March 12, 2021

Tennille S. Parker  
Director  
Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division  
U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street, S.W., Room 7282  
Washington D.C. 20410

RE: Submittal of Request for Release of Funds (RROF) for 2017 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds

Dear Tennille Parker:

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD or Department) is completing an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the 2017 Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (OOR) Program (“Program”). This Program will be funded under the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant agreement number B-18-DP-06-001, which was awarded under the NDRC Public Law 115-123 of the Further Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act of 2018, as amended.

The Department has completed broad-level Tier 1 Environmental Reviews for the OOR Program. Tier 2 site-specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known. The Department will not commit funds until Tier 2 environmental clearance has been achieved including compliance with 24 CFR 58 and HUD Environmental Standards. The Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds was published and no comments were received.

To complete the ERR and obtain Authority to Use Grant Funds (AUGF) from HUD, the Department is hereby submitting the attached documents: 1) a signed Request for Release of Funds; and 2) copy of affidavit of publication for the public notices.
With the submission of the attached documents, HCD, as Responsible Entity, has completed the proper federal environmental process for the 2017 CDBG-DR Program. Please let us know if you have questions or comments about the attached documents. The Department looks forward to receiving an AUGF from HUD upon completion of the 15-day federal public comment period.

Sincerely,

Janice Waddell
Federal Programs Branch Chief

Enclosures
Cc: Kevin O'Neill, Assistant Director SFO, Teresa Yeung, CPD Specialist SFO, Scott Prowse, CPD Specialist SFO, Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division, Terrance Ware, NCRC Specialist
Request for Release of Funds and Certification

This form is to be used by Responsible Entities and Recipients (as defined in 24 CFR 58.2) when requesting the release of funds, and requesting the authority to use such funds, for HUD programs identified by statutes that provide for the assumption of the environmental review responsibility by units of general local government and States. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 36 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control number.

Part 1. Program Description and Request for Release of Funds (to be completed by Responsible Entity)

1. Program Title(s)
   2017 Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery

2. HUD/State Identification Number
   B-18-DP-06-0001

3. Recipient Identification Number (optional)

4. OMB Catalog Number(s)
   14.269

5. Name and address of responsible entity
   CA Department of Housing and Community Development
   2020 West El Camino Avenue, Suite 200
   Sacramento, CA 95833

6. For information about this request, contact (name & phone number)
   Joseph Helo, (916) 263-6693

7. Name and address of recipient (if different than responsible entity)

8. HUD or State Agency and office unit to receive request
   HUD Region IX Office
   One Sansome St., Suite 1200
   San Francisco, CA 94104-4430

9. Program Activity(ies)/Project Name(s)
   2017 CDBG-DR Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program for disaster damaged single family homes in 12 California counties

10. Location (Street address, city, county, State)
    2017 disaster damaged areas within the following California counties: Butte, Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Sonoma, Yuba, Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura

11. Program Activity/Project Description

The 2017 CDBG-DR Owner Occupied Housing Program ("Program") will provide grants to approximately 400 owner-occupied homeowners to rehabilitate or reconstruct homes damaged or destroyed in 2017 by federally declared disasters DR-4344 or DR-4353. The Program also provides funding for impacted homeowners to replace their damaged or destroyed mobile home or manufactured housing unit. Reconstructed homes will be rebuilt on the same site, in substantially the same footprint and manner. Program activities may include environmental remediation, permitting, design, construction, site preparation, and lead-based paint and/or asbestos abatement. CA HCD will not commit funds until Tier 2 environmental clearance has been achieved and comply with 24 CFR 58 and HUD Environmental Standards. The sole source of funding for this program is 2017 CDBG-DR funds in the amount of $47,627,648.
Part 2. Environmental Certification (to be completed by responsible entity)

With reference to the above Program Activity(ies)/Project(s), I, the undersigned officer of the responsible entity, certify that:

1. The responsible entity has fully carried out its responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action pertaining to the project(s) named above.

2. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the environmental procedures, permit requirements and statutory obligations of the laws cited in 24 CFR 58.5; and also agrees to comply with the authorities in 24 CFR 58.6 and applicable State and local laws.

3. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and its implementing regulations 36 CFR 800, including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, and the public.

4. After considering the type and degree of environmental effects identified by the environmental review completed for the proposed project described in Part 1 of this request, I have found that the proposal did ☑ did not ☐ require the preparation and dissemination of an environmental impact statement.

5. The responsible entity has disseminated and/or published in the manner prescribed by 24 CFR 58.43 and 58.55 a notice to the public in accordance with 24 CFR 58.70 and as evidenced by the attached copy (copies) or evidence of posting and mailing procedure.

6. The dates for all statutory and regulatory time periods for review, comment or other action are in compliance with procedures and requirements of 24 CFR Part 58.

7. In accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b), the responsible entity will advise the recipient (if different from the responsible entity) of any special environmental conditions that must be adhered to in carrying out the project.

As the duly designated certifying official of the responsible entity, I also certify that:

8. I am authorized to and do consent to assume the status of Federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.5 list of NEPA-related authorities insofar as the provisions of these laws apply to the HUD responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action that have been assumed by the responsible entity.

9. I am authorized to and do accept, on behalf of the recipient personally, the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the enforcement of all these responsibilities, in my capacity as certifying officer of the responsible entity.

Signature of Certifying Officer of the Responsible Entity

Digitally signed by
Janice Waddell
Date: 2021.03.12
09:24:58 -08'00'

Address of Certifying Officer

2020 W. El Camino Ave., Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95833

Part 3. To be completed when the Recipient is not the Responsible Entity

The recipient requests the release of funds for the programs and activities identified in Part 1 and agrees to abide by the special conditions, procedures and requirements of the environmental review and to advise the responsible entity of any proposed change in the scope of the project or any change in environmental conditions in accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b).

Signature of Authorized Officer of the Recipient

Title of Authorized Officer

Date signed

Warning: HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)