

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

April 22, 2024

*Martin County
305 E Main Street
Williamston, NC 27892*

252-789-4300

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about May 13th, 2024, Martin County will submit a request to the North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development for the release of Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds under Title 1 US Housing and Community Development of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Recovery CARES Act [1974], as amended, to undertake a project known as Martin County Health Department located in the Town of Williamston for the purpose of the following:

The Martin County Health Department located at 210 West Liberty Street; Williamston NC 27892 experienced a direct increase in usage with COVID-19 patients. The facilities need several upgrades to protect the staff and patients and assist Martin County with COVID-19 Mitigation.

Martin County will be utilizing \$110,000 of CDBG-CV funds for the following:

1. COVID-19 Modifications to their Health Department which include installing new doors that will assist staff that will allow remote control entry into the main building. This effort will help to prevent COVID-19 patients from walking into different parts of the building, which has been a problem in the past. Additionally, this will protect staff from having to open the front door in person and coming into close contact with potential COVID-19 patients.
2. The project will entail the creation of a new waiting room from an unutilized storage room to be able to separate the patients based on their visit (wellness, or sick visit). Currently, all patients sit together in a small waiting room. They will also be replacing the awning and repaving a driveway that is used as a pull-through COVID testing/vaccine spot.

The proposed project will also provide access to a multitude of services to the residents for community and economic development needs within the social economic justice to low-to-moderate income residents in Martin County.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Martin 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. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at *305 E Main Street Williamston, North Carolina 27892*, and may be examined or copied on weekdays from 9 A.M to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to *Martin County*. All comments received by *May 10th, 2024*, will be considered by *Martin County* prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Martin County certifies to the *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)* that *Benjamin R. Eisner* in his capacity as *Interim County Manager* 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. *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)* approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows *Martin County* to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development will accept objections to its release of funds and *Martin 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 the *Martin County*; (b) the *Martin 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 *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)*; 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 *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)* at *301 N. Wilmington Street -4346 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4346*. Potential objectors should contact the *North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development (REDD)* to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Benjamin Eisner, Interim County Manager
