



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

MEMORANDUM FOR: Marion M. McFadden, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, D

THROUGH

Claudia I. Monterrosa, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs, D CLAUDIA MONTERROSA

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FROM:

JESSIE KOME  
Jessie Handforth Kome, Director,  
Office of Block Grant Assistance, DGB

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SUBJECT:

Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Under the National Environmental Policy Act for the Issuance of a FY23 Notice of Funding Opportunity for Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) (FR-6700-N98)

It is the finding of this Office that issuance of the attached Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) does not constitute a major Federal action having an individually or cumulatively significant effect on the human environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

The PRO Housing NOFO sets forth the requirements governing the competitive grant made available through the authorization in the FY23 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 117-328, approved December 29, 2022). PRO Housing is a newly authorized component of the larger Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), authorized by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), as amended (HCDA).

### Public Law 117-328

Congress made available under the FY23 Consolidated Appropriations Act, Community Development Block Grant funds for communities experiencing barriers to affordable housing. The funding will be granted on a competitive basis for communities to identify and remove barriers to affordable housing production and preservation activities. The competition invites local and state governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and multijurisdictional entities to apply for funds for their eligible activities that develop, evaluate, and implement housing policy plans, improve housing strategies, and facilitate affordable housing production and preservation.

The individual projects that may be funded by the PRO Housing grant competition are generally unknown at the time the grants are awarded and may not be known at the time that sub-awards are made to local affiliates, but all activities awarded PRO Housing funding are subject to environmental review in accordance with the NEPA requirements at 24 CFR Part 58, or Part 50 for grantees who are not States or UGLGs or are not recipients of funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 and HUD’s regulations at 24 CFR 58.2(a)(5).

Assistance under the CDBG program is subject to the environmental review requirements of 24 CFR Part 58. Responsible Entities are responsible for completing environmental reviews on specific projects in accordance with Part 58. If applicable, the recipient must receive an Authority to Use Grant Funds (AUGF) form from HUD or the State if the review is performed under Part 58, or approval of the project from HUD if the review is performed under Part 50, before it can commit funds or take any choice limiting action with respect to a project. In cases in which States carry out activities directly, the State must, in accordance with 24 CFR 58.4, submit the certification and Request for Release of Funds (RROF) to HUD for approval. Issuance of the notice of funding opportunity does not constitute approval of any proposed projects. Any impacts arising from program activities would be localized and addressed in the appropriate environmental reviews prior to any choice-limiting actions.

Accordingly, the issuance of this notice of funding opportunity is deemed not to be a major Federal action having a significant impact on the human environment.

Concurrences:

**OMRI GROSS**

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DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=Department of Housing and Urban Development, ou=Office of Community Planning and Development, cn=OMRI GROSS, 0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.1=86001003211850  
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Omri Gross  
Environmental Clearance Officer, Office of  
Community Planning and Development

**CHRISTOPHER  
HARTENAU**

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DN: CN = CHRISTOPHER HARTENAU C = US O = U.S.  
Government OU = Department of Housing and Urban Development,  
Office of General Counsel  
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Christopher H. Hartenau  
Environmental Clearance Officer, Office of  
General Counsel

**KRISTIN FONTENOT**

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Kristin L. Fontenot  
Departmental Environmental Clearance Officer

Approval:

Marion McFadden  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development