

# **NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

Publication Dates: May1, 2026 – May 18, 2026

City of New Orleans Office of Community Development  
1340 Poydras Street, 10<sup>th</sup> floor.  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
504-658-4200

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by The City of New Orleans.

## **REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or about May 19, 2026, The City of New Orleans Office of Community Development will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Public Housing Choice Neighborhood Initiative (CNI) planning grant funds under Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103, approved March 15, 2022) (FY 2022 Appropriations). The program authority for the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative is section 24 of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437v), as applied by the FY 2024 Appropriations, to undertake an early action project known as the Statue Installation CNI Planning Grant.

The City of New Orleans Office of Community Development in conjunction with the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) proposes to fund the installation of two art sculptures, located on public property in the B.W. Cooper neighborhood. The two location sites for the art project are Earhart Blvd and S. Galvez St. (Latitude 29.9519380 and Longitude -90.0909792) and S. Dorgenois St. and Martin Luther King Blvd. (Latitude 29.9490691 and Longitude -90.0932269). The two art sculptures will be affixed to a heavy, dense, cement block that is ideal for load bearing walls and foundations. The bases will each measure 6.6 ft wide by 4ft tall. The below grade depth will be approximately 18" deep.

The project as described above will use approximately \$150,000.00 of the Choice Neighborhood Initiative funds under grant number LA6H001CNP122. The total estimated cost for the complete project is approximately \$150,000.00.

## **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The City of New Orleans has determined that the project will not have a significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the City of New Orleans, Office of Community Development, 1340 Poydras Street, 10<sup>th</sup> floor, New Orleans, LA 70112, and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To view the full, ERR call 658-4395 or e-mail [cafoundas@nola.gov](mailto:cafoundas@nola.gov) for an appointment.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of New Orleans Office of Community Development. All comments received by May 18, 2026, will be considered by this office prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which Notice they are addressing. Comments can also be emailed to [cafoundas@nola.gov](mailto:cafoundas@nola.gov).

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

The City of New Orleans certifies to HUD that Helena Moreno, Mayor, City of New Orleans in her capacity as Certifying Officer for Environmental Review for the City of New Orleans 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 New Orleans to use Program funds.

## **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of New Orleans' certification received by June 3, 2026, or 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 or other officer of the City of New Orleans; (b) the City of New Orleans 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:

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development  
Attn: Elvetra Gibbs  
Office of Public Housing Director  
New Orleans Field Office Hale Boggs Building  
500 Poydras Street, 9<sup>th</sup> floor  
New Orleans, LA 70130

Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period regarding the federal funds.

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Helena Moreno, Mayor

Jeffrey E. Schwartz  
Director of Housing, Community Development, and Special Projects - Environmental Certifying Officer