

Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds

Date: December 17, 2024

Grantee: City of Keene

Address: 3 Washington Street, Keene, NH 03431

Contact: Jack Ahern, SWRPC, 37 Ashuelot Street, Keene, NH 03431
jahern@swrpc.org - (603) 357-0557

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS: On or about December 28, 2024, the City of Keene will submit a request to the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) to release Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL93-383), the National Affordable Housing Act as amended to undertake a project known as Base Hill Cooperative Infrastructure Improvements. The City of Keene has applied for \$500,000 in CDBG funds, the majority of which will be sub-granted to Base Hill Cooperative to support its non-profit public facilities project at 180 Base Hill Road, Keene, NH. The estimated total cost of the project is approximately \$1,961,350 including \$500,000 of CDBG funding.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: The Grantee has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. This determination is based on the assumption that the developer will get all required permits and will adhere to all applicable regulations. 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 Southwest Region Planning Commission offices and may be requested from the contact person listed above.

DESCRIPTION: The project consists of the complete replacement of the water distribution system at the Base Hill Cooperative manufactured housing park located at 180 Base Hill Road. The current system is beyond its useful life and in poor condition, requiring frequent emergency repairs due to leaks and failures. The leaks have caused increasingly high water bills for the residents of the park and threaten the sustainability of the community.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Any individual, group or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Elizabeth Dragon, City Manager, City of Keene, 3 Washington Street, Keene, NH 03431. All comments received by December 26, 2024 will be considered by the Grantee prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION: Elizabeth Dragon certifies to the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) that in her capacity as City Manager, City of Keene, 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. CDFA's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Keene to use CDBG funds.