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

Date of Publication: September 7, 2020
Responsible Entity:
Marin County Community Development Agency, Housing & Federal Grants Division
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
San Rafael, CA 94903
415-473-7549

On or after September 4, 2020, the Marin County Community Development Agency, Housing & Federal Grants Division will authorize the Marin Center for Independent Living to submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, Region IX for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, to undertake the following project:

**Tier 1 Broad Review Program Title:** Marin Center for Independent Living Residential Accessibility Modification Program

**Purpose:** The Marin Center for Independent Living (MCIL) Residential Accessibility Modification Program (RAMP; “the Program”) serves low-income Marin residents with disabilities by providing grants and assistance for improving access and mobility in their existing homes. The majority of clients have orthopedic, visual or hearing impairments, chemical sensitivities, HIV or AIDS, or are frail, elderly people. Services are provided to individuals who are at risk of losing their independence and being confined in nursing homes without the modifications funded by the Program. Grants are provided to make improvements to existing residences, including removal of barriers to accessibility and mobility; safety improvements; and other improvements to enable disabled residents to remain in their homes. Modifications may include, for example, grab bar installations, stair lifts, ramps, and bathroom widening. These modifications are provided specifically to low income individuals who do not have the resources to complete them on their own.

**Location:** The Program encompasses the entirety of Marin County. However, this Tiered Review covers only projects that are located outside the Coastal Zone and Bay Conservation and Development Commission jurisdiction; and locations greater than 2,500 feet from a civilian airport.

**Program Description:** Under the Program, grants are given for improvements to owner-occupied and rented homes, apartments, and condominiums, as well as houseboats in approved berths and mobile homes. The maximum grant amount for any individual project is $20,000. Each year, MCIL makes approximately six grants under the program.

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 Part 58.35(a)(2) and 58.35(a)(3)(i)
Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

- Flood Insurance (Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a])
- Floodplain Management (Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55)
- Contamination and Toxic Substances (24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2))
- Environmental Justice (Executive Order 12898)

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits:
No mitigation measures or conditions are specified in the Tier 1 review. For each of the laws and authorities listed above, the Tier 2 Review will complete a standard worksheet, add required information to the Environmental Review Record, and, if necessary, specify mitigation or conditions, if any.

Estimated Project Cost: The program has been awarded $40,000 in CDBG funding for 2020. A similar amount is anticipated for each year through FY 2024-25.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(2) and 58.35(a)(3)(i). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at Marin County Community Development Agency, Housing & Federal Grants Division, 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/.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to:

Jillian Zeiger
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3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308, San Rafael, CA 94903
415-473-7549
JZeiger@marincounty.org

All comments received by September 24 will be considered by the Marin County Community Development Agency, Housing & Federal Grants Division prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Marin County Community Development Agency, Housing & Federal Grants Division certifies to HUD that Matthew Hymel, Certifying Officer, 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 HUD program funds.
OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the Marin County Community Development Agency, Housing & Federal Grants Division’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, Housing & Federal Grants Division; (b) the Marin County Community Development Agency, Housing & Federal Grants Division 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 HUD at One Sansome St., Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94104. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Matthew Hymel, County Administrator, Marin County, Certifying Officer