



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

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC HOUSING INVESTMENTS

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Dominique Blom, General Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Public and Indian Housing

**FROM:** Susan Wilson, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Office of Public Housing Investments

**SUBJECT:** Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact  
Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the  
FY2022 HOPE VI Main Street Grant Program NOFO  
(FR-6600-N-03)

It is the finding of this Office that the subject Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) 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.

The purpose of this NOFO is to announce the availability of FY2022 funds and to provide program information and application instructions for the Main Street program.

The Main Street program is designed to provide grants to small communities to assist in the renovation of their historic and/or traditional central business districts or “Main Street” areas by replacing unused commercial spaces in buildings with affordable housing units.

The authority for the HOPE VI Main Street program is Section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v), as amended by Section 535 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Pub.L.105-276, 112 Stat. 2461, approved October 21, 1998), and the HOPE VI Program Reauthorization and Small Community Mainstreet Rejuvenation and Housing Act of 2003 (Pub. L. 108-186, 117 Stat 2685, approved December 16, 2003).

The NOFO provides for environmental review of all grantees’ Main Street projects and activities by HUD under 24 CFR Part 50. Under this NOFO and applicable law, an applicant is prohibited from undertaking any actions that are choice-limiting or could have environmentally adverse effects, including demolishing, acquiring, rehabilitating, converting, leasing, repairing, or constructing property proposed to be assisted under this NOFO or committing or expending HUD or non-HUD funds for such activities, until after HUD has completed an environmental

review in accordance with 24 CFR part 50 and given approval for the action. If the applicant is selected for funding, the applicant must have a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) completed in accordance with the ASTM Standard E 1527-13, as amended (see <http://www.astm.org>). The results of the Phase I ESA must be included in the documents that must be provided to HUD for the environmental review. If the Phase I ESA recognizes environmental concerns, or if the results are inconclusive, a Phase II ESA will be required. The environmental review may result in requirements for mitigation or remedial measures, or a change in the project site.

This Office finds that issuance of this NOFO will not have a significant effect on the human environment because before actions that could have a physical impact or limit the choice of alternatives may be taken, there will be an environmental review done under 24 CFR Part 50 (by HUD) that will assess the potential environmental impacts in the local setting before the impacts or any choice limiting activities may take place.

Concurrences:

Susanne A. Sotirchos  
PIH Environmental Clearance Officer  
Office of Public Housing Investments

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Christopher H. Hartenau  
Environmental Clearance Officer  
Office of General Counsel

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Kristin L. Fontenot  
Departmental Environmental Clearance Officer  
Office of Environment and Energy

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Approval:

Dominique Blom  
General Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Public and Indian Housing

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_