

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

PUBLICATION DATE: December 6, 2021
GRANTEE NAME: County of Somerset
ADDRESS: 300 North Center Avenue, Somerset, PA 15501
TELEPHONE: 814 445-1400

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS

On or about December 14, 2021, the County of Somerset (County) will submit a request to the PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for the release of federal community development block grant (CDBG) program funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383) (Act), as amended, to undertake a project known as Draketown Rd. – Dull Hill Rd. Waterline Project for the purpose of replacement of approx. 12,000 lf of 6" waterline along Draketown Rd. and approx. 1,000 lf of 2" waterline along Dull Hill Rd. These existing waterlines are aged, deteriorating and leaking. They will be replaced with approx. 12,000 lf of 6" HDPE waterline and approx. 1,000 lf of 2" HDPE waterline. The project includes related waterline appurtenances and approx. 47 service connections to provide improved public water service to approx. 92 project area residents. The project site is located along Draketown Rd. from Draketown in Lower Turkeyfoot Twp. to the booster pump station in Confluence Borough, and also along Dull Hill Rd. in Lower Turkeyfoot Twp. from Draketown Rd. east approx. 1,000 lf. All project activity is located in Somerset Co. The project will include boring for one railroad crossing and two stream crossings. Estimated project funding is \$1,000,000 of Competitive CDBG funds.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County, 300 North Center Avenue, Suite 520, Somerset, PA 15501 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M to 4:00 P.M. Alternatively, the ERR may be examined at www.somersetredevelopment.org. Questions regarding the ERR should be directed to Patty Adamczyk at 814.443.2780 or patty@somersetredevelopment.org.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the redevelopment authority at the above mailing address or at patty@somersetredevelopment.org. All comments received by December 13, 2021 will be considered by the County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The County certifies to DCED that Gerald Walker, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, 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. DCED's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the County to use CDBG Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

DCED will accept objections to its release of funds and the 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 they are on the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the County; (b) the County 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 DCED; 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 in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Department of Community and Economic Development at: chrhowe@pa.gov. Potential objectors should contact DCED to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Gerald Walker, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners