

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

Date of Notice: February 13, 2019

Name of Responsible Entity County of Orange, OC Housing & Community Development

Address: 1300 S. Grand, Building B

City, State, Zip Code: Santa Ana, CA 92705

Telephone Number: (714) 480-2996

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about March 4, 2019 County of Orange, Housing & Community Development will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as **Westminster Crossing**. A request will also be submitted to HUD, Office of Public and Indian Housing for the release of 15 Project-Based Housing Choice Vouchers as authorized under Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 (HOTMA). The project consists of the new construction of a 65-unit development for low-income individuals/families earning between 30% and 60% of Orange County's median income including 15 units for households experiencing homelessness and 1 manager's unit. The project aims to create a more vibrant, sustainable, and equitable community within the "Downtown" activity center.

The units set-aside for homeless households will provide much needed affordable housing for the most vulnerable and at-risk individuals in the community. The proposed project total costs is \$37 million; approximately \$850,500 in HOME and/or Housing Successor funds and will utilize Project-Based Housing Choice Vouchers.

The project is located at 7122-7140 Westminster Boulevard in Westminster, California. The 2-acre site at the southeast corner of Locust Street and Westminster Boulevard would feature a single U-shaped building containing 65 affordable units – 31 one-bedroom units, 17 two-bedroom units, and 17 three-bedroom units.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The County of Orange, Housing & Community Development 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) and can be viewed at <http://www.occommunityservices.org/hcd/community> or on file at Housing & Community Development, 1300 S. Grand. Building B, Santa Ana, CA 92705 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Notice is hereby further given to provide the public a 15-day review period beginning February 13, 2019 to March 1, 2019. Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the OC Housing & Community Development, 1300 S. Grand, Building B, Santa Ana,

CA 92705. All comments received by March 1, 2019 will be considered by the County of Orange prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The County of Orange certifies to HUD that Craig Fee in his capacity as Community Development 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. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the County of Orange to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the County of Orange 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 County of Orange; (b) the County of Orange 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 HUD; 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 HUD, Los Angeles Area Field Office at 300 N. Los Angeles Street, Suite 4054, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Craig Fee, Community Development Manager
OC Housing and Community Development