

Posted on the Wichita Housing and Community Services Website on November 6, 2020

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

November 6, 2020

City of Wichita
455 N. Main Street – 10th Floor
Wichita KS 67202
316.462.3721

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Wichita.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after November 24, 2020, the City of Wichita will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of funds in the Community Development Block Grant–Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) program, made available to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus (CDBG-CV funds) authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937, to undertake the following proposed project:

Project Title: Acquisition and rehabilitation of the 316 Hotel located at 1011 N. Topeka, Wichita KS 67214.

Purpose: HumanKind Ministries will acquire the 316 Hotel and open the hotel building to homeless persons in need of shelter in order to prevent the spread of Coronavirus. The shelter will be open through June 30, 2021. On July 1, 2021, after the building has been rehabilitated and transitioned from a building with sleeping rooms, to a multifamily facility with 56 affordable studio apartments, HumanKind will begin operating the structure as a multifamily facility. Tenants leasing the dwelling units must be homeless according to the following definition “an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as per the specific terms defined at 24 CFR Part 91.5.”

Project Location: 1011 N. Topeka, Wichita KS 67214.

Duration/Time: It is anticipated that HumanKind will acquire the proposed project on or about December 10, 2020. The operation of the homeless shelter and rehabilitation will begin simultaneously after HumanKind purchases the building. Construction work will occur during the daytime hours so as to not disturb nighttime sleeping. Initial leasing activities will begin July 1, 2021.

Estimated Cost: It is estimated this project will utilize \$4,010,000.00 of HUD CDBG-CV program funds.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Wichita 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 Records (ERR) on file at the City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department. The ERR is available for viewing online at <https://www.wichita.gov/Housing/Pages/default.aspx> and may be examined or printed. Due to COVID-19, City of Wichita offices are not open to the public except on the first floor of City Hall, located at 455 N. Main Street in Wichita Kansas. City staff encourage interested parties to view the ERR online.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the Environmental Review Records (ERR) to the City of Wichita. Those comments should be addressed to Brad Snapp, Housing and Community Services Department; 455 N. Main Street – 10th Floor, Wichita, KS 67202, or via email to: bsnapp@wichita.gov. All comments received by November 23, 2020, will be considered by the City of Wichita prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. The ERR will be available for viewing and copying online at <https://www.wichita.gov/Housing/Pages/default.aspx>.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Wichita certifies to HUD that Robert Layton in his capacity as the Wichita City Manager 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 the National Environmental Policy Act, and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Wichita to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Wichita'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 City of Wichita; (b) the City of Wichita 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: CPD_COVID-19OEE-KC@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Robert Layton
Wichita City Manager