



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

MEMORANDUM FOR: Todd Richardson, General Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Policy Development and Research, P 

FROM: Marge A. Martin, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Policy Development 

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact
Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the
FY2019 Notice of Funding Availability for Distressed Cities
Technical Assistance (FR-6200-N-54)

It is the finding of this office that the subject Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) does not constitute a major federal action having an individually or cumulatively significant effect on the physical/human environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

This NOFA announces the availability of up to \$3 million in FY 2018 funding and up to \$3 million in FY 2019 funding, both of which will be awarded to one awardee to provide technical assistance (TA) to distressed cities or regions, with no less than half of the total funds targeted to cities with populations under 40,000 that were impacted by a natural disaster. The objectives of this NOFA are to:

- Provide communities facing long-term economic challenges with accessible and comprehensive technical assistance
- Build capacity in distressed communities by building partnerships between public agencies, community members, and private organizations
- Improve communities' working knowledge of federal development programs
- Develop a set of best practices and recommendations regarding financial management and disaster resilience

The Distressed Cities technical assistance is authorized by Title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141), approved March 23, 2018, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6), approved February 15, 2019.

This NOFA does not direct or provide loans or mortgage insurance for real property acquisition, disposition, rehabilitation, alteration, demolition, or new construction, or establish,

revise or provide for standards for construction or construction materials, manufactured housing, or occupancy. Lease or rental of space for any activities supported through this NOFA is an eligible use of administrative funds, but only under the following conditions:

(1) The lease must be for existing facilities not requiring rehabilitation or construction except for minimal alterations to make the facilities accessible for a person with disabilities;

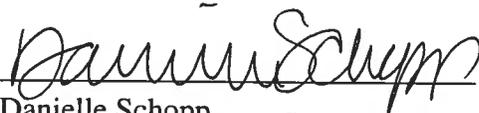
(2) No repairs or renovations of the property may be undertaken with the Distressed Cities TA funds; and

(3) Properties in the Coastal Barrier Resources System designated under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501) cannot be leased or rented with federal funds.

All activities assisted under this NOFA are categorically excluded from review under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with 24 CFR 50.19(b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3), (b)(4), (b)(8), (b)(9), or (b)(13), because they lack the potential for any significant effect on the environment.

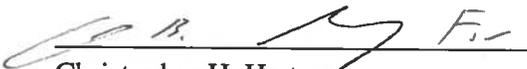
Accordingly, the Office of Policy Development and Research finds the issuance of this NOFA will not create any significant environmental impacts and will not result in significant impacts on the physical/human environment. Therefore, a Finding of No Significant Impact is hereby made.

Concurrences:



Danielle Schopp
Departmental Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of Environment and Energy, CPD

Date: 4/11/19



Christopher H. Hartenau
Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of General Counsel

Date: 4/11/19

Approval:



Todd Richardson
General Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Policy Development and Research

Date: 4/11/19

Internal HUD Distribution:		

Identification Lines:

Correspondence Code	Originator	Concurrence	Concurrence	Concurrence	Concurrence	Concurrence
	Brian Stromberg	Todd Richardson	Danielle Schopp 4/19	Christopher Hartneau		
	BS 4/11/12	[Signature]	[Signature]	[Signature]		

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