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

May 11, 2022 City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD) 2100 Travis St., 9<sup>th</sup> floor Houston, TX 77002 (832) 394-6183/(832)394-6056

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Houston, HCDD.

## REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about May 27, 2022 the City of Houston's Housing and Community Development Department will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds authorized by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383, as amended), to undertake a project known as Winzer Park Improvements.

The City of Houston's Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD) withdrew the original Finding of No Significant Impact/Notice of Intent to Request a Release of Funds (FONSI/NOIRROF) public notice, published May 3, 2022, in response to a change in the project description for a project known as the Winzer Park Improvements project. This notice serves as the Revised FONSI/NOIRROF public notice for this project.

HCDD has revised the HUD 24 CFR 58.36 Environmental Assessment (EA) project description for the Winzer Park Improvements project. The revised project description removes the restroom facilities from the demolition activities and incorporates the following items under potential alternate items to be constructed:

- Add ADA parking,
- Add oval loop around soccer field
- Remove 87,000 square feet of solid sod in base bid and replace with hydro-mulch.

A reevaluation of the environmental assessment and other environmental findings is not required since substantial changes in the nature, magnitude and extent of the project have not occurred.

**Project Location:** 7300 Carver Rd, Houston, TX, 77088 (29.86666, -95.44536)

**Project description:** Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD) and General Service Department (GSD) requests \$1,890,925.00 in CDBG funds for the improvements at 7300 Carver Road, Houston TX 77088 – Winzer Park on approximately 14.47 acres of land. The improvements will include demolishing the existing features and constructing new walking trails, playgrounds for various ages, spray ground with associated mechanical system, outdoor exercise equipment with a shade sail structure, picnic shelter and shade trellis, site furnishings, such as

benches, picnic and games tables, bike rack, drinking fountain, site lighting and electrical service, new backstop and bleachers, tree removal and planting and associated irrigation, detention, and grading and drainage improvements.

Demolition of existing features will include the swing set, sidewalks, paved area, storm inlets, ballfield bleachers and fences, picnic tables, and drinking fountain.

#### Construction will include:

- New walking trails
- Playgrounds for various ages
- Spray ground with associated mechanical system
- Outdoor exercise equipment with a shade sail structure
- Picnic shelter and shade trellis
- Site furnishing
  - o Benches
  - o Picnic & game tables
  - Bike rack
  - Drinking fountain
- Site lighting & electrical service
- New backstop and bleachers
- Tree plantings and associated irrigation
- Detention, grading and drainage improvements
- Alternate Items
  - o Replace tennis court and add ADA parking
  - o Add oval loop around soccer field
  - o Remove 87,000 square feet of solid sod in base bid and replace with hydro-mulch.

The General Services Department will be responsible for managing the design and construction contracts and assigning a Project Manager to oversee the bidding and selection of both contracts.

The City of Houston has classified the project as an Environmental Assessment (24 CFR 58.36, subpart E) subject to laws and authorities at 24 CFR 58.5, 24 CFR 58.6, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis, and the additional EA Factors discussed by HUD.

This project proposes to use the following funding, including:

\$2.000.925.00	
\$110,000.00	Harris County Flood Control District – Bond Funds
\$284,084.64	CDBG, B-21-MC48-0018 (City of Houston request)
\$1,606,840.36	CDBG, B-20-MC48-0018 (City of Houston request)

#### FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Houston has determined that the project will have no 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). The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to P.O. Box 1562, Houston, TX 77251-1562 or 2100 Travis St., 9th Floor, Houston, TX 77002 or by email to hcdenvironmental@houstontx.gov.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department, ATTN: Environmental Review Officer, 2100 Travis, 9th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 or by email to <a href="https://linear.com/houstontx.gov">https://linear.com/houstontx.gov</a>. All comments received by the close of business on May 26, 2022 will be considered by the City of Houston prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

The City of Houston certifies to HUD that Sylvester Turner, in his capacity as Mayor 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 Houston to use Program funds.

#### **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Houston 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 Houston; (b) the City of Houston 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 and Urban Development, 1301 Fannin Street, Suite 2200, Houston, Texas 77002. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Sylvester Turner, Mayor City of Houston