

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

North Suburban Consortium
City of Malden, MA - Lead Community
c/o Malden Redevelopment Authority
200 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148
(781) 324-5720

Grant Number M-14-DC-25-0212

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about July 28, 2014 the City of Malden, Massachusetts, on behalf of the North Suburban Consortium comprised of the communities of Malden, Medford, Arlington, Melrose, Revere, Chelsea, Everett and Winthrop will request the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to release Federal funds under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act for the following project:

PROJECT TITLE: FY14 HOME Investment Partnership Program

Purpose and Nature of Project:

1. Homeowner Rehabilitation - Low interest loans with payment schedules fixed to the owner's ability to pay will be made available within the jurisdiction for owner-occupied 1-4 family structures. The owner-occupant must be of lower income (80% of median income or lower) status and meet all HOME Program requirements in order to qualify for assistance. Structures containing lead-based paint will be treated in accordance with HUD guidelines and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws. Funding for this year will be approximately \$300,000.
2. Rental Property Rehabilitation and Creation - Low interest and no-interest net cash flow loans will be made available for investor-owned properties containing one or more rental units which meet HOME Program rental project requirements. Structures containing lead-based paint will be treated in accordance with HUD guidelines and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws. Funding for this year will be approximately \$2.6 million, including carryover funds from the current fiscal year.
3. Affordable Condominium Program – Low cost loans will be made available to developers creating condominium units by either converting existing buildings or new construction, and Buy-Down Subsidies to new home owners may also be funded to create affordable homeownership opportunities for income-eligible households. Funding this year will depend on the market further rebounding to support condominium construction.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

An environmental review for the project has been made by the consortium and is available for public examination at the offices of the Malden Redevelopment Authority, Room 621, Government Center, Malden, MA (781-324-5720). Based on this review, the Consortium has determined that a request for release of project funds will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and hence, an environmental impact statement will not be undertaken under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-910).

The reasons for the decision not to prepare an environmental impact statement are as follows: The undertaking of activities outlined herein will have a positive impact on the social, physical and fiscal environment of the jurisdiction.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON FINDINGS

All interested agencies, groups or persons disagreeing with these decisions are invited to telephone, submit written comments for consideration by the Consortium to the above address or email nkoretz@maldenredevelopment.com. Such comments should be received at the address specified on or before July 25, 2014. All comments must clearly specify which decision they object to – the Finding of No Significant Impact or the Request for Release of Funds. All comments so received will be considered by the Consortium prior to its taking any administrative action or requesting release of funds on the date listed immediately above.

RELEASE OF GRANT FUNDS

The Consortium will undertake the project described herein with HOME funds from HUD under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act. The City of Malden on behalf of the North Suburban Consortium is certifying to HUD that Gary Christenson, Mayor, in his official capacity, consent to accept the jurisdiction for the Federal Courts in reviews, decision-making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the NSC may use the HOME funds, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other environmental responsibilities listed in 24 CFR Part 58.

HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases:

- (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the Chief Executive Officer or other officer of the City of Malden;
- (b) that City environmental review record for the project indicated omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process; or
- (c) another Federal agency has submitted written comments pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act or Section 102(c) of NEPA.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58), and may be addressed to HUD, Federal Office Building, 10 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02222-1092. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD. No objection received after 15 days from the date of request for funds listed above will be considered by HUD.

Gary Christenson
Mayor