

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
FOR TIERED PROGRAM**

March 16, 2019

**Responsible Entity: Indiana County Commissioners
825 Philadelphia Street
Indiana, PA 15701
724-465-3805 (Telephone and TDD)**

On or after March 25, 2019 the Indiana County Commissioners will submit a request to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCEd) for the release of HOME Program funds, as amended, to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Program Title: Indiana County Housing Accessibility/Modifications Program

Purpose: The purpose of the program is to assist permanently disabled residents with housing accessibility modifications and rehabilitation to enable them to remain in their homes in lieu of institutionalization.

Location: Program will be operated on a county-wide basis for eligible applicants.

Program Description: Accessibility/modifications are provided based on the applicant's individual needs. Includes items such as, but not limited to, handicap ramps, bathroom modifications, stair lifts, door widenings, etc.

Tier 2 site specific review will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the tier 1 broad review for each address under these programs when addresses become known.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: 24 CFR Part 58.5 (a)(3)(i)

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

Historic Preservation (36 CFR Part 800); Floodplain Management (24 CFR 55, Executive Order 11988); Toxic Materials and Hazardous Substances (24 CFR 58.5(i)(2)); Airport Clear Zones (24 CFR 51D); Noise Abatement and Control (24 CFR 51 Part B).

The pertaining laws and authorities addressed in the tier 2 site specific review will be applied as the specific locations are identified.

Mitigation measures: The State Historic Preservation Officer will be provided site specific information as each household is identified for final review and comment. The information will include location and the type of rehabilitation activities proposed.

Estimated Project Cost: \$300,000.00 HOME Program Funds

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.5 (a)(3)(i). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Indiana County Office of Planning & Development at 801 Water Street, Indiana, Pennsylvania and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Public Comments

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Indiana County Office of Planning and Development at the address listed above. All comments received by will be considered by the Indiana County Commissioners prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

Environmental Certification

The County of Indiana certifies to the Pennsylvania DCEd that Michael A. Baker, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as the Chairman of the Indiana County Board of Commissioners 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. PA DCEd's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the County of Indiana to use HUD program funds.

Objections to Release of Funds

PA DCEd will accept objections to its release of funds and the County of Indiana'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 basis: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the County of Indiana; (b) the County of Indiana has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CDR 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 PA DCEd; 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 PA DCEd at 400 North Street, 4th Floor – Commonwealth Keystone Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0225. Potential objectors should contact PA DCEd to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Michael A. Baker, Chairman
Indiana County Board of Commissioners
825 Philadelphia Street
Indiana, PA 15701