

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

February 22, 2024

City of Bell Gardens
7100 Garfield Avenue
Bell Gardens, CA, 90201
(562) 806-7770

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Bell Gardens.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about March 16, 2024, the City of Bell Gardens will submit a request to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Project Funding under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), to undertake a project known as the John Anson Ford Park Regional Aquatics Center Improvements for the purpose of removing and replacing an existing aquatics center.

The John Anson Ford Park Regional Aquatics Center Improvements, located at 8000 Park Lane, Bell Gardens, CA 90201, will remove and replace an existing empty and inoperable 50-meter swimming pool with a new 50-meter competition pool, add a small therapeutic pool, and demolish and replace the existing deteriorating restrooms, changing areas, and office staff building. The footprint of the new building will be the same as the existing structure. The demolition debris will be disposed off-site. The rebuilt facility will be used by both residents and non-residents. The City will also rent the facility out to schools, sports teams and various organizations for rent and use, and the Recreation and Community Services Department will host a variety of classes, programs and activities that will utilize all three pools. The therapy pool will most likely be used most frequently by the City's senior populations; however, it will be available for the whole community and will also be used for swimming lessons and contract classes.

The total project cost is estimated to be \$31,300,000, of which \$27,900,000 will be for construction.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Bell Gardens 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 electronically at the following URL:

<https://www.bellgardens.org/our-city/about-bell-gardens/aquatic-center>

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Bell Gardens, Department of Public Works, 8327 Garfield Avenue, Bell Gardens, CA 90201, Attention Bernardo Iniguez, Director of Public Works/Facilities; or electronically to biniguez@bellgardens.org and copied to enava@bellgardens.org. All comments received by March 15, 2024 will be considered by the City of Bell Gardens prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Bell Gardens certifies to HUD that Bernardo Iniguez in his capacity as Director of Public Works/Facilities 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 Bell Gardens to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Bell Gardens' 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 Bell Gardens; (b) the City of Bell Gardens 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 Los Angeles Office of Community Planning and Development at 300 N. Los Angeles Street, Ste. 4066, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or CPDLA@hud.org. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Bernardo Iniguez, Director of Public Works/Facilities and Certifying Officer