

PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

**Meeting Date:** October 16, 2007 [X] Consent [ ] Regular [ ] Public Hearing

**Department:** Housing and Community Development

**Submitted By:** Housing and Community Development

**I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF**

**Motion and Title:** Staff recommends motion to approve: Five "Request for Release of Funds (RROF) and Certification Application" forms (HUD-7015.15) to comply with environmental grant conditions for five projects proposed to be funded under the FY 2007-08 HOME Investment Partnership Program, with a total allocation of \$2,588,864 as follows: A) Demolition of residential and non-residential structures; B) Acquisition of real property and acquisition of existing structures; C) Rehabilitation of existing residential structures, mixed-use structures and non-residential structures for conversion to residential structures; D) Capital improvements in support of existing single and multi-family residential structures; construction and rehabilitation of utility connections; and on-site development of roads, sewer, water and drainage infrastructure; and E) New construction of residential structures and new construction in connection with converting non-residential structures to residential structures for affordable housing.

**Summary:** HOME-funded projects approved via the Action Plan on July 10, 2007 (R2007-1219), must comply with 24 CFR Part 58, which establishes regulations concerning the Environmental Review procedures for the HOME Program. Under these regulations, the County is required to: A) aggregate geographically or functionally, all activities into projects; B) determine which projects are in need of an environmental assessment and, where applicable, issue an environmental clearance finding; C) publish the finding to receive public input; and D) submit Form HUD-7015.15 to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Steps A through C have been finalized. Execution of Form HUD-7015.15 and its submission to HUD will accomplish Step D. This form documents and certifies that all steps have been taken with respect to HUD's environmental procedures. Before expending any CDBG funds for these activities, the County must receive a notification from HUD of the removal of environmental grant conditions. Countywide (TKF)

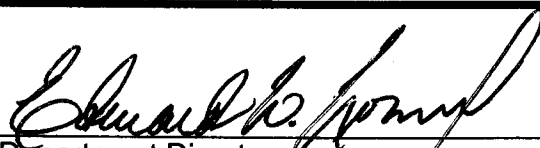
**Background and Justification:** Under Part 58, Palm Beach County assumes the responsibilities that would otherwise apply to HUD under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), in addition to whatever other responsibilities the County may have to comply with (local, state and federal environmental laws and authorities). As part of the process, the County must group together and evaluate as a single project, all individual activities which are related either geographically or functionally; and maintain a written record (Environmental Review Record or ERR) for the environmental review undertaken for each project.

A combined Notice of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds was issued for the projects, and was published in a local newspaper on September 16, 2007 to receive public input. The public comment period expired on October 1, 2007. Any public input received prior to the BCC meeting is provided as additional back-up.

After submission to HUD of the Request for Release of Funds and Certification for the new projects, HUD will issue a removal of grant conditions and release the funds. Palm Beach County will have satisfied the Environmental Review process for the projects.

**Attachments:**

- a) Five Request for Release of Funds and Certification Forms; and
- b) Copy of the "Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds".

Recommended By:   
Department Director

10/2/07  
Date

Approved By:   
Assistant County Administrator

10/16/07  
Date

**II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS**

**A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

<u>Fiscal Years:</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
Capital Expenditures:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County):	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County):	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>NET FISCAL IMPACT:</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

# OF ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative): \_\_\_\_\_

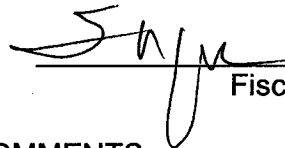
Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Budget Account #: Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Org. \_\_\_\_\_ Object \_\_\_\_\_ Reporting Category \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

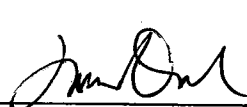
No fiscal impact – Approval of the agenda item will satisfy a HUD environmental regulation that will allow HCD to enter into future HOME Program contracts.

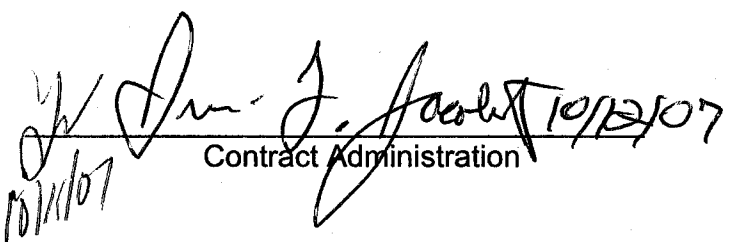
**C. Departmental Fiscal Review:**


  
 Fiscal Manager 10-2-07

**III. REVIEW COMMENTS**

**A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Administration Comments:**

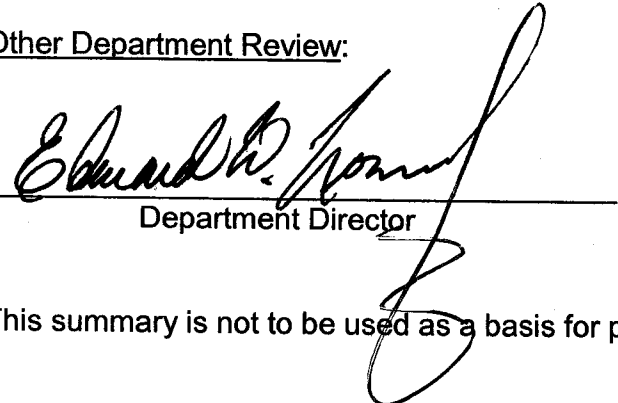

  
10/11/07 OFMB 10/9/07


  
10/11/07 Contract Administration 10/12/07

**B. Legal Sufficiency:**


  
10/15/07 Senior Assistant County Attorney

**C. Other Department Review:**


  
 Department Director

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment.

ATTACHMENT "a"

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS  
AND CERTIFICATION FORMS

Print Form

# Request for Release of Funds and Certification

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Community Planning and Development

OMB No. 2506-0087  
(exp. 12/31/2007)

This form is to be used by Responsible Entities and Recipients (as defined in 24 CFR 58.2) when requesting the release of funds, and requesting the authority to use such funds, for HUD programs identified by statutes that provide for the assumption of the environmental review responsibility by units of general local government and States. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 36 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control number.

## Part 1. Program Description and Request for Release of Funds (to be completed by Responsible Entity)

1. Program Title(s) HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program	2. HUD/State Identification Number M-07-DC-12-0226	3. Recipient Identification Number (optional)
4. OMB Catalog Number(s) 14-239	5. Name and address of responsible entity Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners 301 North Olive Avenue West Palm Beach, Florida 33401	
6. For information about this request, contact (name & phone number) Edward W. Lowery (561) 233-3600	7. Name and address of recipient (if different than responsible entity)	
8. HUD or State Agency and office unit to receive request HUD Florida State Office Brickell Plaza Federal Building 909 SE 1st Avenue, Suite 500 Miami, Florida 33131		

The recipient(s) of assistance under the program(s) listed above requests the release of funds and removal of environmental grant conditions governing the use of the assistance for the following

9. Program Activity(ies)/Project Name(s) HOME Acquisiton Project	10. Location (Street address, city, county, State) PBC Housing and Community Development 160 Australian Avenue Suite 500 West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
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### 11. Program Activity/Project Description

This is a multi-year project, to be implemented in a five year period as described in the County's Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-10). Activities under this project were aggregated functionally, since the activities will take place in several locations within the jurisdiction of the Palm Beach County HOME Program. The estimated activities to be undertaken within the next five years for this project by the HOME Program includes acquisition of real property for new residential construction of one to four units; acquisition of real property for new residential construction of five or more units; acquisition of real property for conversion of use; acquisition of real property for new non-residential construction; acquisition of real property for capital improvements; acquisition of existing residential structures with one to four units; acquisition of existing residential structures with five or more units; and acquisition of existing non-residential structures for conversion to residential structures. The estimated range of HOME funding for the above activities during the five year period is \$2,500,000.

**Part 2. Environmental Certification** (to be completed by responsible entity)

With reference to the above Program Activity(ies)/Project(s), I, the undersigned officer of the responsible entity, certify that:

1. The responsible entity has fully carried out its responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action pertaining to the project(s) named above.
2. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the environmental procedures, permit requirements and statutory obligations of the laws cited in 24 CFR 58.5; and also agrees to comply with the authorities in 24 CFR 58.6 and applicable State and local laws.
3. After considering the type and degree of environmental effects identified by the environmental review completed for the proposed project described in Part 1 of this request, I have found that the proposal  did  did not require the preparation and dissemination of an environmental impact statement.
4. The responsible entity has disseminated and/or published in the manner prescribed by 24 CFR 58.43 and 58.55 a notice to the public in accordance with 24 CFR 58.70 and as evidenced by the attached copy (copies) or evidence of posting and mailing procedure.
5. The dates for all statutory and regulatory time periods for review, comment or other action are in compliance with procedures and requirements of 24 CFR Part 58.
6. In accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b), the responsible entity will advise the recipient (if different from the responsible entity) of any special environmental conditions that must be adhered to in carrying out the project.

As the duly designated certifying official of the responsible entity, I also certify that:

7. I am authorized to and do consent to assume the status of Federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.5 list of NEPA-related authorities insofar as the provisions of these laws apply to the HUD responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action that have been assumed by the responsible entity.
8. I am authorized to and do accept, on behalf of the recipient personally, the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the enforcement of all these responsibilities, in my capacity as certifying officer of the responsible entity.

Signature of Certifying Officer of the Responsible Entity

Title of Certifying Officer  
Addie L. Greene, Chairperson  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Date signed

X

Address of Certifying Officer

Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners  
301 North Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

**Part 3. To be completed when the Recipient is not the Responsible Entity**

The recipient requests the release of funds for the programs and activities identified in Part 1 and agrees to abide by the special conditions, procedures and requirements of the environmental review and to advise the responsible entity of any proposed change in the scope of the project or any change in environmental conditions in accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b).

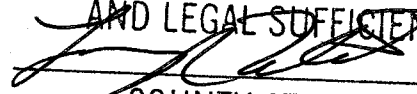
Signature of Authorized Officer of the Recipient

Title of Authorized Officer

Date signed

X

**Warning:** HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY  
  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

Print Form

# Request for Release of Funds and Certification

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Community Planning and Development

OMB No. 2506-0087  
(exp. 12/31/2007)

This form is to be used by Responsible Entities and Recipients (as defined in 24 CFR 58.2) when requesting the release of funds, and requesting the authority to use such funds, for HUD programs identified by statutes that provide for the assumption of the environmental review responsibility by units of general local government and States. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 36 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control number.

## Part 1. Program Description and Request for Release of Funds (to be completed by Responsible Entity)

1. Program Title(s) HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program	2. HUD/State Identification Number M-07-DC-12-0226	3. Recipient Identification Number (optional)
4. OMB Catalog Number(s) 14-239	5. Name and address of responsible entity Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners 301 North Olive Avenue West Palm Beach, Florida 33401	
6. For information about this request, contact (name & phone number) Edward W. Lowery (561) 233-3600	7. Name and address of recipient (if different than responsible entity)	
8. HUD or State Agency and office unit to receive request HUD Florida State Office Brickell Plaza Federal Building 909 SE 1st Avenue, Suite 500 Miami, Florida 33131		

The recipient(s) of assistance under the program(s) listed above requests the release of funds and removal of environmental grant conditions governing the use of the assistance for the following

9. Program Activity(ies)/Project Name(s) HOME Rehabilitation Project	10. Location (Street address, city, county, State) PBC Housing and Community Development 160 Australian Avenue Suite 500 West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
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### 11. Program Activity/Project Description

This is a multi-year project, to be implemented in a five year period as described in the County's Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-10). Activities under this project were aggregated functionally, since the activities will take place in several locations within the jurisdiction of the Palm Beach County HOME Program. The estimated activities to be undertaken within the next five years for this project by the HOME Program includes the rehabilitation of existing residential structures containing one to four units; rehabilitation of existing structures with five or more units; rehabilitation of mixed-use structures, which include residential use; and the rehabilitation of existing non-residential structures for conversion to residential structures. The estimated range of HOME funding for the above activities during the five year period is \$3,000,000.

**Part 2. Environmental Certification** (to be completed by responsible entity)

With reference to the above Program Activity(ies)/Project(s), I, the undersigned officer of the responsible entity, certify that:

1. The responsible entity has fully carried out its responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action pertaining to the project(s) named above.
2. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the environmental procedures, permit requirements and statutory obligations of the laws cited in 24 CFR 58.5; and also agrees to comply with the authorities in 24 CFR 58.6 and applicable State and local laws.
3. After considering the type and degree of environmental effects identified by the environmental review completed for the proposed project described in Part 1 of this request, I have found that the proposal  did  did not require the preparation and dissemination of an environmental impact statement.
4. The responsible entity has disseminated and/or published in the manner prescribed by 24 CFR 58.43 and 58.55 a notice to the public in accordance with 24 CFR 58.70 and as evidenced by the attached copy (copies) or evidence of posting and mailing procedure.
5. The dates for all statutory and regulatory time periods for review, comment or other action are in compliance with procedures and requirements of 24 CFR Part 58.
6. In accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b), the responsible entity will advise the recipient (if different from the responsible entity) of any special environmental conditions that must be adhered to in carrying out the project.

As the duly designated certifying official of the responsible entity, I also certify that:

7. I am authorized to and do consent to assume the status of Federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.5 list of NEPA-related authorities insofar as the provisions of these laws apply to the HUD responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action that have been assumed by the responsible entity.
8. I am authorized to and do accept, on behalf of the recipient personally, the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the enforcement of all these responsibilities, in my capacity as certifying officer of the responsible entity.

Signature of Certifying Officer of the Responsible Entity

Title of Certifying Officer  
Addie L. Greene, Chairperson  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Date signed

X

Address of Certifying Officer

Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners  
301 North Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

**Part 3. To be completed when the Recipient is not the Responsible Entity**

The recipient requests the release of funds for the programs and activities identified in Part 1 and agrees to abide by the special conditions, procedures and requirements of the environmental review and to advise the responsible entity of any proposed change in the scope of the project or any change in environmental conditions in accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b).


Signature of Authorized Officer of the Recipient

Title of Authorized Officer

Date signed

X

**Warning:** HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)

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AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY  
  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

Print Form

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OMB No. 2506-0087  
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## Part 1. Program Description and Request for Release of Funds (to be completed by Responsible Entity)

1. Program Title(s) HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program	2. HUD/State Identification Number M-07-DC-12-0226	3. Recipient Identification Number (optional)
4. OMB Catalog Number(s) 14-239	5. Name and address of responsible entity Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners 301 North Olive Avenue West Palm Beach, Florida 33401	
6. For information about this request, contact (name & phone number) Edward W. Lowery (561) 233-3600	7. Name and address of recipient (if different than responsible entity)	
8. HUD or State Agency and office unit to receive request HUD Florida State Office Brickell Plaza Federal Building 909 SE 1st Avenue, Suite 500 Miami, Florida 33131		

The recipient(s) of assistance under the program(s) listed above requests the release of funds and removal of environmental grant conditions governing the use of the assistance for the following

9. Program Activity(ies)/Project Name(s) HOME Capital Improvement Project	10. Location (Street address, city, county, State) PBC Housing and Community Development 160 Australian Avenue Suite 500 West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
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### 11. Program Activity/Project Description

This is a multi-year project, to be implemented in a five year period as described in the County's Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-10). Activities under this project were aggregated functionally, since the activities will take place in several locations within the jurisdiction of the Palm Beach County HOME Program. The estimated activities to be undertaken within the next five years for this project by the HOME Program includes all HOME-funded capital improvements in support of existing single and multi-family residential structures without change in size or capacity of more than 20 percent; capital improvements in support of existing single and multi-family residential structures with a change in size or capacity of more than 20 percent; construction or rehabilitation of utility connections; on-site development of roads, sewer, water, and drainage infrastructure; off-site construction/rehabilitation of infrastructure in support of affordable housing; and rehabilitation of laundry and community facilities located within multi-family housing. The estimated range of HOME funding for the above activities during the five year period is \$750,000.



**Part 2. Environmental Certification** (to be completed by responsible entity)

With reference to the above Program Activity(ies)/Project(s), I, the undersigned officer of the responsible entity, certify that:

1. The responsible entity has fully carried out its responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action pertaining to the project(s) named above.
2. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the environmental procedures, permit requirements and statutory obligations of the laws cited in 24 CFR 58.5; and also agrees to comply with the authorities in 24 CFR 58.6 and applicable State and local laws.
3. After considering the type and degree of environmental effects identified by the environmental review completed for the proposed project described in Part 1 of this request, I have found that the proposal  did  did not require the preparation and dissemination of an environmental impact statement.
4. The responsible entity has disseminated and/or published in the manner prescribed by 24 CFR 58.43 and 58.55 a notice to the public in accordance with 24 CFR 58.70 and as evidenced by the attached copy (copies) or evidence of posting and mailing procedure.
5. The dates for all statutory and regulatory time periods for review, comment or other action are in compliance with procedures and requirements of 24 CFR Part 58.
6. In accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b), the responsible entity will advise the recipient (if different from the responsible entity) of any special environmental conditions that must be adhered to in carrying out the project.

As the duly designated certifying official of the responsible entity, I also certify that:

7. I am authorized to and do consent to assume the status of Federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.5 list of NEPA-related authorities insofar as the provisions of these laws apply to the HUD responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action that have been assumed by the responsible entity.
8. I am authorized to and do accept, on behalf of the recipient personally, the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the enforcement of all these responsibilities, in my capacity as certifying officer of the responsible entity.

Signature of Certifying Officer of the Responsible Entity

Title of Certifying Officer  
Addie L. Greene, Chairperson  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Date signed

X

Address of Certifying Officer

Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners  
301 North Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

**Part 3. To be completed when the Recipient is not the Responsible Entity**

The recipient requests the release of funds for the programs and activities identified in Part 1 and agrees to abide by the special conditions, procedures and requirements of the environmental review and to advise the responsible entity of any proposed change in the scope of the project or any change in environmental conditions in accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b).


Signature of Authorized Officer of the Recipient

Title of Authorized Officer

Date signed

X

**Warning:** HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY  
  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

Print Form

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1. Program Title(s) HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program	2. HUD/State Identification Number M-07-DC-12-0226	3. Recipient Identification Number (optional)
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8. HUD or State Agency and office unit to receive request HUD Florida State Office Brickell Plaza Federal Building 909 SE 1st Avenue, Suite 500 Miami, Florida 33131		

The recipient(s) of assistance under the program(s) listed above requests the release of funds and removal of environmental grant conditions governing the use of the assistance for the following

9. Program Activity(ies)/Project Name(s) HOME New Construction Project	10. Location (Street address, city, county, State) PBC Housing and Community Development 160 Australian Avenue Suite 500 West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
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### 11. Program Activity/Project Description

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**Part 2. Environmental Certification (to be completed by responsible entity)**

With reference to the above Program Activity(ies)/Project(s), I, the undersigned officer of the responsible entity, certify that:

1. The responsible entity has fully carried out its responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action pertaining to the project(s) named above.
2. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the environmental procedures, permit requirements and statutory obligations of the laws cited in 24 CFR 58.5; and also agrees to comply with the authorities in 24 CFR 58.6 and applicable State and local laws.
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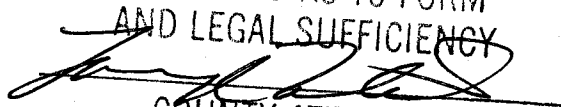
Signature of Certifying Officer of the Responsible Entity	Title of Certifying Officer Addie L. Greene, Chairperson Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
X	Date signed

Address of Certifying Officer  
  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners  
301 North Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

**Part 3. To be completed when the Recipient is not the Responsible Entity**  
The recipient requests the release of funds for the programs and activities identified in Part 1 and agrees to abide by the special conditions, procedures and requirements of the environmental review and to advise the responsible entity of any proposed change in the scope of the project or any change in environmental conditions in accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b).

Signature of Authorized Officer of the Recipient	Title of Authorized Officer
X	Date signed

**Warning:** HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY  
  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

**ATTACHMENT "b"**

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

## ATTACHMENT "b"

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

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF PALM BEACH

Before me the undersigned authority personally appeared **Marc Kramer**, who on oath says that he is **Inside Sales Supervisor** of The Palm Beach Post, a daily and Sunday newspaper, published at West Palm Beach in Palm Beach County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertising for a **Notice** in the matter of **FONSI** was published in said newspaper in the issues of **September 16, 2007**. Affiant further says that the said The Post is a newspaper published at West Palm Beach, in said Palm Beach County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said Palm Beach County, Florida, daily and Sunday and has been entered as second class mail matter at the post office in West Palm Beach, in said Palm Beach County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that she/he has neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

Sworn to and subscribed before 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, A.D. 2007

Personally known  or Produced Identification  
Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_



Karen M. McLinton  
Commission # DD359566  
Expires: NOV. 15, 2008  
Bonded Thru  
Atlantic Bonding Co., Inc.

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

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

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or about October 30, 2007, Palm Beach County will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program funds under Title II of the HOME Investment Partnership Act of 1990, to undertake the projects listed below. Activities to be undertaken under the HOME Program were aggregated functionally into projects. The proposed projects were identified in the Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-10).

**Projects:**

- HOME Demolition:** This is a multi-year project, to be implemented over a five year period as described in the County's Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-2010). All activities will take place within the Palm Beach County HOME Program jurisdiction, inclusive of the entitlement municipalities of West Palm Beach, Boynton Beach, Boca Raton and Delray Beach, FL. The estimated range of activities consist of the demolition of existing residential structures containing one to four units; demolition of existing residential structures with five or more units; demolition of mixed-use structures; and the demolition of existing non-residential structures funded under the HOME Program. The estimated range of CDBG funding for the five-year period is \$750,000.
- HOME Acquisition:** This is a multi-year project, to be implemented over a five year period as described in the County's Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-2010). All activities will take place within the Palm Beach County HOME Program jurisdiction, inclusive of the entitlement municipalities of West Palm Beach, Boynton Beach, Boca Raton and Delray Beach, FL. The estimated range of activities consist of the acquisition of real property for new residential construction of one to four units; acquisition of real property for conversion of existing residential structures with one to four units; acquisition of existing residential structures with five or more units; and acquisition of existing non-residential structures for conversion to residential structures. The estimated range of CDBG funding for the five-year period is \$2,500,000.
- HOME Housing Rehabilitation:** This is a multi-year project, to be implemented over a five year period as described in the County's Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-2010). All activities will take place within the Palm Beach County HOME Program jurisdiction, inclusive of the entitlement municipalities of West Palm Beach, Boynton Beach, Boca Raton and Delray Beach, FL. The estimated range of activities consist of the rehabilitation of existing residential structures containing one to four units; rehabilitation of existing residential structures with five or more units; rehabilitation of mixed-use structures, which include residential use; and the rehabilitation of non-residential structures for conversion to residential structures. The estimated range of CDBG funding for the five-year period is \$3,000,000.
- HOME Capital Improvement:** This is a multi-year project, to be implemented over a five year period as described in the County's Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-2010). All activities will take place within the Palm Beach County HOME Program jurisdiction, inclusive of the entitlement municipalities of West Palm Beach, Boynton Beach, Boca Raton and Delray Beach, FL. The estimated range of activities consist of capital improvements in support of existing single and multi-family residential structures without change in size or capacity of more than 20 percent; capital improvements in support of existing single and multi-family residential structures with a change in size or capacity of more than 20 percent; construction and rehabilitation of utility connections; onsite development of roads, sewer, water, and drainage infrastructure; and rehabilitation of laundry and community facilities located within multi-family housing units. The estimated range of CDBG funding for the five-year period is \$750,000.
- HOME New Construction:** This is a multi-year project, to be implemented over a five year period as described in the County's Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-2010). All activities will take place within the Palm Beach County HOME Program jurisdiction, inclusive of the entitlement municipalities of West Palm Beach, Boynton Beach, Boca Raton and Delray Beach, FL. The estimated range of activities consist of construction of new residential structures of one to four units; construction of new residential structures of five or more units; construction of new mixed-use structures; and new construction in connection with the conversion of existing non-residential structures to residential structures for affordable housing. The estimated range of CDBG funding for the five-year period is \$3,000,000.

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

Palm Beach County has determined that the projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, Environmental Impact Statements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) are not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Records (ERRs) on file at the Palm Beach County Department of Housing and Community Development at 160 Australian Avenue, Suite 500, West Palm Beach, FL 33406, (561) 233-3600, and which may be examined or copied weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Environmental reviews and assessments performed were here to facilitate the review of those sites where a more narrow or focused analysis is not currently feasible and a Countywide Environmental Monitoring Strategy was developed and incorporated into each project area and a Countywide Environmental Monitoring Strategy was developed and incorporated into each individual review. The assessments review factors such as the presence of floodplains, wetlands, and man-made hazards, and indicate that there are no findings of significant impact to the environment. All activities will be in compliance with local, state and federal regulations prior to implementation. The Monitoring Strategy establishes the policy and process to be followed in site specific review. The Strategy includes a checklist which contains the factors included in the broader assessment including, but not limited to historic properties, floodplain management, wetlands, endangered species, noise, runway clear zones, toxic sites, solid waste, soil suitability, asbestos review, and accessibility to services.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on these projects may submit written comments to: Palm Beach County Housing and Community Development, 160 Australian Avenue, Suite 500, West Palm Beach, FL 33406. All comments received by October 1, 2007 will be considered by Palm Beach County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

**RELEASE OF FUNDS**

Palm Beach County certifies to HUD that the Honorable Addie L. Greene, in her capacity as Chairperson of the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, 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 Palm Beach County to use Program funds.

**OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and Palm Beach County'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 basis: a) that the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of Palm Beach County; b) Palm Beach 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 has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of 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 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Field Director, Brickell Plaza Federal Building, 909 SE 1st Avenue, Suite 500, Miami, Florida 33131. Potential objectors should contact HUD at (305) 536-5678, to verify the actual last day of the objection period. Edward W. Lowery, Director, Palm Beach County Housing and Community Development  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), THIS AD AND DOCUMENTS LISTED ABOVE MAY BE REQUESTED IN AN ALTERNATE FORMAT. PLEASE CONTACT HUD AT (561) 233-3600.**