

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

October 17, 2024
City of York
100 East 4th St
York, NE 68467
(402) 363-2600

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of York, the recipient of the Nebraska Department of Economic Development grant, and also the Responsible Entity (RE).

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after November 2, 2024, 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 Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974 (U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) as amended, to extending current transportation trail system to provide access to food/jobs, purchasing and installing two new traffic controllers for the downtown area, and purchasing an emergency generator for the community auditorium. All construction will be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The scope of work includes the following:

Construct 1,335 feet of expanded trail system that extends from Lincoln Ave along Nobes Road. There is currently no trail that extends west along West Nobes Road, the trail extension would be approximately 1.5 blocks. The intent of the trail extension is to connect the trail head on the north side of West Nobes Rd between Kingsley Ave and York Ave to West Nobes Rd and Lincoln Avenue Intersection. At the West Nobes Rd and Lincoln Avenue intersection, this would enhance an at-grade pedestrian crossing to connect the North and East sidewalk infrastructure for mobility.

Other activities will include the installation of two pedestrian controllers within the city's downtown area located at the intersections of 7th Street and Grant Ave, 7th Street and Lincoln Ave respectively. Finally, the city will install an emergency generator within the city auditorium, which would allow the city to maintain power during a storm event or other related emergency and eliminate a potential ADA barrier.

Project impacts may include temporary sidewalk closures, noise and dust. Businesses, residents and emergency services will be notified of all closures and will be re-routed during construction. Project activities will take place during normal business hours.

The estimated total project cost is approximately \$264,000 including \$5,000 construction management, \$10,000 for general administration and \$249,000 (approximately \$86,000 for trail extension, \$33,000 for Traffic Controllers, and \$130,000 for an emergency generator) for the aforementioned ADA-related community improvements. The city will repurpose all Economic Development and Housing RLF program income, currently around \$264,000, towards this project. Any program income generated during this project will be applied toward the project or returned to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Generated program income is an estimate and would require a review of the loan repayments expected during the next couple of years. The remaining project costs will come from the City's general funds. No local match will be required. Any funds that remain after the project is completed will be returned back to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

The City anticipates the project will be completed within 18 months of the project approval. The project will primarily benefit low-to-moderate income persons also known as Limited Clientele (LMC) persons. No persons, businesses, or farms will be displaced as a result of this project.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of York 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. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the City Office, located at 100 E 4th Street, York, NE 68467 in addition to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) office, which is located at 245 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 002, Lincoln, NE 68521, where the ERR can be examined and may be copied weekdays between 9:00AM and 5:00PM. The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by mail to 100 E 4th St, York, NE 68467 or by email to aring@cityofyork.net. 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 November 1, 2024, will be considered by the City of York prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of York certifies to the State that Barry Redfern, in his capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if any 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

NDED 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