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

6/27/25

North Carolina Department of Commerce Division of Community Revitalization 301 North Wilmington Street Raleigh, NC 27601-1058 (919) 814-4600

This notice shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the North Carolina Department of Commerce.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 15th, 2025 the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization (NCDOC) will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as the Renew NC Single-Family Housing Program for the purpose of supporting long-term housing recovery efforts after Hurricane Helene in the Mountain Ecoregion. Project activities will include reimbursement, rehabilitation, reconstruction, replacement, elevation, and demolition of singlefamily homes (1-4 units) and mobile home units in need of repair and/or replacement Because NCDOC does not know all sites where projects will occur, the program is utilizing a tiered approach to environmental review. Once project locations are known, a site-specific (Tier II) review covering all laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier I, will be completed for each subject property, prior to committing HUD funds to the project. All site-specific project locations will be in the Mountain Ecoregion which consists of Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Clay, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey Counties, North Carolina. Project funding is estimated at \$468,877,000 million in CDBG-DR funding.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization 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), on file at the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization at 301 North Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-1058 and may be examined or copied weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The ERR is also available online at https://www.commercerecovery.nc.gov/plans-policies-and-reports.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization via post at 301 North Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-1058 or by email at dcr.environmental@commerce.nc.gov. All comments received before 15 days after publication will be considered by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization certifies to HUD that Stephanie McGarrah in her capacity as Deputy Secretary of the Division of Community Revitalization 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 North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization 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 North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization; (b) North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization 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 by to Gerilee Bennett, Acting Director of the Office of Disaster Recovery at HUD at 451 7th St SW Washington, DC 20410. Potential objectors should contact the Office of Disaster Recovery at HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Stephanie McGarrah, Deputy Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Revitalization