

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

April 13, 2022
Town of Springfield, Jeff Mobus
96 Main Street,
Springfield VT, 05156
802-885-1617

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Town of Springfield.

Request for Release of Funds

On or about April 29, 2022, the Town of Springfield will submit a request to the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (the Agency) to release the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), the National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, to undertake a project known as Park Street School for the purpose of renovations to repurpose the building as a digital workspace for the Springfield Black River Innovation Campus (BRIC). The project is located at 60 Park Street, Springfield VT. The total estimated cost of the project is \$26,000,000 with \$500,000 in CDBG funding.

Mitigating factors include:

- CAP must be followed to receive Certification of Compliance from DEC and as an environmental condition for ACCD. Primary clean up steps include removal of USTs (underground storage tanks), covering exposed, contaminated soils, PCB testing and removal, and lead and asbestos removal.
- Post-renovation radon testing will be completed
- Project must meet conditions listed in Part II National Park Service Certification Application.

Finding of No Significant Impact

The Town of Springfield 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 municipal office of the Town of Springfield at 96 Main Street, Springfield VT 05156 and may be examined or copied Monday through Friday, 8:00am- 4:30 pm.

Public Comments

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Town of Springfield, Attn: Jeff Mobus, Town Manager, 96 Main Street, Springfield VT 05156. All comments received by April 28, 2022 will be considered by the Town of Springfield prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds. Comments must specify which Notice they are addressing—the Finding of No Significant Impact or the Request for the Release of Funds.

Environmental Certification

The Town of Springfield is certifying to the Agency that Jeff Mobus, in their official capacity as Town Manager, 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. The Agency's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Town of Springfield to use the CDBG funds.

Objections to Release of Funds

The Agency will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of Springfield'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 one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer, Jeff Mobus; (b) the Town 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 the Agency; 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 the Attn: Grace Vinson, Environmental Officer, Agency of Commerce and Community Development, One National Life Drive, Davis Building, 6th Floor, Montpelier, Vermont 05620. Potential objectors should contact the Agency to verify the actual last date of the objection period.