

**COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
and NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
and FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A
FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN**

6/23/25

City of Junction, 730 Main Street, Junction, TX 76849, (325) 446-3880

This Notice shall satisfy the above-cited three separate but related procedural notification requirements to be undertaken by the City of Junction.

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about 7/14/25, the City of Junction (City) will submit a request to the Texas Department of Agriculture (Department), Office of Rural Affairs for the release of 2024 Community Development Block Grant funds under Section 104(f) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, to undertake a project known as 2024 CDBG City of Junction Water Improvements Project #CDV23-0468 for the purpose of improving the efficiency and sustainability of the city's water system, resulting in better service for residents and reduced costs for the city.

Project Description:

Install one thousand one hundred (1,100) AMR water meters, replace one hundred (100) meter boxes, one hundred (100) isolation valves, and all necessary appurtenances, to include administration and engineering services and fees.

Project Locations: Throughout City of Junction, Texas, 76849

Funding Information: CDV23-0468

Estimated Total HUD TDA CDBG Funded Amount: \$500,000

Total Non-HUD Funds: \$25,000 (City of Junction Utility Fund)

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD TDA CDBG and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$525,000

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City 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. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to the City at the address above, or by email to garvene.adams@cityofjunction.com.

**FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A
FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN**

This is to give notice that the City has, under 24 CFR Part 58, conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C, Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management. The activity is funded under Texas Department of Agriculture (Department), Office of Rural Affairs for the release of 2024 Community Development Block Grant funds under Section 104(f) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the Freeboard Value Approach. Under 1.0-acre of project activities will occur in Zone AE of the floodplain. The beneficial values of the floodplain will not be adversely affected as the project will not change the topography, and best management practices will be utilized during construction. The project activities will replace water meters/boxes and is not subject to elevation requirements.

HUD's 8-Step decision-making process of §55.20 to comply with 24 CFR Part 55 was completed.

The City has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain: Different Locations: A few of the meters/boxes are already geographically located in the floodplain. These meters/boxes are targeted for the project due to the need for replacement; therefore, taking them out of the floodplain is not an option.

Different activities: An alternative project considered was a booster service pump replacement; however, the project did not provide a city wide benefit. Another alternative to this project - Smart Water Meter Replacement - considered replacing all of the meter boxes and valves; however, it was cost prohibitive. The City will replace the necessary boxes and valves as needed for the new meters to function correctly.

No Action: Taking no action would incur no costs for the improvements and would cause no construction-related environmental impact but would be unable to provide better service for residents and reduced costs for the city.

The City has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, are available for public inspection, review and copying as outlined in the paragraph of FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in a floodplain and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments/objections on the ERR to the City. Written comments received by 7/11/25 will be considered by the City prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments must be addressed to the City at garvene.adams@cityofjunction.com or by mail to: City of Junction, 730 Main Street, Junction, TX 76849, (325) 446-3880, Attn: Mayor's Office. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing. Potential objectors should contact the City via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City certifies to the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs that Russell Hammonds, 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. The Department's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Texas Department of Agriculture will accept objections to its release of funds and the City'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 (b) the City 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 Department; 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 Environmental Review Specialist, Texas Department of Agriculture by email at CDBG_ENVReview@TexasAgriculture.gov. Potential objectors should contact the TDA Environmental Review Specialist at CDBG_ENVReview@TexasAgriculture.gov to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Russell Hammonds, Mayor