

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date of Notice: February 7, 2025

Name of Responsible Entity (RE): Sarasota County Resilient SRQ

Address (e.g., Street No. or P.O. Box): 301 N. Cattleman Road, Suite 200

City, State, Zip Code: Sarasota, FL 34232

Telephone Number of RE: 941-861-5309

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Sarasota County Resilient SRQ.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about February 24, 2025 the Sarasota County Resilient SRQ will submit a request to the HUD Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Program for the release of CDBG-DR funds under the 1988 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121-5206 (Stafford Act), as amended to undertake a project known as Sarasota Bay Watershed Flood and Water Quality Improvements for the purpose of upsizing approximately 2,400 linear feet of existing stormwater pipes. This would improve the area's capacity to handle large volumes of runoff and reduce the risk of flooding. Additionally, a nutrient-separating baffle box would be installed to address the area's nutrient loading issue. The box system would capture and remove sediment, vegetation, and trash before being discharged into Whitaker Bayou, which would decrease the algal blooms and other ecological issues in the Bayou and downstream areas. The estimated funding of the proposed project is \$1,600,000 of which \$1,200,000 would be from HUD. The project is located at Martin Luther King Jr. Way and Orange Avenue – Whitaker Bayou, Sarasota, FL.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Sarasota County Resilient SRQ has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment, though mitigation measures are required for minimizing impacts due to the proposed facility (see Attachment 1 for table of mitigation measures). 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 Sarasota County Resilient SRQ at 301 N. Cattlemen Rd., Suite 200, Sarasota, FL and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Sarasota County Resilient SRQ at the above address. All comments received by February 22, 2025, will be considered by the Sarasota County Resilient SRQ prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Sarasota County Resilient SRQ certifies to HUD that Steve Hyatt in his capacity as Division Manager, Sarasota Office of Financial Management 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 Sarasota County Resilient SRQ to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the Sarasota County Resilient SRQ'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 Sarasota County SRQ; (b) the Sarasota County SRQ 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 the HUD Jacksonville Field Office at 400 W. Bay St. Suite 1015, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Potential objectors should contact this office to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Name and Title of RE Certifying Officer

Steve Hyatt, Division Manager
Sarasota Office of Financial Management

Attachment 1: Mitigation Measures

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	The Proposed Action must comply with all floodplain-related requirements set by local, state, and federal laws and regulations. In accordance with HUD regulations, an 8-step process has been completed for the Proposed Action.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)	<p>It is not uncommon for buried materials or tanks to be discovered during excavation activities in areas with a long history of development. Further investigation may be warranted if suspect subsurface conditions are encountered during excavation. A written contingency plan to address unanticipated subsurface conditions should be considered.</p> <p>All excavated soil in the vicinity of the railroad track system should be tested for contaminants prior to re-use as backfill. Soils with exceedances of FDEP Soil Cleanup Target Levels (SCTLs) should be disposed in accordance with regulatory requirements and not reused on the project site or elsewhere. Similarly, coordination with the FDEP, to include laboratory analysis of produced groundwater as part of FDEP-permitted dewatering activities, may be required prior to discharge.</p>