

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

February 18, 2025
City of York
100 E 4th St
York, NE, 68355
402-363-2600

On or after February 27, 2025, the City of York will submit a request to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), or its State administering agency, Nebraska Department of Economic Development (State), for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974 (U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), as amended, to undertake a project known as York Downtown Revitalization: the City plans to continue to address slum and blight in the City's downtown Commercial Business District through façade improvements and correction of municipal code violations.

The Project will take place within the City's downtown district. The northern boundary of the district runs along the railroad tracks with West Nobes Road serving as the southern boundary. The eastern boundary follows North Burlington Avenue while the western boundary generally follows North Beaver Avenue south to West 3rd Street. From there the boundary continues mainly along North Platte Avenue to East Nobes Road. The area is primarily commercial with residential mixed in.

Project activities identified for improvement within this designated area will be carried out in accordance with the formerly established program guidelines, design guidelines, and design goals and policies. Eligible activities include façade improvements, window/door replacements, brick/masonry repairs, structural repairs, code violations, lighting, and address architectural barriers that impede mobility-restricted citizens. Eligible downtown business owners will be invited to apply for these funds. Those eligible businesses who are interested in applying may contact the city office at (402) 363-2600 and will be able to review the City's Program Guidelines for additional information about the requirements of the program. Applications will be reviewed as they are received.

Total project costs are estimated at \$535,000, including \$25,000 for general administration and \$10,000 for construction management. Funding sources include a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) for \$435,000 and a match of \$100,000. Applicants who are awarded funding will be required to provide at least 25% in matching funds.

This Project will address the National Objective of preventing or eliminating slum and blight conditions on an area basis (SBA) through the commercial rehabilitation of private facilities within the area of downtown designated by the City and identified in their Blight and Substandard Area Designation, prepared by RDG Planning & Design in September of 2017. No residents, businesses, or farms will be displaced as a result of the project activities. Project activities may result in dust, noise, or temporary interruption of access to individual buildings during construction. Businesses, residents, and emergency services will be notified of all sidewalk and street closures that may be required for the project and will be directed to an alternate route. The Project activities will be completed within 30 months.

Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: 24 CFR 58.35(a) ((3)(iii)(a) and (3)(iii)(b))

Tier 2 site specific review: The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review: Contamination and Toxic Substances [24 CFR 58.5(i)(2)], and Historic Preservation [36 CFR 800]

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): For each of the laws and authorities listed in the tier 2 site specific review, including descriptions of how issues will be addressed, and how mitigation measures, conditions or permits required will be implemented.

The activities proposed are Categorically Excluded Subject To (CEST) under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at City Office of York located at 100 E 4th St York, NE 68467 or at the office of Southeast Nebraska Development District (SEND) located at 7407 O St. Lincoln, NE 68510 and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M to 4 P.M. 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 one of the addresses above or by email to aring@cityofyork.ne.gov and/or kgentrup@sendd.org. If the RE chooses to send the ERR to the public for review via U.S. mail, the RE will establish a timeframe for accepting comments with the person requesting the ERR.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Amanda Ring, City Clerk. All comments received by February 26, 2025 will be considered by the City of York prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of York certifies to the State that Barry Redfern in their 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. The State's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of York to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of York 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 York (b) grant recipient 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 the Nebraska Department of Economic Development; 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) in writing to the Nebraska Department of Economic

Development, 245 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 002, Lincoln, NE 68521. Potential objectors should contact the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Barry Redfern, Mayor
Certifying Officer