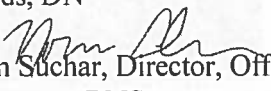




OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT

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

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jemine A. Bryon, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Needs, DN

FROM:  Norm Suchar, Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, DNS

DATE: May 18, 2021

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Notice of Funding Availability for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program and FY 2020 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (FR-6400-N-35)

It is the finding of this office that the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) 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 purpose of this NOFO is to select up to 50 communities to develop and execute a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness and to provide program information and application instructions for the YHDP Program. The FY 2019 funds for the YHDP were authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6), approved February 15, 2019 (the "FY 2019 Appropriations Act"). The FY 2020 funds for the YHDP were authorized by the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94), approved December 20, 2019 ("the FY 2020 Appropriations Act"). Projects awarded under the YHDP may be eligible for renewal under the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program when the initial grant term expires. The CoC Program is authorized by subtitle C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, (42 U.S.C. 11381-11389) (the Act), and the CoC Program regulations are found in 24 CFR Part 578 (the CoC Program interim rule).

The purpose of the YHDP is to learn how communities can successfully approach the goal of preventing and ending youth homelessness by building comprehensive systems of care for young people rather than implementing individual or unconnected projects that serve this population. Eligible activities include new construction, rehabilitation, acquisition, rental assistance, leasing, supportive services, operating cost, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and planning.

Notwithstanding provisions at 24 CFR 578.31 and 24 CFR 578.99(a) of the CoC program interim rule, and in accordance with Section 100261(3) of MAP-21 (Pub. L. 112-141, 126 Stat.

405), activities under the YHPD NOFO are subject to environmental review by a responsible entity under HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58. For activities under a grant to a Project Grant Recipient other than a responsible entity (a State, Tribe, or unit of general local government) that generally would be subject to review under part 58, HUD may make a finding in accordance with 24 CFR 58.11(d) and may itself perform the environmental review under the provisions of 24 CFR part 50 if the Project Grant Recipient objects in writing to the responsible entity's performing the review under 24 CFR part 58. Under this NOFO and applicable law, the recipient, its project partners, and their contractors are prohibited from undertaking any actions that are choice-limiting or could have environmentally adverse effects, including: acquiring, rehabilitating, converting, leasing, repairing, disposing of, demolishing, or constructing property for a project under this NOFO, or committing or expending HUD or local funds for such eligible activities under this NOFO, until the responsible entity (as defined by 24 CFR 58.2(a)(7)) has completed the environmental review procedures required by 24 CFR part 58 and the environmental certification and Request for Release of Funds (RROF) have been approved or HUD has performed an environmental review under 24 CFR part 50 and the Project Grant Recipient has received HUD approval of the property. HUD will not release grant funds if the recipient or any other party commits grant funds before the recipient submits and HUD approves its RROF. The environmental review may result in requirements for mitigation or selection of an alternative eligible property or other conditions.

This Office finds that issuance of this NOFO will not have a significant effect on the human environment because, prior to any recipient's commitment of funds for any activities that would have an environmental impact or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives, an environmental review of these activities under the NEPA and related laws and authorities will be done. Thus, the environmental effects of activities assisted under this NOFO will be taken into account at the appropriate time and environmental impacts will be assessed in the local setting in which they will occur.

CONCURRENCES:

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HARTENAU**

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Christopher Hartenau
Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of General Counsel

Date

**LAUREN
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Lauren Hayes Knutson
Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of Community Planning and Development

Date

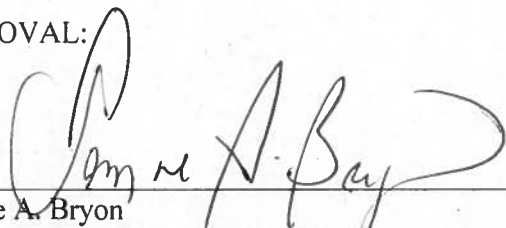
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Moriel-Elorm Tchaou
Acting Director, Office of Environment and Energy
Office of Community Planning and Development

Date

APPROVAL:



Jemine A. Bryon
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Needs
Office of Community Planning and Development

5/24/2021
Date