MEMORANDUM FOR: Lourdes Castro Ramirez, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing

FROM: Dominique Blom, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Housing Investments, PI

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for FY2015 Notice of Funding Availability for the Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program (JRAP) (FR-5900-N-09)

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 FY2015 funds and provides program information and application instructions for the Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program (JRAP) program.

The purpose of JRAP is to support successful transition to the community by reducing barriers to public housing, employment, and/or educational opportunities. The NOFA provides funding for Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) in partnership with legal aid organizations, university legal centers, public defenders offices, and other legal service organizations to provide legal services (including expungement, which refers to the removal, sealing, or isolation of all records on file with justice system agencies related to a youth's formal contact with the justice system) to:

1) current public housing resident youth up to 24 years old who have a criminal record, and
2) family members (who are youth up to 24 years old) of current public housing residents who, but for their criminal record, would be living in public housing.

Under this NOFA, expungement is not allowed for criminal records of makers of methamphetamine on public housing property, sex offenders on the lifetime sex offender registry, and criminal records where the crime was domestic violence or a Part I Violent Crime.
The JRAP program is authorized by Section 211 of the Second Chance Act, Pub. L. No. 110-199.

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. Renting or leasing office space is an eligible use of JRAP 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 JRAP 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.

In accordance with 24 CFR 50.19(b)(3), (4), (9), (12), and (13) of HUD regulations, activities assisted under this program are categorically excluded from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and are not subject to environmental review under related laws and authorities.

Accordingly, the Office of Public Housing Investments 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:

Linda Bronsdon  
PIH Environmental Clearance Officer  
Office of Policy, Programs and  
Legislative Initiatives

Date: 6/11/15  Sign: [Signature]

Danielle Schopp  
Environmental Clearance Officer  
Office of Community Planning and Development

Date: 6/23/15  Sign: [Signature]

Christopher H. Hartenau  
Environmental Clearance Officer  
Office of General Counsel

Date: 6/19/15  Sign: [Signature]

Approval:

Lourdes Castro Ramírez  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing

Date: 8/13/15  Sign: [Signature]