

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

September 16, 2021

City of Cooper
91 N. Side Square
Cooper, Texas 75432
(903) 395-2217

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about October 5, 2021 the City of Cooper will submit a request to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Section 104 (F) of the Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as the City of Cooper TxCDBG #7220101 for the purpose of replacing existing water treatment plant components to become compliant with TCEQ regulations and improve water quality. The City shall replace a clarifier, raw water intake structure gates and valves, install walkway and safety fencing, rehabilitate a ground storage tank interior and exterior paint coating, and all associated appurtenances. Construction shall take place at the WTP located north of the intersection of Highway 24 and Greenhill Lane.

Administration and Engineering Activities – Project includes associated Administration and Engineering fees and services.

The activities will be funded by the Office of Rural Affairs of the Texas Department of Agriculture with \$275,000 in funds allocated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Community Development Block Grant, Community Development Program. The City of Cooper will contribute an additional \$27,500.00 in matching funds from its general fund.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Cooper 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 City of Cooper City Hall, 91 N. Side Square, Cooper, Texas 75432 and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M to 4 P.M. A digital or mailed copy of the ERR may be obtained by contacting Emily Howse, City Secretary, via email at coopercityhall@yahoo.com.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the office of the Mayor. Comments may also be submitted via email to Charles Edwards with Resource Management & Consulting Co. at charles@grant-consultant.com. All comments received by October 4, 2021 will be considered by the City of Cooper prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Cooper certifies to the Texas Department of Agriculture that Darren Braddy, in his capacity as Mayor, 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 Texas Department of Agriculture's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Cooper to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Texas Department of Agriculture will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Cooper'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 of the City of Cooper; (b) the City of Cooper 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 Texas Department of Agriculture; 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 Annessa Lewis, Environmental Review Specialist at cdbg_envreview@texasagriculture.gov. Potential objectors should contact the Texas Department of Agriculture via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Darren Braddy, Mayor