

COMBINED NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

February 11, 2018 Lonnie English, Mayor Town of Robbins PO Box 296, 101 N. M

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TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

This is to give notice that on or about **February 27, 2018**, or **sixteen (16) days** after publication of this notice, the Town of Robbins will request the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Division of Water Infrastructure (DWI) to release Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, for the **Town of Robbins FY 2016 CDBG Infrastructure-Water System Improvements.** The project is funded with \$2 million of CDBG funds (99% of total project cost) and approx. \$14,200 of matching funds.

Proposed project activities located throughout town, identified as priorities in local plans, include: rehabilitation/replacement of approx. 12,600 LF of 2-6" deteriorated waterline; approx. 2,700 LF of 8" waterline extension; approx. 2,000 LF of 6" waterline transmission; booster pump station improvements; water service reconnections; fire hydrants; & associated appurtenances. An additional approx. 67,240 LF of waterline in residential, non-floodplain/floodway, CDBG-eligible areas is also in the environmental assessment for alternate consideration. A 20-FT wide buffer area was created such that there is approx. up to 8.13 acres of temporary ground disturbance in the CDBG priority area, & up to approx. 29.36 ac in other CDBG-eligible areas. There are no proposed wetland, floodplain, or floodway crossings. Potential future linework could involve approx. seven (7) stream/wetland crossings, to be treated with directional drilling to avoid adverse impact. The proposed project will address: aging and undersized lines, adequate fire protection, low pressure issues in the Rushwood Rd / Hemp St area, an inoperable pump at the BPS, enhance system operations and maintenance, & reduce environmental/public health risks by eliminating exceeding limits of disinfection byproducts (DBPs), for which the Town has received multiple Notices of Violation (NOVs).

PURPOSE OF NOTICE

This notice is intended to meet two separate requirements under 24 CFR Parts 58:. (1) To notify the public that the Town has determined that the Request for Release of Funds for the above named project will not have a significant impact on the environment, and (2) To notify the public that the Town is requesting the release of funds for the above named project.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the Town has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA- PL 91-190). The reasons for such decision not to prepare an EIS are as follows:

Appropriate permits and approvals will be obtained as needed for hazardous waste remediation & disposal, soil/erosion control, buffers, floodplains, wetlands, farmland, etc. The proposed project is compatible with current and future water distribution, local zoning, and land use. No adverse impact to ambient air quality is anticipated beyond temporary emissions during construction. No adverse impact to historic or cultural preservation or noise-sensitive uses is anticipated. Noise and air control devices will be used on construction equipment. EPA- listed facilities within 1 mile report monitoring for air, water, toxin, or hazards that should evaluated for impact upon further surveying/engineering design. The immediate project area is grass, gravel, shrubs, and mixed trees, surrounded by moderate rural mixed development, and does not provide critical habitat for federal, state, or local threatened, endangered, or otherwise known unique species. Most area species of concern rely on aquatic habitat. While the proposed project is located on land with soil types related to prime/unique farmlands, it is not currently farmed, adjacent to an urban built-up area, and proposed

ground disturbance involves previously disturbed natural/developed areas & road right-or-ways/adjacent utility easements, with little/no increase in current footprint. The project's location and features do not actively contribute to, support, or avert local tourism, parks and recreation, social services, historic landmarks, or environmental justice issues. Any USTs or petroleum contaminants discovered will be reported to NCDEQ and properly addressed. The Town will require its contractors to provide proof of proper disposal for all waste generated as part of the project and encourage use of recyclable materials. Community agencies, organizations and the State Environmental Clearinghouse were consulted for concurrence of the anticipated FONSI, and generally responded with no adverse comments beyond typical identification of mitigation measures.

Additional project information is contained in the Town's Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying upon **between the hours of 9 AM and 4 PM Monday - Friday**. No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of federal funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

All interested agencies, groups and persons are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Town to the above address on or before **February 26**, **2018**, or **fifteen (15) days after this publication**. All such comments so received will be considered by the Town prior to authorizing submission of a Request for Release of Funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Town certifies to DWI that Lonnie English (Mayor) and Debbie Daqggett (Town Clerk), in their official capacities, consent 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 legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the Town may use the CDBG Program funds and DWI will have satisfied its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities.

OBJECTIONS TO STATE RELEASE OF FUNDS

DWI will accept an objection to its approval and release of funds and the Town's certification until **March 14**, **2018**, or for a period of **fifteen (15) days** following the anticipated submission date, or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Town's Certifying Officer; (b) the Town omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations; (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 release of funds by DWI; 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 58.76) and shall be addressed to **Julie Cubeta**, **Supervisor**, **at DWI**, **1633 Mail Service Center (27699-1633)**, **512 N. Salisbury St, Raleigh, North Carolina**, **27604**; **julie.cubeta@ncdenr.gov**; **phone 919-707-9189**. Potential objectors should contact DWI to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Lonnie English, Mayor

This information is available in Spanish and any other language upon request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Debbie Daggett al 910-948-2431 o en PO Box 296, 101 N. Middleton Street, Robbins, NC 27325-0296, de alojamiento para esta comunicado.

