gardner to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Gardner'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 Gardner; (b) the City of Gardner 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 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; 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 Department of Housing & Community Development at 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114. Potential objectors should contact the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Housing & Community Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Lyndsy Butler, Assistant Director DCDP
Environmental Certifying Officer

Posted: City of Gardner Clerks Office,