

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

Date of Notice	April 28, 2011
Name of Responsible Entity [RE]	City of Merced
Address	678 W. 18 th Street
City, State, Zip Code	Merced, CA 95340
Telephone Number of RE Preparer Agency	(209) 385-6858

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about May 5, 2011, the City of Merced will submit a request to the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for the release of funds under Title III of Division B of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Neighborhood Stabilization Program) to the Corporation for Better Housing to undertake the following project:

The construction of an affordable housing apartment complex project known as Woodbridge Place Apartments. The project will consist of the construction of 75 multi-family units on approximately 3.5 acres within the City of Merced. The average unit will be 1,100 square-feet. The project site is located in the City of Merced, on the east side of Highway 59 between Olive Avenue and Willowbook Ave.

Woodbridge Place Apartments will be financed with NSP Affordable Rental Housing funds and a deferred developer fee. The NSP funds will be used as a funding source for both construction and permanent financing.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Merced has determined that this 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 City of Merced office at 678 W. 18th Street, where the ERR can be examined or copied for the price of reproduction, Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M or can be viewed on the City of Merced's website at www.cityofmerced.org.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the City of Merced City Manager. All comments received by May 19, 2011, will be considered by the City of Merced 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 Merced certifies to HCD that John Bramble in his capacity as Certifying Officer (City 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. HCD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the City of Merced to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HCD/HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the RE'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 Name of RE; (b) the RE 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/State; 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 Tom Bettencourt, Branch Chief, Suite 390-3, 1800 Third Street, Sacramento, California 95811, tbettenc@hcd.ca.gov, (916) 327-3635. Potential objectors should contact HCD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Name and Title of RE Certifying Officer: John M. Bramble, City Manager