

**Office of the Mayor
City of Brockton, Massachusetts
Notice of Intent to Request a Release of Funds**

On or about August 4, 2009, the City of Brockton acting through Building a Better Brockton, Inc. will submit a request to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the release of federal funds through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG/Neighborhood Stabilization Program(NSP1) pursuant to the authority of Title II of Division B of the Housing and Economic Recovery ACT 2008 (HERA)(Pub L.110-289).

The City of Brockton will request the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to release in state NSP-CDBG funds in the amount of \$1,05000,000 for the Programs listed below which serve projects within eligible citywide census tracts and block group areas. (Further environmental review, in accordance with Federal Regulation 24 CFR 58.5, will be conducted as site-specific activities are identified prior to obligation of funds).

- *Establish funding mechanisms for the purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed upon homes and residential properties;
- *Purchase and rehabilitation of foreclosed upon or abandoned residential properties in order to sell or rent such properties to income eligible buyers or renters (at or below 120% of the area median income);
- *Establish land banks for homes that have been foreclosed upon;
- *Demolition of blighted structures;
- *Redevelopment of demolished properties.

At least 25% if the state NSP funds must be used to house individuals and families at or below 50% if the area median income.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR, Part 58 from the National Environmental Review Policy (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for these programs is on file at the office of Building a Better Brockton, Inc., 50 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301 and may be copied, upon request weekdays between 9:00AM and 4:00PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Any individual group or agency may submit written comments on ERR to Building a Better Brockton, Inc. 50 School Street. All comments received by August 21, 2009 will be considered by the City of Brockton prior to submission of release of funds. The comment period is for fifteen (15) days from the date advertised. Such written comments should be received at the above address on or before 4:00PM August 21, 2009.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The city of Brockton certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that Mayor James E. Harrington

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 Brockton to use Program Funds.

OBJECTONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept an objection to its release of funds and the City of Brockton's certification for a period of fifteen(15) 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 basis:

- a) The certification was not in fact executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Brockton;
- b) That the City of Brockton 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 authorize by 24 CFR Part 58;
- d) Federal Agency acting pursuant to 40CFR part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project or projects are unsatisfactory from the stand point of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures 24CFR Part 58 Section 58.76 and shall be addressed to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Housing and Community Development, 100 Cambridge Street Suite 300, Boston, MA02114. No objection received after 4:00PM August 21, 2009 will be considered by DHCD. Potential objectors should contact DHCD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Donald Walsh, Chief Executive Officer
Building a Better Brockton, Inc.
50 School Street
Brockton, MA 02301
August 4, 2009