NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
June 17, 2020

Knox County Department of Community Development
400 Main Street, Suite 630
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902
865-215-3980

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 3, 2020 the Knox County Department of Community Development will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of grant funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as Knox County Community Development, Housing Public Services, Public Facilities/Improvements and Economic Development Projects for Program Years 2020-2024. If released, the grant funds would be used for the purpose of providing viable housing opportunities, providing job training and education, and supporting qualified community organizations at various locations in Knox County. Actual annual amounts will be identified in the annual action plans. A Tiered Review process has been developed for housing projects which are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. The Tiered Review was conducted per HUD guidelines and consists of a Tier 1 Broad Review of the entire county, a written strategy for unspecified sites, and a Site-Specific Review. The Broad Review revealed no environmental concerns associated with the proposed categorically excluded programs. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project can be viewed online at www.knoxcounty.org/communitydevelopment.

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Knox County Department of Community Development at the address above or by email at CDFeedback@knoxcounty.org. All comments received by July 1, 2020 will be considered by Knox County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

Knox County certifies to HUD that Glenn Jacobs in his capacity as County 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 approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the Knox County Department of Community Development to use Program funds.

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and Knox County’s certifications 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: the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of Knox County; Knox County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; 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; 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 the U.S. Department of HUD, Knoxville Field Office, Region IV, John J. Duncan Federal Building, 710 Locust Street, Suite 300, Knoxville, TN 37902-2526. Potential objectors should contact the Program Management Office to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Glenn Jacobs
Knox County Mayor