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

Location of Posting: Marion County Courthouse

Date of Posting: June 19, 2025 through July 7, 2025

Address: Marion County 102 West Austin Street Jefferson, Texas 75657 (903) 665-8732

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by Marion County.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 8, 2025 Marion County will submit a request to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the release of Community Development Block Grant Program funds under Section 104 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as water improvements in cooperation with Harleton WSC, under Contract# CDV23-0389 for the purpose of replacing approximately 19,040 linear feet of 4-inch water line and bore and encase in 8-inch steel encasement pipe, directional bore 3,000 linear feet of 4-inch water line, install service reconnections, and all related appurtenances. Project will also include all associated administration and engineering services, for an estimated cost of \$500,000.00 in HUD funds and \$10,000.00 in non-HUD funds. Construction will be take place along FM 1968 from the intersection with FM 726 to the intersection with Old Jefferson Road and the intersection with FM 1968 and the intersection with Macedonia Road.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Marion County has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required.

An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the County Courthouse, 102 West Austin, Jefferson, Texas 75657 and may be examined or copied 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Ms. Shanna Solomon, County Auditor at <u>ssolomon@co.marion.tx.us</u>. All comments received by July 7, 2025 will be considered by Marion County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Marion County certifies to the State of Texas that Leward J. LaFleur in his capacity as County Judge 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. The State's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Marion County to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The State will accept objections to its release of funds and Marion County'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 Marion County (b) Marion County 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 the State; 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 Texas Department of Agriculture at <u>CDBG EnvReview@TexasAgriculture.gov</u> or PO Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711. Potential objectors should contact the State to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

The Honorable Leward J. LeFleur County Judge