

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASES OF FUNDS

February 18, 2016

City of Springfield
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

This Notice shall satisfy two (2) separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Springfield.

On or about **March 5, 2016** the City of Springfield will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR) with Federal assistance under the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-2, approved January 29, 2013) funding, for the following projects:

PROJECT: Central/Hickory Roadways

PROJECT SUMMARY: The City of Springfield is seeking to widen the roadway area of Central and Hickory Street. The widening in the road will result in the taking of three properties in order to effectively gain ten feet on the north side of Hickory Street. The three properties in question include 46-48 Hancock Street, 468 Walnut Street and 462 Central Street. The properties will be demolished for the purpose of this project.

Initial proposal

The current project limits are from the intersection of Pine Street to Sheffield Street and include realignments with Hickory Street, Hancock Street, Eastern Avenue and signal improvements at Walnut Street. Also being considered are changes to the current configuration of Rifle Street and the alignment with Eastern Ave.

As of June 30, 2014

Changes to the proposed alignment have shifted the roadway to the north side of Hickory Street. This changes the land takings from the properties on the south side of Hickory to taking the properties on the north side including park land. The Traffic Study has been completed as well as the preliminary design. DPW is working with Planning & Economic Development to identify the actual land takings and also with the Law Department to work through the process dealing with the taking of Park property.

As of September 30, 2014

The alignment has been finalized as well as the Schematic Design of the project. Plans for land acquisitions have been completed. A change order was necessary to expand this task from the ten (10) plans estimated to the twenty-three (23) required by the final alignment. The change order is in the process of signatures and is not included in the figures below until signatures are completed. Geotechnical field work has been completed. The City has begun the 4F process for reallocating Park property to roadway use. Coordination with utilities is ongoing.

ESTIMATED COST: \$5,528,300.00

All projects will take place in the City of Springfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

There was no determination of Categorical Exclusion and therefore an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been completed. The law, authority or factor requiring mitigation is 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)

which will include the removal of an identified underground storage tank at 462 Central Street as well as the subsurface reportable contaminants before the development of the roadway but after the acquisition and demolition of the property. Environmental oversight will be performed by a Licensed Site Professional at the locations of 462 Central Street and 468 Walnut Street during demolition as well as roadway construction. Disaster Recovery Staff will be responsible for implementing mitigation and monitoring progress.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Springfield has determined that the Central/Hickory Roadway Project will have No Significant Impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1996 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Office of Disaster Recovery and Compliance located at the address above and may be examined or copied weekdays from 8:15AM to 4:30PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Office of Housing at 1600 East Columbus Avenue, Springfield, MA 01103. The City of Springfield will consider all comments received on or before **March 5, 2016** prior to authorizing submission of requests for release of funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Springfield certifies to HUD that Domenic J. Sarno, 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 activities listed above to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Springfield's certification for a period of fifteen (15) 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 Commonwealth of Massachusetts;
- (b) the RE 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 has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD/State; 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) and shall be addressed to U.S. Department of HUD, Office of Community Planning and Development, Thomas P. O'Neil Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, Boston MA 02222. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Domenic J. Sarno, Mayor
City of Springfield