
**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

February 16, 2026

Iowa Finance Authority

1963 Bell Avenue

Des Moines, IA, 50315

515-348-6205

On or after February 25, 2026, the Iowa Finance Authority will authorize the Housing Fund for Linn County to submit a request to HUD for the release of HOME funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: Linn County First Time Homebuyer Program

Purpose: This project will provide downpayment assistance to five (5) applicants looking to purchase their first home in Linn County. Project funds will also be provided for minor rehabilitation, specifically for lead, asbestos, and other related hazardous materials.

Location: Project sites can be located anywhere in Linn County aside from Cedar Rapids.

Project/Program Description: This program will be run by the Housing Fund for Linn County with administrative support provided by East Central Iowa Council of Governments. It will allow for homebuyers to apply for downpayment assistance. Once selected, the home will be reviewed for any potential hazardous materials, which will then be mitigated as part of the program. Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review for each address under this program once addresses become known.

Level of Environmental Review Citation: 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i)

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

- 24 CFR 58.5(i)(2)
- Executive Order 11988
- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
- Noise Controls Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978
- Executive Order 11990

Estimated Project Cost: Iowa Finance Authority will provide \$206,250 to the Housing Trust Fund of Johnson County for this project.

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR 58.35(3)(i). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at 1963 Bell Avenue, Des Moines, IA, and may be examined or copied weekdays 9:00 A.M to 4:00 P.M. or online at <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/environmental-review-records/>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Iowa Finance Authority. All comments received by February 24, 2026, will be considered by the Iowa Finance Authority prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Iowa Finance Authority certifies to the Department of Housing and Urban Development that Debi Durham, Certifying Officer, in her capacity as Director, 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 Housing Fund for Linn County to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Department of Housing and Urban Development will accept objections to its release of fund and the Iowa Finance Authority'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 Iowa Finance Authority; (b) the Iowa Finance Authority 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 HUD at CPDRROFOMA@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Debi Durham, Certifying Officer