



**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR COMMENTS
Comment Period: April 3, 2021- April 21, 2021**

April 1, 2021
City of Brownsville
1150 East Adams St. El Tapiz 3 Floor
Brownsville, Texas 78520
(956) 548-6167

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about **April 23, 2021** the City of Brownsville will submit a request to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title 1 of the Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project in partnership with Community Development of the City of Brownsville (Come Dream, Come Build), known as Samano Building Rehabilitation Project for the purpose of rehabilitating the building to offer forty (40) affordable rental units for low-income residents, and redevelop the currently vacant and unused Samano Securities Building (originally the First National Bank) into a small 6,000 square foot grocery store, small cafe, 39 studio apartments and a one bedroom unit.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Brownsville 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 City of Brownsville 1150 East Adams St., Brownsville, Texas 78520 with Efren Trujillo Jr. and may be examined or copied **weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** An electronic copy of the ERR may also be examined online with the following link: <https://www.cob.us/DocumentCenter/View/11424/Samano-EA-HEROS-Report>

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the Environmental Review Record (ERR) **from April 3, 2021 and ending at 5:00 p.m. April 21, 2021** to the City of Brownsville – Office of Strategic Initiatives, El Tapiz Building, 1150 E. Adams Street, 3rd Floor, Brownsville, Texas 78520 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (CST), by email to miguel.gutierrez@brownsvilletx.gov and efren.trujillo@brownsvilletx.gov, and/or on-line at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SamanoProject>.

All comments received by **April 21, 2021** will be considered by the City of Brownsville prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. *Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.*

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Brownsville certifies to HUD that Efren Trujillo Jr. in his capacity as Certifying Officer 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 City of Brownsville to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Brownsville' 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 Brownsville; (b) the City of Brownsville 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 administration office at The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development office at H.F. Garcia Federal Building/Courthouse, 615 E. Houston Street, Suite 347, San Antonio, Texas 78205. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

The City of Brownsville does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission of, access to, treatment of, or employment in its programs, activities, or public meetings. Any individual with a disability in need of an accommodation is encouraged to contact the ADA Coordinator at (956) 548-6037. For telephone access for people with speech or hearing loss, please call 1-800-RELAY-TX. Please provide 2-3 days' notice so that proper accommodations can be provided.

Efren Trujillo, Assistant Director of Office of Strategic Initiatives