

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

July 14, 2026
City of Houston,
Housing and Community Development Department (HCD)
2100 Travis St., 9th floor
Houston, TX 77002
(832) 394-6319

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 22, 2026 the City of Houston's Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) (P.L. 93-383, as amended), to undertake a project known as the *New Hope Housing (NHH) Canal Rehabilitation Project*, for the purpose of making needed renovations and repairs at a single-room occupancy apartment complex for low to moderate income community residents.

Project Location: 2821 Canal St., Houston, Texas 77003

Project description: The New Hope Housing (NHH) Canal renovation project entails activities designed to bring NHH Canal up to 2026 standards by increasing its energy efficiency, replacing aging infrastructure, and improving accessibility. NHH Canal's rehab will add a "green" development to the historic Second Ward's housing stock. A backup generator for the community will be installed as part of ongoing resiliency efforts.

Project entails the rehabilitation of a 134-unit SRO built in 2005. CDBG funds will be used to pay for hard costs and eligible soft costs.

Rehab details are as follows:

- * Each unit will receive upgraded appliances, cabinetry, flooring, and energy star rated windows.
- * The community's roof will be replaced to ensure another 20 years of performance.
- * The exterior stucco will be replaced with a timeless and resilient brick exterior.
- * A backup generator designed to power emergency functions during power outages will be added.
- * The boiler will be upgraded to a modern water heating system.
- * The community's indoor amenity spaces will be modernized with new furniture, flooring, and windows.

The New Hope Housing Canal Community consists of a 3-story and a 2-story building with a total of 134 single room occupancy apartment homes. These two buildings are over 20 years of age and have become an established fixture in the neighborhood. The basic structural integrity and overall usefulness of the buildings are not in question, but critical updates are needed to allow the community to provide a viable housing solution for the next 20 years.

The rehabilitation plan includes important modernization steps to bring the building systems and building envelope up to current code standards. The proposed improvements will include significant cost items such as elevator upgrades, hot water system upgrades, unit HVAC replacement, and roof replacement. The apartments will also be updated to create a more functional living space with larger refrigerators and new durable interior finishes.

Rehabilitating these buildings is an opportunity to ensure they will be more energy efficient and require less maintenance.

With the planned rehabilitation, this property can continue to operate as a significant asset to the city and its residents.

The City of Houston contributed to the original construction of the NHH Canal apartment complex. The NHH Canal facility is owned and operated by developer New Hope Housing. There is no acquisition, nor any land transfers, associated with this project.

The project is proposing to use up to **\$6,000,000.00 in CDBG-2025 funds, HUD Federal Award Identification Number B-25-MC-48-0018**, funds. The total project is estimated to cost \$6,000,000.00 as this is the entirety of the project funding.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, per 24 CFR 58.35(a)(3)(ii). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at HCD, where the ERR is available and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 5 P.M at the physical address listed below under Public Comments, or available for review online at the HUD Environmental Review Records Page, and upon request via email to HCD Environmental team.

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 July 21, 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

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 City of Houston to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Houston'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 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 cpdrofhou@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
