

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

February 27, 2024

City of North Tonawanda
216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, New York 14120-5446

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about March 14, 2024, the City of North Tonawanda will submit a request to the New York State Office of Community Renewal for the release of CDBG funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a city-wide microenterprise project. The North Tonawanda Microenterprise Program will target 8-10 small business owners within the Downtown core and along the Oliver Street corridor. Funds will leverage additional investment and create jobs, but perhaps most importantly, will provide the tools and training necessary for businesses to thrive. The program will feature \$300,000 in CDBG microenterprise funds and \$63,750 in owner equity primarily for equipment, inventory, supplies, and working capital to support small business owners.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of North Tonawanda 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) available upon request to Laura Wilson, Executive Director at lwilson@lumbercitydc.com and on file at the offices of the North Tonawanda Community Development Department located at 500 Wheatfield Street North, Tonawanda NY 14120 and may be examined or copied weekdays from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Laura Wilson, Executive Director at lwilson@lumbercitydc.com and in writing to the North Tonawanda Community Development Department located at 500 Wheatfield Street North, Tonawanda NY 14120. All comments received by close of business March, 13, 2024 will be considered by the City of North Tonawanda prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of North Tonawanda certifies to the Office of Community Renewal that Austin J. Tylec, in his capacity as Mayor of City of North Tonawanda, 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 Office of Community Renewal's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of North Tonawanda to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Office of Community Renewal will accept objections to its release of funds and the 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 Livingston County; (b) Livingston 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 the Office of Community Renewal; 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 via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Crystal Loffler, President, at Office of Community Renewal, Hampton Plaza, 38-40 State Street, 4th Floor, Albany, NY 12207. Potential objectors should contact the Office of Community Renewal to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Austin J. Tylec, Mayor
City of North Tonawanda
Certifying Officer