

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

May 18, 2026
City of Houston,
Housing and Community Development Department (HCD)
2100 Travis St., 9th floor
Houston, TX 77002
(832) 394-6319

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the *Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC)*, on whose behalf HCD is reviewing the project, which will receive *Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant funds*.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about June 3, 2026, on behalf of HAWC, the City of Houston's HCD will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), for the release of funds authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42) (the FY2024 Act), as amended by actions including the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-47) (the Further FY2024 Act), where Congress made available "*.....grants under the Economic Development Initiative - Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending awards.....for the purposes, and in amounts, specified for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending in the table entitled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending"* to undertake a project known as HAWC Future Forward. These CPF Grant awards are administered by HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD).

Project Location: 3031 & 3077 El Camino St, Houston, TX 77054

Project description: The Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC) Future Forward project entails transformative renovation, and its budget is \$2,500,000 (\$2 million from HUD Community Project Funding (CPF) Grants and \$500,000 from Harris County Housing and Community Development (HCHCD) local funds).

The Future Forward renovation project takes place on approximately 3.65 acres of land - the project area covers a 3.32-acre tract (HCAD Parcel #1126810000005) plus a 0.33-acre portion along the northern property boundary of #1126810000001.

The renovation project includes the interior renovations of existing Buildings B, C and D of the Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC's) existing shelter facility, totaling approximately 23,700 square feet. These spaces will be converted into HAWC's new delivery service site. The existing facility will be renovated to accommodate a crisis intake center, partnership space to bring partner services onsite, and administrative space for staff. The parking lot will be expanded, and an outdoor garden and recreational space will be constructed. Repair/replacement of all existing asphalt

shingle roofs (including Building A) will be included in the Phase II scope. Site improvements will include parking modifications to maximize capacity and adhere to current parking code requirements for all buildings on-site, including the anticipated renovation of Building A, as well as associated stormwater detention. Various site amenities will include a children's courtyard and playground, a meditation garden, and a walking trail. This project will renovate facilities on the existing flagship campus to create a hub that accommodates both residential and non-residential services in a unified, secure, disclosed setting. Renovation will transform the existing shelter into a 24-hour Crisis Response and Assessment Center housing the hotline, intake and assessment rooms, respite rooms with showers, and a forensic exam and medical examination clinic. Both residential and nonresidential clients and community members will have access to all survivor empowerment services on site, including a behavioral health and wellbeing center, economic empowerment resource and learning labs, housing and case management services, and legal services. The flagship campus will also include a Violence Prevention Institute with a multi-functional convening space for training, teaching, and learning best practices to prevent and interrupt the cycle of abuse, with a media center and press room. A Community Collaboration Hub will provide space to deliver services and ensure a trauma-informed continuum of care for survivors, as well as dedicated space for volunteers and partner activities. The renovated buildings will also host HAWC's administrative headquarters, replacing the former administrative building located at 1010 Waugh. Following renovations to the existing facility, the building will provide clients with intake, assessment, counseling along with referrals, housing advocacy, case management, and legal services. HAWC's expansion project will provide safety on demand, and expand violence survivor and prevention services more effectively in order to interrupt the cycle of violence.

There are no foreseeable activities outside the 3.65-acres cited in this description associated with the HAWC Future Forward project.

Future Forward is envisioned as part of a broader \$45 million capital improvement initiative for the entirety of the 5.5-acre HAWC campus. In 2022, the city environmentally cleared a 135-unit residential development on the 2-acre parcel under tax account #1126810000001. In 2024, a new federal funding allocation was awarded to HAWC to activities on the adjacent 3.32-acre parcel. These activities, once approved, will constitute the Future Forward project. While there are future activities being conceptualized as part of a final third phase, they are not part of HAWC Future Forward and have yet to be specifically identified or funded.

The HAWC Future Forward project is proposing to use up to \$2,000,000.00 in 2024 Community Project Fund (CPF) Grant funds, HUD Grant No. B-24-CP-TX-2131, funds.

HAWC Future Forward costs \$2,500,000.00. The project includes the \$2 million of CPF funds for Part 58 clearance, along with \$500,000.00 of local funding from Harris County Housing and Community Development Department.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Houston 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 P.O. Box 1562, Houston, TX 77251-1562 or 2100 Travis St., 9th Floor, Houston, TX 77002 or by email to hcdenvironmental@houstontx.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department, ATTN: Environmental Review Officer, 2100 Travis, 9th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 or by email to hcdenvironmental@houstontx.gov. The ERR can be accessed online at the following website <https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews>. All comments received by the close of business on June 2, 2026, will be considered by the City of Houston prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Appointments for office visits to view the project description/environmental review in person are recommended to avoid any potential for delays. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

On behalf of HAWC, the City of Houston certifies to HUD that John Whitmire, in his capacity as Mayor 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 HAWC to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Houston 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 City of Houston; (b) the City of Houston 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 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD), 1331 Lamar Street, Suite 550, Houston, Texas 77010 or e-mail at cpdrrofhou@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact

HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period and may do so by email or calling (713) 718-3199.

John Whitmire, Mayor
City of Houston
