

COMBINED NOTICE

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF FINDINGS OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS.

August 1st, 2023

Lake County Board of Commissioners
Lake County Government Center
2293 North Main Street
Crown Point, IN 46307

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

These Notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Lake County Community Economic Development Department.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about August 21st, 2023 Lake County, Indiana will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, and the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program enacted under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable housing Act of 1990.

Lake County

FY2023 CDBG Urban County Entitlement Program:	\$1,486,792.00
FY2023 HOME Program	\$ 690,067.00
Program Income and Rollover	\$ 154,040.00
TOTAL	\$2,330,899.00

The Community Development Block Grant Projects for which we are asking to release funds are the following:

FY 2023 CITIES & TOWNS CDBG PROJECTS IN URBAN LAKE COUNTY

CEDAR LAKE	\$ 66,000.00
CL23 ADA curb cuts	\$ 66,000.00
HIGHLAND	\$ 95,000.00
HI23 Concession stand ADA modifications (5)park sites	\$ 95,000.00
MERRILLVILLE	\$ 143,000.00
ME23 Pedestrian walkway improvements	\$ 143,000.00
MUNSTER	\$ 100,000.00
MU23 Alley Improvements storm drains and sidewalks	\$ 100,000.00
NEW CHICAGO	\$ 29,000.00
NC23 ADA park upgrades	\$ 29,000.00
SCHERERVILLE	\$ 120,000.00
SC23 Autumn Creek Park: ADA playground renovations	\$ 120,000.00

SCHNEIDER	\$ 24,000.00
SN23 installation of pits near water meters	\$ 24,000.00
WHITING	\$ 39,000.00
WH23 Lakefront Park: ADA playground upgrades	\$ 39,000.00
LAKE COUNTY COMMISIONERS	\$ 75,000.00
LK23 Demolitions	\$ 75,000.00
Total for Cities & Towns Projects	\$691,000.00

URBAN LAKE COUNTY FY2023 PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

A. Cities & Towns Projects	\$ 691,000.00
B. Fair Housing	\$ 35,000.00
C. Elderly Transport	\$ 40,000.00
D. Homeless Prevention	\$ 60,000.00
E. Homebuyer Assistance	\$ 155,000.00
F. CHDO (Habitat NWI Const. & Operating)	\$ 138,013.40
G. Housing Development	\$ 328,046.90
H. Housing Rehab	\$ 195,000.00
I. Social Services (Mental Health, St. Jude, Indiana Plan)	\$ 80,000.00
J. Small Business Training Program	\$ 70,000.00
K. Cerebral Palsy of NWI (new program)	\$ 15,000.00
L. Administration	\$ 366,365.10
M. Program Income and Rollover	\$ 154,040.00
CDBG, HOME, Rollover and Program Income assigned to projects	\$ 2,327,465.40
CDBG Funds Not assigned to a project/program	\$ 3,433.60
Grand Total	\$ 2,330,899.00

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

It has also been determined that the request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment or Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and accordingly, Lake County has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-1900).

An Environmental Assessment has been made regarding this program. It is the intent of the County of Lake to allow no construction in a flood plain area and no work is contemplated on any buildings of historic significance. It is also anticipated that no buildings of architectural significance will be disturbed nor will anything of any archeological significance be disturbed. Hazardous materials, if any, will be dealt with in a proper prescribed manner.

Each project will be assessed to conform to the above statement and if there is a question, a complete separate assessment will be made as is necessary on a case by case basis.

The Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying request at the Lake County Government Center, Crown Point, Indiana; Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

All interested agencies, groups and persons wishing to comment on this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by Lake County to the Lake County Board of Commissioners. Such written comments should be received at the above address on or before August 18th, 2023.

All such comments so received will be considered and Lake County will not request the release of Federal funds or take any administrative action on the within projects prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Lake County Board of Commissioners certifies to HUD that Mr. Michael Repay in his capacity as President of the Lake County Board of Commissioners consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Lake County Board of Commissioners, and/or its departmental designee, to use Program funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

Lake County will undertake the projects described above with Block Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended to date and with HOME funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act. Lake County is certifying to HUD that Michael Repay, in his official capacity as President of the Lake County Board of Commissioners, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making and action, and that these responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows Lake County to use Program funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept an objection to its release of funds and Lake County 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) That the certification was not in fact executed by HUD, or certifying officer or other officer of applicant approved by HUD, or (b) that applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process, or (c) the applicant has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal Agency acting pursuant to 40CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to HUD at the Indianapolis Area Office, U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, Minton Capehart Federal Bldg., 575 N. Pennsylvania St., Rm. 655, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

All program materials including notices, resolutions, agendas, plans, plan amendments, and final plan documents are available for persons with limited English proficiency upon request. Contact Tim Brown by phone at 219-755-3225 or by email at brownta@lakecountyin.org.

Michael Repay, President
Lake County Board of Commissioners
2293 North Main Street
Crown Point, Indiana 46307