

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

May 29, 2026
City of Springfield
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

On or after **June 7, 2026** the City of Springfield will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, 42 U.S.C. §§5301 et seq to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: CDBG FY26-27 – Small Business Program

Purpose: For the purpose of improving and maintaining small businesses, their commercial spaces, and their storefronts.

Location: Springfield, MA

Project/Program Description: OPED will implement a storefront improvement program targeting long-vacant commercial spaces in Mason Square, which is located in the NRSA. Mason Square Storefront activation project will catalyze community economic development by reducing commercial vacancy, increasing foot traffic and creating new opportunities for local entrepreneurship. The program will support minority and women owned businesses.

Level of Environmental Review Citation:

Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5: 58.35(a)(3)

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

Flood Insurance [Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a)], Contamination and Toxic Substances [24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)], Historic Preservation [National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800], and Environmental Justice [Executive Order 12898].

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): Maps and reports for each relevant law and authority will be obtained. FEMA FIRMette mapper, NEPAAssist and CDC Radon mappers, SHPO correspondence.

Estimated Project Cost: \$ 80,000.00

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 58.35(a)(3) An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30A.M to 4:30P.M. or at <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/environmental-review-records/>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Springfield Department of Technical Assistance and Compliance. All comments received by **June 6, 2026** will be considered by the City of Springfield prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Springfield certifies to HUD that Domenic J. Sarno in his capacity as Mayor 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 the City of Springfield to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Springfield'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 City of Springfield; (b) the City of Springfield 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 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, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to U.S. Department of HUD, Office of Community Planning and Development, Thomas P. O'Neil Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, Boston MA 02222. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno
City of Springfield