NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Marin County Community Development Agency
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
San Rafael, CA 94903
415-473-7873

On or about May 29, 2021, the Marin County Community Development Agency will submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of public housing funds through the Marin Housing Authority under Title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, to undertake a project known as Golden Gate Village Section 106 Maintenance for the purpose of assisting with the removal of vegetation from “defensible space” around Golden Gate Village (GGV), in accordance with current fire safety guidelines. Defensible space is defined as a buffer between buildings and vegetation that is likely to provide fuel during a fire. GGV is located at 101–429 Drake Avenue and 1–99 Cole Drive in Marin City, California (APN: 052-140-41) and is the county’s only family Public Housing site. It is home to approximately 700 residents and is composed of 300 units in 28 apartment housing buildings ranging in size from one- to five-stories.

The project will increase the overall fire safety for the community. Much of the vegetation surrounding GGV is dense native shrub, French Broom, Bay Laurel, and Eucalyptus. The scope of work proposed to address defensible space includes:

1. Remove broom between buildings 419-429.
2. Completely remove/mow all vegetation above [south of] the retaining wall behind [a range of high-rise] buildings 69-419 to a distance of 25 feet.
4. Remove [cluster of] large eucalyptus trees to eliminate material falling on roof and decks [south and east of] building 69 and cover stumps.
5. Remove broom [east of building 69].
6. Remove brush and broom 20 feet from block wall behind [east of] building 49.
7. Cut broom and brush between building 49 and apartment 39 [in the low-rise building that includes units 37-45] to the "old cut-line."
8. Coordinate with residents to clean up yard behind [east of] apartments 251-257.
9. Remove brush and licorice plants behind [east of] apartments 251-257.

The above scope also addresses the heavy and continuous fuel along the GGV boundary with National Park Service (NPS) lands. This defensible space work will enhance efforts by NPS to improve access and create fuel reduction zones along their property. The collaborative efforts will improve overall effectiveness.

There is no cost to the Marin Housing Authority for the project, however the Marin County Fire Department estimates expenses to be $60,000.

The Marin County Community Development Agency has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at Marin County Community Development Agency located at 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308 San Rafael, CA 94903 and
may be examined or copied at: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/environmental-review-records/. Due to COVID-19 restrictions appointments are required for onsite examination the ERR. Appointments can be made by contacting ggvpubliccomment@marincounty.org or 415-473-7873.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Marin County Community Development Agency at 3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 308, San Rafael, CA 94903 or ggvpubliccomment@marincounty.org. All comments received by May 18, 2021 will be considered by the Marin County Community Development Agency prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Marin County Community Development Agency certifies to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that Matthew H. Hymel in his capacity as County Administrator 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 Marin Housing Authority to use proceed with the project.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the Marin County Community Development Agency’s 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 Marin County Community Development Agency; (b) the Marin County Community Development Agency 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 emailed to the HUD grant administration office at: RROFSFRO@hud.gov and todd.r.greene@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.