NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after February 22, 2021 the City of Jackson will submit a request to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes for the release of Lead-based Paint Hazard Reduction Grant funds under Title X of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act to undertake the following project:

**Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title:** Lead Safe Jackson Housing Program.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction (LHR) grant program is to maximize the number of children under the age of six years protected from lead poisoning by assisting states, cities, counties/parishes, Native American Tribes or other units of local government in undertaking comprehensive programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in eligible privately-owned rental or owner-occupied housing populations.

**Location:** This program will operate in the legal city limits of Jackson, MS.

**Project/Program Description:** Lead Safe Jackson Housing Program including Healthy Homes Supplemental grant award, for the purpose of providing Lead Interventions that reduce or prevent childhood lead poisoning in children under the age of six (6) that reside in homes that receive interventions. Ultimately, the goal of the Lead Safe Jackson Housing Program is to increase the number of residential properties that are free from Lead-based Paint Hazards and to eliminate other health related hazards. This will be accomplished by providing lead-based paint testing, removal/abatement, and minor rehabilitation activities. A total of 78 properties will receive lead interventions and some of those properties will also receive minor rehabilitation to ensure the health and safety of the residents. 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:** Categorical exclusion subject to the Federal Laws & Authorities cited in 24 CFR 58.5, specifically 58.35(a)(3) and 58.35(a)(4).

**Tier 2 Site Specific Review:** The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

- Airport Hazards – Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones: 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D
- Contamination and Toxic Substances – 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)
- Noise Abatement and Control (Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B)
- Wetlands Protection (Executive Order 11990, particularly section 2 & 5)

**Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any):**
Airports Hazards – Once a property is identified to have lead hazards present, the Environmental Review Specialist will determine if the property is within 2500 feet of a civilian airport. If the property is in the proximity of the airport, appropriate APZ or RPZ/CZ assurances will be requested from the local airport authority.

Flood Insurance – FEMA flood maps will be pulled for each approved property to document the location in relation to flood zones. If a property is located with a flood zone, the client must provide a copy of the Flood Insurance Declaration for the file. If there is no flood insurance, the property will be denied, and appropriate notification letter will be mailed.

Contamination and Toxic Substances – Appropriate maps from NEPAssist and Enviromapper will be used to determine if any on-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances found that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property. In the event that toxic substances are found, the appropriate mitigation measures will be completed, if financially feasible.

Historic Preservation - For every property that is proven to have lead-based paint hazards, a letter will be mailed to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History including a picture of the front façade of the property, the year the property was built, and a detailed scope of the work to be perform. MDAH will decide regarding the properties historic status and recommend mitigation measures, if necessary. The City of Jackson will follow all mitigation measure, if applicable.

Noise Abatement and Control - Once a property is identified, the appropriate noise level calculations will be performed if a property is found to be within an unacceptable distance from a railroad, major highway or airport. In the event that the dB is outside the acceptable range, the City of Jackson will take the appropriate noise mediation measures, if financially feasible.

Wetlands Protection - A letter will be mailed to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History documenting the property, year built, and the scope of work for final determination of historic status. The City will comply with all mediation measures required, if any.

**Estimated Project Cost:** 2,060,600.

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 58.5, specifically 58.35(a)(3) and 58.35(a)(4). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at [https://www.onecpd.info/environmental-review/environmental-review-records](https://www.onecpd.info/environmental-review/environmental-review-records).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Jackson’s Office of Housing and Community Development via email at OHCD@jacksonms.gov. All comments received by Friday, February 22, 2021 by 5:00 p.m. will be considered by the City of Jackson prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.
The City of Jackson certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes that Chokwe A. Lumumba, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Mayor of the City of Jackson 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. U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes’ approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Jackson to use HUD program funds.

**OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Jackson’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 Jackson; (b) the City of Jackson 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 U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes; 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 Karen M. Griego, Program Environmental Clearance Officer, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, U.S. Department of HUD, 500 Gold Ave SW, Suite 7301, P.O. Box 906 Albuquerque, NM 87103, Phone: 505.346.6462 (this is not a toll-free number). Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

E-mail:karen.m.griego@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba, Certifying Officer