

TOWN OF WEBSTER
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST THE RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOI/RROF)

February 9, 2022

Town of Webster
350 Main Street
Webster, Massachusetts 01570
Telephone: (508) 949-3800

This notice shall satisfy the procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Town of Webster.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

To all interested agencies, groups and persons:

On or about **February 24, 2022**, the Town of Webster will submit a request to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake a project known as: **FY 2021 Webster Mini-Entitlement Grant**, consisting of two activities:

Granite Street Reconstruction – Phase 2

The Town proposes to complete the second, and final, phase of the two-phased reconstruction of Granite Street. The work scope includes the following: the full-depth reconstruction and resurfacing of a deteriorated street, storm drainage upgrades, and the replacement of deteriorated sidewalks and curbing on a predominately lower-income residential street. The project will rebuild deteriorated, outdated infrastructure, but will not result in an increase of existing capacity. The limits of the project are slightly more than one-half the length of Granite Street, starting from its intersection at Cutler Street to East Main Street, a distance of approximately 1,050 linear feet. The remainder of the length of Granite Street running from Lake Street to Cutler Street, a distance of approximately 900 linear feet is being reconstructed under Webster's FY 2021 Mini-Entitlement program.

Property Acquisition – Future Phases of Riverwalk

The Town proposes to use FY 2021 CDBG funds to acquire multiple parcels of land along a portion of Davis Street. The right-of-way for Davis Street, as currently constituted, passes over a number of privately owned parcels. Under the proposed project, the Town will purchase and/or swap land with property owners so as to establish a right-of-way for Davis Street that is completely under local control. Future phases of the Town's Riverwalk project will not be able to proceed without addressing these ownership issues. The Town has held preliminary talks with impacted owners and anticipates the purchases can be conducted in a friendly manner.

Total Estimated Grant: \$825,000 from CDBG funds
Location: Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts

REC'D WEBSTER TOWN CLERK
FEB 9 '22 AM 9:20

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Town of Webster has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA PL 91-190) is not required. No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted, prior to the request for release of CDBG funds. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the offices of the grantee, Town of Webster, Town Administrator's Office, 350 Main Street, Webster, Massachusetts 01570 and is available for public examination and copying upon request at this office or the Office of Community Development (same address) in Webster during regular business hours which are Monday 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Wednesday and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Carol J Cyr, Director Office of Community Development, Environmental Certifying Officer, Town of Webster. All comments received by February 20, 2022, will be considered by the Town of Webster prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Town of Webster will undertake the project described above with Block Grant Funds from DHCD under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The Town of Webster certifies to DHCD that the Town of Webster and Carol J. Cyr, in her official capacity as Environmental Certifying Officer for the Town of Webster, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, decision making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The State's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities and allows the Town of Webster to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

DHCD will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of Webster's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) The certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Town of Webster; (b) The Town of Webster has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) The grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by the State; (d) Another federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

The only bases upon which DHCD will disapprove the RROF and certification are set forth above. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76), and shall be addressed to the DHCD, Division of Community Services, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by DHCD. Potential objectors should contact DHCD to verify the actual last day of the objection period. No objections received after fifteen days from receipt of the community's Request for Release of Funds and Certification will be considered by DHCD.

Carol J. Cyr, Community Development Director
Environmental Certifying Officer
Town of Webster, Massachusetts