

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

1/27/16

City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department
310 N. Commerce Park Loop, Tucson AZ 85745

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about February 12, 2016 the City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department (Responsible Entity) will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, to undertake the project known as the Esperanza En Escalante Phase II, 3700 S. Calle Polar, Tucson, Pima County, Arizona 85730

This project represents Phase II of a three-phase development on nearly 17 acres of land adjacent to Davis Monthan Air Force Base. The Phase II portion of the site is 3.44 acres and includes new construction of 44 - 734 sq. ft. one bedroom single story units in a 4-plex and 6-plex configuration, surrounding a large central courtyard and community building. The units will be 100% accessible to the physically disabled and 80% of the units will house older adult veterans aged 55 and over. The construction site has been cleared, graded and prepped for construction. Utilities and infrastructure are in place. The project has been designed using the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) prescriptive path to sustainability, which is roughly equivalent to a LEED Gold standard.

Esperanza En Escalante is a non-profit 501(c)(3) housing development and social service provider that currently provides transitional housing for homeless veterans on site. EEE has secured 40 Section 8 Project-Based Vouchers from the City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department Public Housing Authority for the new project.

Requested funding from the HOME program through the City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department is \$681,000.00. The total estimated project cost from all sources is \$9,626,536.00, with additional funding provided by ADOH Housing Trust Fund, AZ Low Income Housing Tax Credit equity, Home Depot, and CHASE Bank.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department (RE) 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.

The Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is available at <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/whats-new> and on file at City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department, 310 S. Commerce Park Loop, Tucson, Pima

County Arizona 85745 and may be examined weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m. Copies may be requested at \$.25 per page.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written or email comments on the ERR to Glenn Fournie, City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop Tucson AZ 85745 Glenn.Fournie@tucsonaz.gov . All comments received by February 12, 2016 will be considered by the City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing. Comments and responses will be posted on our website at <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/whats-new> .

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department certifies to HUD that Sally Stang in her capacity as Director of the City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department 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 Tucson Housing and Community Development Department to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date of February 12, 2016 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 Tucson Housing and Community Development Department; (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 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: Maria Cremer, Director Office of Community Planning & Development, US Department of Housing & Urban Development, One Sansome Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94104-4430.

Sally Stang, Director
City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Department