

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS AND
FLOODPLAIN & WETLAND 8-STEP PROCESS 2ND PUBLIC NOTICE**

City of Corcoran City Hall
8200 County Rd 116,
Corcoran, MN 55340
(763) 420-2288

These notices shall satisfy three separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Corcoran, Minnesota.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

February 19th, 2024 the City of Corcoran will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Minneapolis Field Office (HUD) for the release of Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant funds under section 14.251 and title is “Economic Development Initiative, Community Project Funding, and Miscellaneous Grants.” of the Fiscal Year 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-328), as amended, to undertake a project known as City of Corcoran Water Supply Construction Project for the purpose of providing a trunk sanitary sewer and watermain extensions west to the Corcoran Water Treatment Facility and continue west to the constructed Water Tower (located approximately just south of 19951 Oswald Farm Rd, Rogers, MN 55374). The project received \$3 million in HUD funding with the remaining project costs of \$584,525.90 funded by the City of Corcoran.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Corcoran 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 the Corcoran City Hall, 8200 County Rd 116, Corcoran, MN 55340 where ERR can be examined and name and address of other locations where the record is available for review and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 4:30 P.M.

FLOODPLAIN & WETLAND 8-STEP PROCESS SECOND PUBLIC NOTICE

While the project will take place within a 100-year floodplain and wetland, the 8-Step process has concluded that the project will not have floodplain or wetland impacts. The nature of this project does not require the construction of infrastructure above ground. This project will connect to the future water tower and water treatment plant, however, construction of these two facilities is separate from the Watermain and Trunk Sanitary Sewer construction project. Because sites for the water tower and the water treatment plant have already been determined, this project was designed to minimize and avoid impacts.

An alternative that avoids the floodplain and wetland would enlarge the total footprint of the project immensely, increasing the degree of impact to other social and environmental resources within the area. Additionally, a No Build alternative was considered “not an option” given that without the proposed improvements - extension of the watermain and sanitary pipes to connect to

the water tower, water treatment plant, and existing pipe networks - Corcoran residents and businesses east of Hunters Ridge would not have access to safe and clean water. The City has been purchasing water for community use, however the quantity required is no longer available. Without this project, the City of Corcoran will be unable to provide additional water service in this area of the community.

The watermain and sanitary sewer extensions will be all underground. No permanent or long-term impacts to the wetland or the floodplain are anticipated due to this project. This temporary impact falls under the no loss section of Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), Minnesota Rule (MR) 8420.0415, Item H. 2.6 acres of wetland and 1.8 acres of 100-year floodplain fall within the project construction limit. A detailed 8-Step process is provided as part of the ERR. Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the 8-Step process. The document that details the 8-Step Process is available at the Corcoran City Hall, 8200 County Rd 116, Corcoran, MN 55340. All comments received by February 19th, 2024 will be considered by the City of Corcoran prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR and/or the 8-Step Process (floodplain and wetland impacts) to the Corcoran City Hall, 8200 County Rd 116, Corcoran, MN 55340. All comments received by February 19th, 2024 will be considered by the City of Corcoran prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Corcoran certifies to HUD/Minnesota that Mayor or Certifying Officer in his capacity as Environmental 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 Minnesota's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Corcoran to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Corcoran'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 Corcoran; (b) the City of Corcoran 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/Minnesota; 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 CPDRROFMIN@HUD.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Jason Tobin, City Administrator (City of Corcoran)

Note: The fifteen or eighteen-day public comment periods are the minimum time periods required by regulation prior to submission of a Request for Release of Funds and Certification (form HUD-7015.15) to HUD/State. The Responsible Entity may choose to allow a longer comment period. 24 CFR Part 58 requires, at Section 58.46, “Time delays for exceptional circumstances,” a 30-day comment period for controversial or unique projects or those similar to projects normally requiring preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. The fifteen-day objection period is a statutory requirement. The objection period follows the submission date specified in the Notice or the actual date of receipt by HUD/State, whichever is later.

Following completion of the comment period recipients may FAX the form HUD-7015.15 to HUD/State together with a copy of the public notice and a cover letter stating whether comments were received and, if so, how the recipient responded to the comment. The Request for Release of Funds and Certification should not be submitted before the recipient has responded. If the request is sent by FAX, the original signed form should be mailed to HUD/State. The date of receipt by FAX will be counted as the submission date. However, HUD will not issue the 7015.16 “Authority to Use Grant Funds” until after the original signed form is received.