



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Adrienne Todman, S

THRU: Marion McFadden, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Office of Community Planning and Development, D

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Tennille Parker, Director PARKER  
Office of Disaster Recovery, DGR

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Department of Housing and Urban  
Development, Office of Community Planning and  
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Kera Package, Deputy Assistant Secretary KERA  
Office of Grant Programs, DG

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SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Under  
the National Environmental Policy Act for the Issuance of Allocations for  
Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery and  
Implementation of the CDBG-DR Universal Notice Waivers and  
Alternative Requirements Notice [FR-6512-N-01]

It is the finding of this Office that issuance of the attached notice does not constitute a major Federal action having an individually or cumulatively significant effect on the human environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

This Allocation Announcement Notice allocates \$12,070,701,000 in CDBG-DR funds appropriated by the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (Pub. L. 118-158) approved December 21, 2024, for major disasters occurring in 2023 and 2024 (the "2025 Appropriations Act") and implements the requirements in HUD's *CDBG-DR Universal Notice* ("Universal Notice") for disasters occurring in 2023 and 2024. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was prepared for the Universal Notice. The environmental requirements of the Universal Notice and its FONSI apply to this Notice and can be found on the HUD website [here](#).

Assistance under the CDBG-DR program is subject to the environmental review requirements of 24 CFR 58; grantees and subrecipients that are states or units of general local government are responsible for completing environmental reviews on specific projects in accordance with Part 58. If the grantee determines that the environmental review is satisfactory, the grantee must request and receive a release of funds from HUD (or the state, if the state is acting as HUD under 24 CFR 58.18), if applicable, before it can commit funds or take any choice limiting action with respect to a project.

The 2025 Appropriations Act states that grant recipients of Federal funds that use such funds to supplement Federal assistance may adopt, without review or public comment, any environmental review, approval, or permit performed by a Federal agency so long as the actions covered by the existing environmental review,

approval, or permit and the actions proposed for the CDBG-DR supplemental funds are substantially the same. Such adoption shall satisfy the responsibilities of the recipient with respect to such environmental review, approval, or permit. The grant recipient must notify HUD in writing of its decision to adopt another agency's environmental review.

In addition, the 2025 Appropriations Act allows the Secretary, upon a receipt of a Request for Release of Funds and certification, to immediately approve the release of funds for an assisted activity or project if the recipient has adopted an environmental review, approval, or permit from another Federal agency or if the activity or project is categorically excluded from review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). For these grants, HUD will allow a grantee to also carry out activities directly, in addition to distributing funds to subrecipients. Thus, per 24 CFR 58.4, when a grantee carries out activities directly, the grantee must submit the Certification and Request for Release of Funds to HUD for approval. Grantees receiving an allocation of funds under the notice are encouraged to participate in an expedited and unified interagency review process as one means of expediting the implementation of disaster recovery projects.

Tiered environmental reviews, as described at 40 CFR 1508.1(oo), 40 CFR 1501.11, and 24 CFR 58.15, are a means of making the environmental review process more efficient by allowing parties to “eliminate repetitive discussions of the same issues, focus on the actual issues ripe for decision, and exclude from consideration issues already decided” (40 CFR 1501.11(b)). Tiering is appropriate when a responsible entity is evaluating a single-family housing program with similar activities within a defined local geographic area and timeframe (e.g., rehabilitating single-family homes within a city district or county over the course of one to five years) but where the specific sites and activities are not yet known. Public notice and the Request for Release of Funds (HUD-Form 7015.15) are processed at a broad level, eliminating the need for publication at the site-specific level. However, funds cannot be spent or committed on a specific site or activity until both the broad level and the site-specific review has been completed and approved. HUD encourages grantees as Responsible Entities to develop a tiered approach to streamline the environmental review process whenever the action plan contains a program with multiple similar activities that will result in similar impacts.

Environmental requirements include historic preservation reviews. To facilitate expedited historic preservation (Section 106) reviews, HUD strongly encourages grantees to allocate administrative funds to retain a qualified historic preservation professional and support the capacity of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) to review disaster recovery projects. As appropriate, grantees may use provisions in existing Section 106 Programmatic Agreements (PAs) to expedite Section 106 reviews.

Issuance of this notice does not constitute approval of any proposed projects. Before actions that could have a physical impact or limit the choice of alternatives may be taken, there will be an environmental review done under 24 CFR Part 58 by a responsible entity that will assess the potential environmental impacts in a local setting before the impacts or any choice limiting activities may take place. Accordingly, it is determined that the issuance of this notice does not qualify as a major Federal action having a significant impact on the human environment.

Concurrences:

**BRIAN  
SCHLOSNAGLE**

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Brian Schlosnagle  
Environmental Clearance Officer  
Disaster Recovery  
Community Planning and Development

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Date

**CHRISTOPHER HARTENAU**

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= Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of General  
Counsel  
Date: 2025.01.08 14:09:03 -05'00'

Christopher H. Hartenau  
Environmental Clearance Officer  
Office of General Counsel

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Date

**KRISTIN FONTENOT**

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Kristin L Fontenot  
Departmental Environmental Clearance Officer

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Date

Approve:



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The Honorable Adrienne Todman

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Attachment