NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR TIERED PROJECT AND PROGRAM

July 11, 2025 City of Cleveland Department of Community Development 601 Lakeside Ave, Room 320 Cleveland, OH 44114 (216) 664-4000

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after July 27, 2025, the City of Cleveland, Department of Community Development will authorize the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) to submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) funds under Section 24 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937; and Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public law 116-94, enacted December 20, 2019) to undertake the following program.

Tier 1 Broad Review Program Title: 2025-2029-CMHA-Habitat-Home-Repair-Program **Purpose**: CMHA will partner with Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity ("Habitat") to administer an exterior home repair program in a Choice Neighborhood. This program will provide public investment capital to remove blight and preserve neighborhood buildings in a focused area.

Location: This program will service homes within Choice Neighborhood boundaries. This Choice Neighborhood overlaps with the Buckeye-Woodhill area and is bound by E. 93rd St, Buckeye Rd, E. 116th St, MLK Jr Blvd, and Cedar Rd.

Program Description: Project sites will be existing residential structures in an urban setting. Activities include but are not limited to repair or replacement of roofing, windowpanes, window units, vinyl siding, front porch, exterior lighting, sidewalks, front awnings, front canopies, and other façade improvements. Additional costs include administrative fees amounting to no more than 6% of the total hard costs.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: 24 CFR Part 58.35(a), subparts (1-4), and (6) **Tier 2 Site Specific Review**: The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review: Flood Insurance, Contamination and Toxic Substances, Floodplain Management, Floodplain Management, Historic Preservation and Noise Abatement and Control.

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): Mitigation for Flood Insurance and Floodplain Management will be prescribed flood insurance policies. Mitigation for Contamination and Toxic Substances will be created following federal, state, and local regulations from the EPA and OEPA. Historic Preservation non-compliance will be mitigated by utilizing best practices detailed by the City of Cleveland Landmark Commission. Noise Abatement and Control in these existing single-family homes will be mitigated above 75dB through use of noise studies or noise waivers as recommended by 24 CFR Sec. 51.101(a)(5).

Estimated Project Cost: The total estimated project cost is \$3,000,000, of which approximately \$1,250,000 will be Choice Neighborhood Initiative funds.

The program activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i) and 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(iii). The Environmental Review Records (ERRs) that document the environmental determinations for these projects are on file at 601 Lakeside Ave, Cleveland, OH 44114 and may be examined at: https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERRs to Alyssa Hernandez, Director, Department of Community Development, City of Cleveland. All comments received by July 26, 2025 will be considered by the City of Cleveland prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Cleveland certifies to HUD that Alyssa Hernandez, Certifying Officer, in her capacity as Director 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 Cleveland to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Cleveland'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 the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Cleveland; (b) the City of Cleveland 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, Office of Public and Indian Housing at OH_Webmanager@HUD.gov. Potential objectors should contact the HUD Cleveland Field Office via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Justin M. Bibb, Mayor City of Cleveland

Alyssa Hernandez, Director City of Cleveland Department of Community Development