U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBANDEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

APR 1 9 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Harriet Tregoning, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for

Community Planning and Development, D

FROM: Frances Bush, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations, DO

SUBJECT: Finding of No Significant Impact under the National

Environmental Policy Act for Notice of Funding Availability for Fiscal Year 2016: Community Compass Technical Assistance

and Capacity Building (FR-6000-N-06)

It is the finding of this office that the attached funding notice (FR-6000-N-06) 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 notice sets out the guidance to govern grants authorized for Fiscal Year 2016 under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-113, approved December 18, 2015), the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), the Negotiated Rulemaking Act (5 U.S.C. 565(c)), Section 6(j)(3) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S. C. 1437d(j)(3)) and Section 17 and 18 of the Annual Contributions Contract (HUD 53012A 7/95), McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11361b and 42 USC 11408, and Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act (MAHRA) of 1997 (P.L. 105-65), 42 USC 1437f; as amended by H.R. 2684 (Public Law 106-74).

The awards will be available for the provision of technical assistance (TA), capacity building, and data research activities to enhance the capabilities of HUD customers to more effectively and efficiently operate HUD programs. Eligible activities include conducting needs assessments, direct TA and capacity building engagements, PHA administrative receivership and recovery, developing and maintaining tools and products, self-directed and group learning, knowledge management, data reporting, analysis, and performance measurement, and NAHASDA allocation formula administration and negotiated rulemaking support.

This office finds that the notice does not have a significant impact on the human environment for two reasons:

1. The activities funded by the program consist of training, education, advice and technical support, operating costs, and administrative expenses, which have no significant physical impact on the environment. These activities are categorically excluded from review under

- the National Environmental Policy Act due to the lack of potential for any significant effect on the environment, and do not require review under related environmental authorities, under 24 CFR 50.19(b)(3), (9), and (13).
- 2. The funding notice permits leasing of office space as an administrative cost but requires that 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, prohibits the use of funds provided under the NOFA for property repairs or renovations, and prohibits leasing or renting properties in the Coastal Barrier Resources System designated under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501) with federal funds.

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

| FONSI – FR-6000-N-06 Attachment | |
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| Concurrences: | |
| Danielle Schopp Environmental Clearance Officer Office of Environment and Energy | 4/19/16 Date |
| Christopher Hartenau Environmental Clearance Officer Office of General Counsel | <u>4/19/16</u> Date |
| Approval: | |
| Harriet Tregoning | 4 10 16 Date |
| Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for | |

Community Planning and Development