

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

Date of Notice: May 24, 2023

Responsible Entity [RE]: County of Monterey

Address: 1441 Schilling Place, 2nd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901

Telephone Number: (831) 755-5387

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the County of Monterey.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about June 26, 2023, the County of Monterey will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of up to \$810,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, as authorized by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Title I, Part 24, Section 570, Public Law 93-383, 88 Stat. 633, 42 U.S.C 5301-5321, as amended, to undertake a project known as the Gonzales Community Center project for the purpose of cultural, educational, and recreational amenities in a predominately low- and moderate-income community. CDBG funds shall be made available in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024.

The 3.7-acre project site is located on 5th Street in the City of Gonzales. The project site is a vacant, infill parcel. The site was previously developed with housing and is bisected by Gabilan Court. The proposed project includes development of an approximately 23,000 square foot community center facility featuring an approximately 6,000 square foot County library (which replaces the existing County library at 851 5th Street), an approximately 4,000 square foot teen center, and an approximately 13,300 square foot community center building organized around a central courtyard and amphitheater for indoor/outdoor connections. The project also includes a free-standing 12,100 square foot gymnasium building with an indoor multi-court, restrooms, lobby, storage, and support space. The amphitheater would involve the use of amplified sound equipment for outdoor events and performances at nighttime and may also involve the use of temporary outdoor lighting. The site plans include 117 parking stalls and landscaping. Site access would be via a single driveway on 5th Street. The project would employ four City employees (two full-time, two part-time). Construction schedule: Demolition, Grading and Utilities - August 2023 to September 2023 // Building Construction and Site Work: October 2023 to December 2024. The project is estimated to cost \$42,800,000. The City has applied for the following grants: CA State Library Grant - \$1,730,000; CA Parks Rural Recreation and Tourism Grant - \$3,000,000; CA Dept of Energy - \$300,000; CA Natural Resources Grant - \$5,000,000; CA Energy Commission - \$ 1,200,000; Private Contributions - \$10,000,000; and City General Fund - \$20,770,000.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The County of Monterey 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) is not required. Additional project information is

contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to Dawn Yonemitsu at 1441 Schilling Place, 2nd Floor, South, Salinas, CA 93901 or by email to housingprograms@co.monterey.ca.us. The ERR can be accessed on-line at the following website: <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/housing-community-development/planning-services/community-development-project-program-financing/urban-county-community-development-block-grants>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the County of Monterey Housing and Community Development Department at the above address. All comments received by the close of business on June 26, 2023, may be considered by the County of Monterey prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The County of Monterey certifies to HUD that Craig Spencer, Acting Director, Housing and Community Development Department, in his capacity as certifying officer 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 County of Monterey to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the County of Monterey'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 County of Monterey; (b) the County of Monterey 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 HUD; or (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. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD Region IX, Attn: Acting Director, Community Planning and Development, U.S. HUD Region IX and sent by email to rrofsfro@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Craig Spencer, Acting Director of Housing and Community Development
Certifying Officer