

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS – CDNC 072718 NSP1

Date of Notice: July 27, 2018
Name of Responsible Entity: Pima County Community Development and Neighborhood
Conservation Department
Address: Pima County Housing Center
801 W. Congress ST, Tucson, AZ 85745
(520) 724-2480

On or about August 13, 2018, Pima County Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation Department (CDNC) will submit a request to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds under Title III of the Housing and Recovery Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-289), as amended, to undertake Restaurant Rehabilitation activities at the south Ajo Plaza building in Ajo, AZ. The Project Area is located in the northwest quarter of Section 23, Township 12 South, Range 06 West, G&SRBM, in the rural community of Ajo, in the western end of unincorporated Pima County.

The rehabilitation will result in re-use of a vacant, outdated restaurant space within the Historic Ajo Plaza. Built in 1919 as a commercial center for the Town of Ajo, the Historic Ajo Plaza is owned by the International Sonoran Desert Alliance, an Arizona non-profit corporation. The project will replace HVAC, hot water heater, lighting, electrical service, and sink; abate asbestos-containing materials; replace or repair building components, as needed. Upon completion, the Owner will lease the restaurant facility to a private restaurant operator that will become a catalyst for business and employment opportunities for tourists and local residents.

Pima County CDNC of Tucson, Arizona determined these program activities are Categorically Excluded from the National Environmental Policy Act requirements under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58.35(a). Pima County consulted with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office regarding historic compliance review for all proposed grant-funded activities. A complete Environmental Review Record (ERR) for this project is on file at the Pima County Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation Department, Pima County Housing Center, 801 W Congress ST, Tucson, Arizona 85745 and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Pima County Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation Department, Pima County Housing Center, 801 W. Congress ST, Tucson, Arizona 85745. All such comments received by August 31, 2018 will be considered by Pima County CDNC prior authorizing submission of a request for release of federal funds.

Pima County CDNC certifies to HUD that Daniel Tylutki, in his official capacity as Pima County Certifying Environmental Officer, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows Pima County CDNC of Tucson, Arizona to use Program funds.

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and the Pima County CDNC certification received by August 23, 2018 or for a period of fifteen days following its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases (a) the certification was not in fact executed by the Certifying Officer of Pima County CDNC; (b) Pima County CDNC 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 project have committed funds or incurred costs 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) and shall be addressed to HUD at 1 North Central, Suite 600, Phoenix, AZ 85004. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

NAME AND TITLE OF COMMERCE CERTIFYING OFFICER:

Daniel Tylutki, Certifying Officer of Pima County Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation.