

Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds

Date of Notice: July 11, 2008

Name of Responsible Entity: City of Mount Vernon, Washington

Address: P.O. Box 809, Mount Vernon, WA 98273-0809

Contact and Telephone: Jana Hanson, Director
Community and Economic Development Department
(360) 336-6214

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

Finding of No Significant Impact

The City of Mount Vernon has determined that the Downtown Flood Protection 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 Community and Economic Development Department, 910 Cleveland Avenue, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 and may be examined or copied from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Request for Release of Funds

On or about July 28, 2008 (at least one day after end of comment period) the City of Mount Vernon will submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 [42USC5301 et seq.], as amended, to undertake the Downtown Flood Protection Project for the purpose of providing FEMA-certified 100-year flood protection for the City's downtown area.

Public Comments

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comment to the Community and Economic Development Department. All comments received by August 11, 2008 (date here – notice date plus 15 days) will be considered by the City of Mount Vernon prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

Release of Funds

The City of Mount Vernon certifies to HUD that Jana Hanson, in her capacity as Director of the Community and Economic Development 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 Mount Vernon to use Program funds.

Objections to Release of Funds

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Mount Vernon'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 bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Mount Vernon; (b) the City of Mount Vernon 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 has committed funds or incurred costs 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) and shall be addressed to HUD at 909 1st Ave., Suite 200, Seattle WA 98104-1000. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Full reports and technical studies are available at the Mount Vernon City Hall, 910 Cleveland Avenue, Mount Vernon, Washington, 98273. Mail written requests to City of Mount Vernon, Community and Economic Development, Post Office Box 809, Mount Vernon, Washington, 98273. Telephone number: 360-336-6214.

Jana Hanson, Director
Community and Economic Development Department