

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

DATE	August 11, 2016
GRANTEE NAME	Erie County
ADDRESS	Erie County Department of Planning 150 East Front Street, Suite 300 Erie, PA 16507
TELEPHONE	(814) 451-7330
E-Mail	jberdis@eriecountypa.gov

On or about August 24, 2016 the County of Erie will submit a request to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the following project:

Project Name: Springfield Township Bicentennial Park Recreation Improvement Project

Project Number: (S-15-E-16-6-1 [A])

Project Description: CDBG funding will provide for the purchase and installation of new, functional, safe, and modern playground equipment for Bicentennial Park located in Springfield Township. The new equipment will encourage imaginative play and be geared towards children ages 2-5 and 5-12.

Project Location: Bicentennial Park is located at the intersection of Main Street and Sanford Road just south of Route 20 in Springfield Township, Erie County, PA. The address of the park is 12525 Main Street, East Springfield, PA 16443.

Purpose of Project: The purpose of the project is to replace outdated and unsafe playground equipment at Bicentennial Park with new and safer equipment. Playground equipment has not been purchased for Bicentennial Park since the 1980's. The current equipment is limited and lacks the imagination that is critical in the cognitive development of children. Additionally, some equipment pieces are unsafe posing a threat to the safety and wellbeing of park users.

Funding Source/Amount: FY 2015 CDBG / \$75,920 (+/-)

The activity proposed is "Categorically Excluded" under HUD regulations at *24 CFR Part 58* from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determination for this project is on file at the Erie County Department of Planning, 150 East Front Street, Suite 300, Erie, PA 16507 where it can be examined or copied weekdays from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Erie County Department of Planning at the above listed address. All comments received by August 23, 2016 will be considered by the ECDP prior to authorizing the submission of a Request for Release of Funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The County of Erie certifies to the PA DCED that Kathy Dahlkemper, in her capacity as County Executive, 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. The PA DCED's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the County of Erie to use CDBG funds for the above-identified project

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The PA DCED will accept objections to its release of funds and the 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 based on the following: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer/County Executive of the County of Erie; (b) the County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the County 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 DCED; 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 the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, Center for Community Financing, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, 4th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225. Potential objectors should contact the PA DCED to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Kathy Dahlkemper
County Executive