## Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds Small Cities Development Program State of Minnesota

July 10, 2012

320-986-2448

City of Hoffman 127 Main Avenue P. O. Box 227 Hoffman, MN 56339

Kathryn Sletto Consulting 6600 County Road 8 NW Alexandria, MN 56308 320-762-8428

## TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about July 23, 2012, the City of Hoffman will request the Business and Community Development Division, Small Cities Development Program, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), to release federal funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 98-181) for the following project:

The Hoffman – Barrett Housing Rehabilitation Program (HBHRP). The HBHRP will involve administration and the rehabilitation of approximately 20 owner-occupied homes within the corporate limits of the Cities of Hoffman and Barrett, Grant County, Minnesota. The amount of SCDP funding requested is \$477,000 and the total project cost is estimated to be \$643,200. No part of the target area is located within the 100-year floodplain.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act Requirements because the project consists of single family rehabilitation, land use will not change, unit density will not be increased more than 20%, and no improvements will be conducted within a 100-year floodplain. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) respecting this project has been made by the City of Hoffman that documents the environmental review of the project. This ERR is on file at the Alexandria address above and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, weekdays between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm.

In accordance with 24 CFR Part 58.15, a tiered review process has been structured for the rehabilitation, whereby some environmental laws and authorities have been reviewed for the target area and other applicable laws and authorities will be complied with, when participating properties have been identified and projects are ripe for review. Specifically, the target area has been studied and compliance with the following laws and authorities has been established: wetland protection, floodplain management, sole source aquifers, endangered species, wild and scenic rivers, coastal zone management, air quality, farmlands protection, airport runway clear zone requirements and environmental justice.

In addition, pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, comments on the identification and treatment of historic properties in the project area are welcome.

Compliance with the following laws and authorities will take place once properties within the target area have been identified, but prior to the commitment of funds: historic properties (rehabilitation

of historic properties will be done in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation in consultation with MnSHPO), and HUD environmental standards for hazards. Compliance documentation on the aforementioned laws and authorities will be in each individual property file, and copies will be available, once established, at the office of Kathryn Sletto Consulting.

## Public Comments on Request to Release Funds

Any individual, group or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Kathryn Sletto Consulting at the above address. All comments received by July 20, 2012, will be considered by the City of Hoffman prior to submission of a Request for Release of Funds.

The City of Hoffman will undertake the project described above with Block Grant funds from DEED, under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The City of Hoffman is certifying to DEED that the City of Hoffman and Dennis Satre, in his official capacity as Mayor, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that with approval, the City of Hoffman may use the Block Grant funds, and DEED and HUD will have satisfied their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

## **Objections to Release of Funds**

BCD will accept objections to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification for a period of eighteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only for one of the following reasons: (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the Chief Executive Officer or other officer of the grantee approved by BCD; (b) that the grantee's ERR for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process; (c) the grant recipient has incurred costs not authorized at 24 CFR Part 58.22 before approval of a release of funds by BCD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 24 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 may be addressed to Reed Erickson, Small Cities Development Program, MN Dept. of Employment and Economic Development, Business and Community Development Division, 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200, St. Paul, MN 55101-1351. Potential objectors should contact DEED at 651-296-7057 to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Dennis Satre, Mayor City of Hoffman 127 Main Avenue P. O. Box 227 Hoffman, MN 56339