

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date: March 1, 2023

Name of Responsible Entity [RE]: Mercer County

Address: c/o Mercer County Regional Planning Commission
2491 Highland Rd., Hermitage, PA 16148

Telephone Number of RE: 724-981-2412 x 3204

On or about March 31, 2023 the above-named grantee will submit a request to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (PA DCED) to release CDBG Funds for the following project:

Title: Clearance/Demolition

Locations: 24 Emerson Avenue, Wheatland Borough, PA 16121
113 Fleetwood Court, Wheatland Borough, PA 16121

Total Project Cost and HUD Funded Amount (FY 2021 Mercer County CDBG Funds) = \$35,231

Description:

The Borough of Wheatland is concerned about vacant and dilapidated structures and the activities that often result as structures become vacant (rodent infestation, vandalism, illicit drug use, squatting, structural fires, etc.). The code enforcement staff has identified two structures (113 Fleetwood Court, 24 Emerson Avenue) that are unfit for human habitation, vacant for more than twelve months, and where rehabilitation is not practically feasible.

These two structures will be razed, and the remaining debris will be hauled to an approved landfill. Project sites will be restored (foundations will be filled in and grass will be planted on the project site).

The activities proposed are categorically excluded from the NEPA requirements (24 CFR Part 58.35) and there is no requirement for an environmental assessment. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) which documents the Environmental Review of the project has been made by the Grantee and more fully sets forth the reasons why a full Environmental Impact Statement is not required. This ERR is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying, upon request between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Mercer County, c/o the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission, cconti@mcrpc.com. All comments received by March 31, 2023 will be considered by Mercer County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Mercer County certifies to the Commonwealth that Matthew McConnell in his capacity as Chairman of the Mercer 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. DCED's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Mercer County to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

DCED will accept objections to its release of funds and acceptance of the 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 grantee's Certifying Officer; (b) the grantee 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 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 Department of Community and Economic Development at: chrhowe@pa.gov. Potential objectors should contact DCED to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Matthew McConnell
Chairman
Mercer County Board of Commissioners

Mailed on March 1, 2023 to the following agencies:

PA Department of Environmental Protection
Regional Director
230 Chestnut Street
Meadville, PA 16335

Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Director, Federal Liaison Division
Office of Federal Activities (104)
Environmental Protection Agency
404 M. Street, S. W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Sent to (on March 31, 2023):

Chris Howe
Center for Community Building
Office of Community Development
4th Floor, Commonwealth Keystone Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225

Posted at the following locations:

Mercer County Regional Planning Commission
2491 Highland Road
Hermitage, PA 16148

Mercer County Council of Governments
2495 Highland Road
Hermitage, PA 16148

On-Site:

24 Emerson Avenue
113 Fleetwood Court

Wheatland Borough
71 Broadway Avenue
Wheatland, PA 16161

Mercer County Courthouse
103 Courthouse
Mercer, PA 16137

Online – Mercer County - <https://www.mcc.co.mercer.pa.us/>
Mercer County Regional Planning Commission - <https://mcrpc.com/>