

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

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City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department
200 West Washington Street, 4th Floor, Phoenix, Arizona 85003
602-495-7509

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after May 4, 2026 the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: Gated Alley Program

Purpose: The intent of the Gated Alley Program (GAP) is to help address community safety, welfare, stability, and quality of life concerns by limiting alley access to property owners/renters, emergency services, government agencies, and other legal users through installation of gates. Research suggests and city data confirms that gating alleys is an effective “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design” strategy.

Project/Program Description: NSD is undertaking the implementation a city-wide gated alley program using CDBG funding from fiscal years 2025-2029 for the fabrication and installation of gates in eligible alleyways in neighborhoods occupied by low-income households. The Gated Alley Program intent is also to help address community concerns about crime and blight. Funding is projected to be approximately \$624,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds over a five-year period (2025-2029) with approximately 1000 gates to be addressed. Future gate installation activities will be evaluated for potential environmental impacts on a case-by-case basis once a site-specific project is ripe for review.

Total Estimated Program Cost: \$624,000. Project funding: \$624,000 in CDBG funds, grant number B-25-MC-04-0505, and \$600,000 in CDBG funds, grant numbers B-26-MC-04-0505, B-27-MC-04-0505, B-28-MC-04-0505, and B-29-MC-04-0505, annually thereafter through 2031.

The project term is 60 months. This review is valid for five years.

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.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: 2 Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5:58.35(a)(1)

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review: Contamination and Toxic Substances, Endangered Species Act, Floodplain Management, Historic Preservation, and Wetlands Protection.

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits: Contamination and Toxic Substances – A site specific review will be conducted to determine the potential presence of contamination or toxic substances. Each proposed project will be reviewed using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) databases to identify known or potential sources of contamination in or near the project area. Site conditions will be assessed through visual inspection. If contamination or hazardous materials are identified, the project will be further evaluated to determine potential risks and necessary actions. Where applicable, measures will be taken to avoid, minimize, or mitigate exposure to hazardous materials, and projects will comply with HUD requirements at 24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2) and all other applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

Endangered Species – A site specific review will be conducted through the City of Phoenix Office of Environmental Programs (OEP) procedures as outlined in the "Clean Water Act s.404, EO 11990, And Biological Resource Evaluation Process for City Of Phoenix HUD-Funded Projects" and associated "City of Phoenix Clean Water Act s.404, EO 11990, and Biological Resources Housing/NSD CEST Checklist For HUD Single/Multi-Family Residential and Commercial Property Tier 2 Site-Specific Reviews and CEST Projects ONLY" form. The site will be evaluated with available resources, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system and the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) Online Environmental Review Tool (OERT) report, to identify the potential presence of federal and state listed species or designated critical habitat within or near the project area. If the site-specific project meets exemption qualifications in the checklist, then: 1) no review by OEP EPC is needed, project-specific coordination with the USFWS is not required, and the completed form constitutes the environmental documentation for these resources; 2) due to the nature of the work and/or the lack of suitable habitat or wetlands, this project will have no effect on T&E species or critical habitat protected under the Endangered Species Act; and 3) no wetlands protected under EO 11990 will be impacted. If listed species or critical habitats are identified, the project will be further

assessed for potential direct and indirect impacts with the OEP. Where applicable, measures will be incorporated to avoid and minimize impacts.

Floodplain Management - Proposed gate installations may occur within FEMA designated 100-year or 500-year floodplains. As site-specific undertakings are identified, each project will obtain and review current floodplain mapping from FEMA or FEMA-certified sources to accurately determine flood zone designation and evaluate potential impacts. The proposed activities involve minor ground disturbance associated with gate installation and are not expected to substantially affect floodplain values or increase impervious surface. All potential adverse effects to floodplain functions and values will be identified and assessed. Where applicable, projects will comply with the requirements of Executive Order 11988 and HUD's floodplain management regulations at 24 CFR Part 55, including documentation of findings and implementation of measures to avoid or minimize impacts.

Historic Preservation - It is possible that areas subject to ground disturbance under this program may contain archaeological resources and therefore warrant consideration under historic preservation requirements. Additionally, proposed gate installations may alter the exterior of adjacent properties and fall within the scope of review. Review and compliance will be conducted in accordance with the City's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). For each proposed project, the City Historic Preservation Office (CHPO) and City Archaeology Office (CAO) will evaluate the potential for affects to historic properties and archaeological resources with the City's "Section 106 Historic / Archaeological Review Utilizing HUD Programmatic Agreement" form. Project activities initially determined by the CHPO to have Adverse Effect on historic structures will undergo scope of work modification to achieve No Adverse Effect outcome, prior to project approval. Project activities that may impact cultural resources per CAO review will undergo archaeological monitoring by a qualified, City-contracted archaeologist during completion of project activities, as will be stipulated as part of project approval.

Wetlands Protection – A site specific review will be conducted using the City of Phoenix Office of Environmental Programs (OEP) procedures as outlined in the "Clean Water Act s.404, EO 11990, And Biological Resource Evaluation Process for City Of Phoenix HUD-Funded Projects" and associated "City of Phoenix Clean Water Act s.404, EO 11990, and Biological Resources Housing/NSD CEST Checklist For HUD Single/Multi-Family Residential and Commercial Property Tier 2 Site-Specific Reviews and CEST Projects ONLY" form. Each proposed project will be reviewed using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps to determine the presence or proximity of wetlands within the project area. If the site-specific project meets the exemption qualifications in the checklist, then: 1) no review by OEP EPC is needed, project-specific coordination with the USFWS is not required, and the completed form

constitutes the environmental documentation for these resources; 2) due to the nature of the work and/or the lack of suitable habitat or wetlands, this project will have no effect on T&E species or critical habitat protected under the Endangered Species Act; and 3) no wetlands protected under EO 11990 will be impacted. If wetlands are identified, the project will be further assessed for potential direct and indirect impacts with the OEP. Where applicable, measures will be incorporated to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands, and mitigation will be implemented as necessary in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

Estimated Project Cost: Funding is projected to be approximately \$624,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CDBG funds over a five-year period (2025-2029) with approximately 1000 gates to be addressed. Total Estimated Program Cost: \$. Project funding: \$624,000 in CDBG funds, grant number B-25-MC-04-0502, B-26-MC-04-0502, B-27-MC-04-0502, B-28-MC-04-0502, and B-29-MC-04-0502, annually thereafter through 2031.

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3) and 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(5). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project, and more fully describes the tiered review process cited above, is on file at the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department, 200 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 AM to 5 PM, or the ERR can be accessed online at the following websites: www.phoenix.gov/ns/yourvoice or at <https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmentalreviews>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department, 200 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003 or by e-mail to alicia.springs@phoenix.gov. All comments received by April 13, 2026, will be considered by the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department prior to authorizing submission of a Request for Release of Funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department certifies to HUD that Spencer Self, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Director of the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department 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 Phoenix to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department'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 Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department; (b) the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department 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 San Francisco Regional Office at One Sansome Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94104 or via e-mail to rrrofsfro@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the HUD San Francisco Regional Office to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Spencer Self, Director, City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department, Certifying Officer

If you require oral interpretation in a language other than English, please call (602) 495-5709. Si necesita interpretación oral en un idioma que no sea inglés, por favor llame al (602) 495-7509.

English is the official language and authoritative version of all Federal information.