

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

March 10, 2025  
City of Cranston  
845 Park Avenue  
Cranston, RI 02910  
(401)-461-1000

**ON or about** March 18, 2025 the City of Cranston, Rhode Island, will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-42) (the FY2024 Act) and the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-47) (the Further FY2024 Act) containing Congressional-directed "Economic Development Initiative-Community Project" (CPF) funding, to undertake the following project:

### **Knightsville Revitalization Streetscape Improvements**

The City of Cranston wishes to expand an ongoing neighborhood and small business corridor revitalization project taking place in the heart of the city. This project will provide municipal assistance for sidewalk construction and landscaping. The Village of Knightsville is the center of this major redevelopment initiative, which includes creating a park in an area that has remained vacant since the early 2000s. The initial phases of the project created a new public space, Knightsville Pocket Park, for the enjoyment of a multigenerational audience who live, work, socialize, and frequent the local award-winning restaurants. This area is home to Cranston Housing Authority's Knightsville Manor and Randall Manor for approximately 300 elderly and disabled citizens. Lower Cranston Street is a distressed neighborhood home to low to-moderate children, families, and seniors who live in a health equity zone and suffer health disparities. This project leverages the investments being made into Knightsville Park by expanding the areas of improvement to include replacing current sidewalks with ADA-compliant walkways that include curb cutouts. This area covers Cranston Street from Randall Street to Haven Avenue (approximately 1,700 linear feet) and then back to Cranston Street to the intersection at Dyer Avenue (approximately 1,500 linear feet). The city would also like to improve pedestrian safety by adding new streetlights. The concept includes the addition of trees that add 3-season interest. Benches and trash receptacles should be installed along both sides of the roads to offer pedestrians a charming place to meet, especially once the trees mature. Aside from Sidewalk and curbing repair, the entire length of the project location will be repaved. There will be no changes to street dimensions or capacity. There are no houses or buildings included in this project.

**Total of .....**\$1,950,000

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for these projects are on file at the Cranston Dept. of Community Development, 35 Sockanoset Cross Road, Ste. 6, where the ERR can be examined or copied weekdays 8:30AM. to 4:30PM.

### **Public Comments**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Ernest Tommasiello, [etommasiello@cranstonri.org](mailto:etommasiello@cranstonri.org), Cranston Dept. of Community Development, or call 401-780-6240. All comments received by March 17, 2025 will be considered by the City of Cranston prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

### **Environmental Certification**

The City of Cranston certifies to HUD that Kenneth J. Hopkins, 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 Cranston to use Program funds.

### **Objection to Release of Funds**

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Cranston'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 Cranston; (b) the City of Cranston 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 or incurred costs 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 emailed to [CPDRROFBOS@hud.gov](mailto:CPDRROFBOS@hud.gov). Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.



**Kenneth J. Hopkins**  
*Mayor, Certifying Officer*

**Ernest Tommasiello**  
*Director, Community Development*