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

Publication Dates: July 22, 2026, through August 6, 2026

City of New Orleans Office of Community Development
1340 Poydras Street, 10th 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 August 7, 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 Community Development Block Grant funds under Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended to undertake a project known as the Sampson Playground Improvement project.

The project consists of improvements to the Sampson Playground which include construction of an addition to the pool entry building, restroom renovations, installation of site security measures, upgrades to lighting, and replacement of doors, hardware and windows.

The project as described above will use approximately $432,113.23 of Community Development Block Grant funds under grant numbers B-19-MC-22-0006, B-20-MC-22-0006, B-21-MC-22-0006 and B-22-MC-22-0006. The total estimated cost for the complete project is approximately $432,113.23.

Stipulation. The project owner will be required to maintain flood insurance related to insurable property.

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, 10th 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 658-4365 or e-mail cafoundas@nola.gov for an appointment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the Environmental Review Record to the City of New Orleans Office of Community Development. All comments received by August 6, 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.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of New Orleans certifies to HUD that Jeffrey Schwartz, Deputy Mayor for Community and Economic Development in his 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 August 24, 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: Leticia Ibarra, Regional Director, Region 6
Office of Community Planning and Development
Hale Boggs Building
500 Poydras Street, 9th floor
New Orleans, LA 70130

Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period regarding the federal funds. Objections can be emailed to CPDRROFNOR@hud.gov

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Helena Moreno, Mayor

Jeffrey E. Schwartz
Deputy Mayor for Community and Economic Development, Environmental Certifying Officer