

**NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT
IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT
AND
NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF INTENT TO REQUEST
RELEASE OF FUNDS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

(COMBINED NOTICE)

DATE: May 15, 2018

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about June 12, Franklin County, Ohio will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to release federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-383) and Section 288 of Title II of the Cranston Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA) as amended, and grants under the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program. (The federal funds under this request are \$1,966,306 in 2018 Community Development Block Grant program funding, \$875,003 in 2018 HOME program funding and \$159,680 in 2018 Emergency Services Grant program funding.)

I. A Finding of No Significant Impact applies to the following project:

1. Blacklick Crossing – New construction – Homeport \$200,000 HOME

HOME funds will be used for the new construction of a multi-family project located at 6950 E. Livingston Avenue.

The reasons the above project has been given a “Finding of No Significant Impact” and as such, the County will not be preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for it are as follows: 1) As a result of on-site visits, it has been determined that major impacts to the existing environmental conditions will not result from these projects. 2) Only short-term impacts due to typical construction noise and dust are anticipated. 3) This short-term impact will be mitigated by standard construction practices and the benefit the improvements will garner Franklin County once completed. 4) No

reasonable alternatives exist to these proposed projects. “No action” on the projects would result in continued deterioration of community public facilities and infrastructure. Further, no action would reduce the county’s ability to utilize its available resources to implement its Consolidated Plan.

The projects listed below do not include exempt projects that do not require environmental assessments and the projects listed below do not include projects that have already had environmental reviews conducted on them (typically during previous years) as those reviews are viewed as possessing a “continued relevance.” (The County’s 2018 letter of continued relevance citing those projects is available to the public by contacting the point of contact listed below.)

PROJECTS:

Each federally funded PY 2018 Program has completed an environmental review in PY 2016, deeming them to possess a “continued relevance.” The County’s 2018 letter of continued relevance citing those projects is available to the public by contacting the point of contact listed below.

It has been determined that this request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, Franklin County has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1996 (P.L. 91-190), as all projects are deemed exempt or categorically excluded from review. Please note that all activities where specific sites are to be determined (e.g., home repair) will be reviewed for standing environmental concerns, including a Section 106 and flood plain review prior to the undertaking of that activity. Environmental Review Records (ERRs) for the federally funded projects have been conducted by Franklin County, which documents the environmental review of the projects, and more fully sets forth the reasons why an EIS is not required.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON FINDINGS

The ERRs are on file and are available for public examination and copy upon request at: the Franklin County Department of Economic Development

and Planning, 150 S. Front Street, Suite 10, Columbus, Ohio 43215 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. week days excluding holidays. They are also available by phoning Mark Paxson at (614) 525-5578 or e-mailing him at mspaxson@franklincountyohio.gov.

All interested agencies, groups and persons agreeing or disagreeing with the decisions rendered in these ERRs are invited to submit written comments for consideration to the attention of James Schimmer, Director of the Department of Economic Development and Planning. Such written comments should be received at the above stated address on or before July 10, 2018. All such comments so received will be considered and Franklin County will not request the release of federal funds or take any administrative action on the inclusive projects prior to the date specified. Further, all such written comments will be forwarded to HUD in conjunction with the County's request for release of funds.

Barring no public comments, no additional environmental review of these projects will be proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of federal funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Franklin County certifies to HUD that Mark Paxson in his capacity as Environmental Review 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 Franklin County to use Program funds.

Mark Paxson, Environmental Review Officer