



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

JUL 20 2016

Ms. Cathy Buono  
Director, Administration and Finance  
Development Services Division  
City of Springfield  
1600 E. Columbus Avenue  
Springfield, MA 01103

Dear Ms. Buono:

Pursuant to the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (the Act) and the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) I-R-5800-N-29A2 for the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC), the Department has awarded a grant of \$17,056,880 in Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) funds to the city of Springfield under (grant number B-13-MS-25-0002). On June 7, 2016, the Department published a Notice in the *Federal Register* (81 FR 36557) listing the awardees of the NDRC and the requirements applicable to NDR grant recipients, including applicable waivers and alternative requirements. The Department will soon execute a grant agreement that obligates the entire grant award to the city of Springfield. Pursuant to the requirements of the Act, funds must be expended within 24-months following obligation, unless the grantee requests and the Department approves an extension to the deadline.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) granted the Department a waiver of the expenditure timeline because certain CDBG-DR activities satisfy the OMB criteria for “activities that are long-term by design where it is impracticable to expend funds within the 24-month period and achieve program mission.” The NOFA outlined the process for NDRC applicants to request an extension of the expenditure deadline as part of its application to HUD. The June 7, 2016, Notice further clarified that awardees may submit such requests following the award of funds. On July 14, 2016, the city submitted a request for extending the timeline and justified the need for the extension, outlining the challenges necessitating additional time and an appropriate timeline for project completion.

The Department has assessed each NDR grantee’s request for an extension in the context of the unique nature of the portfolio of projects funded through this initiative. Given the complexity and interconnectedness of each project funded, the Department has concluded that your jurisdiction’s request for an extension of time for the expenditure of the NDR grant funds warrants an extension of the full grant award to the latest date permissible under the law. As such, the Department is approving the city’s request and will extend the expenditure deadline to September 30, 2022. Please note that only the remaining balance of the grant as of the end of the initial 24-month expenditure period will be extended. The extension will be published in the *Federal Register*, but is effective as of the date of this letter.

Thank you for your interest in the Department's programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marion Mollegen McFadden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" on the left.

Marion Mollegen McFadden  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Grant Programs