

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

April 22, 2024

*Martin County
305 E Main Street
Williamston, NC 27892*

252-789-4300

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by *Martin County*.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about May 11th, 2024, Martin County will submit a request to the North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development for the release of Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds under Title 1 US Housing and Community Development of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Recovery CARES Act [1974], as amended, to undertake a project known as Martin County Community Service Hub located in the Town of Robersonville for the purpose of the following:

Martin County will also utilize \$210,000:

1. Purchase and installation of HVAC Mini Split Systems and HEPA Air Filtration Systems in their new Martin County Community Service Hub. This site is the Old East End Elementary School located at 304 Cochran Street Robersonville, NC 27871, and is currently being rehabilitated by various Martin County Volunteers to transform an abandoned school into a hub of nonprofits to provide a variety of support to the citizens of Martin County. The nonprofit collaboration includes a food pantry, senior services, and numerous recreational organizations.
2. \$20,000 of CDBG-CV funds for COVID-19 Modifications to their Community Service Hub which include creating a concrete slab and upgrading the outdoor electrical wiring to create space for an outdoor refrigerator for the Food Pantry located at the Service Hub. The inclusion of the outdoor refrigerator will increase the food pantry's ability to social distance when providing services.

The proposed project will also provide access to a multitude of services to the residents for community and economic development needs within the social economic justice to low-to-moderate income residents in Martin County.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Martin County 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 *305 E Main Street Williamston, North Carolina 27892*, and may be examined or copied on weekdays from 9 A.M to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to *Martin County*. All comments received by *May 10th, 2024*, will be considered by *Martin County* prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Martin County certifies to the *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)* that *Benjamin R. Eisner* in his capacity as *Interim County Manager* 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. *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)* approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows *Martin County* to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development will accept objections to its release of funds and *Martin County'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 *Martin County*; (b) the *Martin County* 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 *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)*; 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 *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)* at *301 N. Wilmington Street -4346 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4346*. Potential objectors should contact the *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)* to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Benjamin Eisner, Interim County Manager
