

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

May 1, 2025

City of Allentown  
435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA 18101  
610-437-7696 x 2709

On or about May 9, 2025, the City of Allentown will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of the FY 2024 Lead Hazard Reduction Grant and Healthy Homes Supplemental (PALHD0533-24). The Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction (LHR) Grant Program is authorized by section 1011 of the Residential Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992) (42 U.S.C. 4852), and section 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z-1 and 1701z-2). Funding for this program is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103, approved March 15, 2022), the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328, approved December 29, 2022), and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42, approved March 9, 2024). Grant details are as follows: The 2024 Lead Hazard Reduction and Healthy Homes Supplement Grant program objective is to eliminate the incidence of childhood lead poisoning by addressing lead hazards in pre-1978 housing units where children under the age six reside with household qualifying incomes below 80% median. The program addresses local conditions and seeks to maximize the number of children protected from lead hazards through education and outreach to the community, identification of at-risk youth, and children with elevated blood lead levels. Housing units deemed to have lead hazards will be remediated using highly trained, qualified contractors in a cost-effective manner. Funding will serve 251 owner-occupied and rental properties in the target area, which is designated as the entire City of Allentown. Project budget allowance is up to \$15,551 per property. Funds would also support public education and outreach, build local capacity by developing a professional workforce trained in Lead Abatement, and promotes collaboration and partnership amongst groups working to make a lasting impact on the built environments of those impacted by the social determinants of health. The City of Allentown is requesting the release of \$5,000,000.00 Lead Hazard Reduction and \$700,000,000 Healthy Homes Supplement Federal HUD Funds & \$500,000.00 in HUD CDGB Match Funds.

The proposed hazard control activities to be funded under this/these program(s) is/are categorically excluded from the National Environmental Policy Act requirements, but subject to compliance with some of the environmental laws and authorities listed at § 58.5 of 24 CFR Part 58. In accordance with §58.15, a tiered review process has been structured, whereby some environmental laws and authorities have been reviewed and studied for the intended target area(s) listed above. Other applicable environmental laws and authorities will be complied with, when individual projects are ripe for review. Specifically, the target area(s) has/have been studied and compliance with the following laws and authorities has been achieved in this Tier 1 review: Airport Hazards, Coastal Barriers Resources, Clean Air, Coastal Zone Management, Endangered Species, Explosive and Flammable Hazards, Farmlands Protection, Floodplain Management, Noise Abatement and Control, Sole Source Aquifers, Wetlands Protection, Wild and Scenic Rivers. Site-specific environmental reviews will include analysis of and compliance with the following environmental laws and authorities for proposed projects funded under the program(s) listed above: Flood Insurance, Historic Preservation, Contamination/Toxics, Noise. Should individual aggregate projects exceed the threshold for categorical exclusion detailed at

§58.35(a), an Environmental Assessment will be completed and a separate Finding of No Significant Impact and Request for Release of Funds published. Copies of the compliance documentation worksheets are available at the address below.

An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project, and more fully describes the tiered review process cited above, is on file and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m at City of Allentown, Department of Community & Economic Development, City Hall, 435 Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18101. The document is also available at <https://www.allentownpa.gov/en-us/Government/Departments/Community-Economic-Development/Building-Standards-and-Safety/Community-Housing/Lead-Program>.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Allentown. All comments received by May 8, 2025 will be considered by the City of Allentown prior to authorizing submission of a Request for Release of Funds and Environmental Certification to HUD.

#### RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Allentown certifies to HUD that Matthew Tuerk in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Allentown, 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 Allentown to utilize federal funds and implement the Program.

#### OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and the City of Allentown's certification for a period of fifteen days following either the anticipated submission date (cited above) or HUD's actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if the objections are on one of the following bases: (a) that the Certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Allentown; (b) the City of Allentown has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the City of Allentown has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; (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 may be addressed to HUD and sent to the email address as follows: David Robbins or David Nuccio, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, Program Environmental Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development [LeadRegulations@HUD.GOV](mailto:LeadRegulations@HUD.GOV) Potential objectors may contact HUD directly to verify the actual last day of the objection/comment period.

Matthew Tuerk  
Mayor  
City of Allentown