

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOIRROF)**

January 29, 2025

Jefferson County Board of Legislators  
195 Arsenal Street  
Watertown, NY 13601-2591  
(315) 785-3075

On or about February 10, 2025 Jefferson County will submit a request to the Office of Community Renewal for the release of CDBG funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a county-wide Housing Improvement Program to support rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes with lower income owners. \$750,000 of CDBG funds will be combined with funding from the North Country HOME Consortium and other sources to support those activities.

The proposed activities are categorically excluded under federal regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file in the Planning Department at 175 Arsenal Street, Watertown, NY 13601 and may be examined or copied weekdays during regular business hours.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Planning Department. All comments received by February 6 will be considered by the Board of Legislators prior to submission of a request for release of funds.

### **RELEASE OF FUNDS**

Jefferson County certifies to the Office of Community Renewal that William W. Johnson in his capacity as Chairman of the Board of Legislators 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. Acceptance of this certification by the Office of Community Renewal satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and allows Jefferson County to use program funds.

### **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

The Office of Community Renewal will accept objections to its release of funds and the Jefferson County 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 Jefferson County;
- b) Jefferson County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the 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 the Office of Community Renewal; 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, Section 58.76) and shall be addressed to Crystal Loffler, President, Office of Community Renewal, Hampton Plaza, 38-40 State Street, Albany, NY 12207. Potential objectors should contact the Office of Community Renewal to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Michael J. Bourcy  
Planning Director and Certifying Officer  
January 29, 2025

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