NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI) & NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS

Posting Date: October 27, 2023

Sumter County 13 East Canal Street Sumter. SC 29150 803-775-7381

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by Sumter County.

On or about **November 15, 2023**, Sumter County will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)/Columbia Field Office for the release of Community Project Funds (CPF)/Congressionally Directed Spending under Consolidated Appropriations, Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) (the FY2023 Act) to undertake the following project:

Project Title: South Sumter Demolition Project

Location: Scattered sites in South Sumter, and other areas in both Sumter County and the South Carolina 6th Congressional District

Purpose of Project: Demolition of approximately two hundred and twenty (220) dilapidated and vacant structures

Estimated <u>TDC:</u> \$1,600,000 which includes \$1,600,000 in Community Project Funds

Finding of No Significance Impact:

Sumter County 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 the Sumter County Administration Building (13 E. Canal St, Sumter, SC 29154) and the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments (2525 Corporate Way, Suite 200, Sumter, SC 29154) and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M to 5 P.M.

Public Comment:

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Gary Mixon, County Administrator,13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC 29154. All comments received by **November 14, 2023** will be considered by the County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice is being addressed.

Release of Funds:

Sumter County certifies to HUD/Columbia Field Office that that Gary Mixon in his capacity as County Administrator, 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 Sumter County to use Program funds.

Objections to Release of Funds:

HUD/Columbia Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and Sumter County'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 it is on one of the following basis: a) the certification was not executed by the certifying officer of the County; b) the County omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs 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 via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Mr. Bradley Evatt, CPD Director, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Columbia Field Office, Community Planning and Development Division, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, 1835 Assembly Street, 13th Floor, Columbia, SC 29201-2480 at bradley.s.evatt@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact Mr. Bradley S. Evatt, CPD Director in the Columbia Field Office via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Gary M. Mixon Sumter County Administrator