

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

Date of Notice: June 12, 2025

Responsible Entity (RE): County of Santa Cruz

Address: County of Santa Cruz, Community Development & Infrastructure (CDI) Dept., Planning Division, Attn: Porcila Wilson, Housing Specialist, 701 Ocean Street, Room 418, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Telephone Number: (831) 454-2332

Email: EnvironmentalComments@santacruzcountyca.gov

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the County of Santa Cruz.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about June 30, 2025, the County of Santa Cruz will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers (\$4,186,000) and Public Housing Operating Funds (\$2,900,000) under Section 8(c)(9) and Section 9(f), respectively, of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, to undertake a project known as the 2021 Chanticleer Avenue Affordable Housing Project for the purpose of providing affordable housing.

The project site is comprised of one approximately 1.01-acre (44,039-square-foot) vacant parcel at 2021 Chanticleer Avenue (Assessor's Parcel Number 029-071-03) in unincorporated Santa Cruz County, California. The site is generally located in a residential area and is bounded by single-family residences to the north, Chanticleer Avenue and single-family residences to the east, Chanticleer Avenue County Park to the south, and religious facilities and single-family residences to the east. The project site is in the Multi-Family Residential (RM-1.5) zone district and Urban High-Density Residential (R-UH) General Plan land use designation, which allows for a residential base density of 11 to 30 units per acre.

No structures currently occupy the project site. The site formerly contained two residential dwellings, but was cleared of all structures in 2023 prior to listing the property for sale. The aboveground portion of the buildings were demolished in 2022, and the site contains the concrete slab foundations of the former buildings, paved asphalt parking areas, and parking islands including existing trees that are no longer receiving supplemental irrigation. The project site contains eight existing trees, consisting of one acacia, one palm, one redwood, four oak trees, and one additional tree (species not identified).

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The County of Santa Cruz 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 the U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S.

mail to the County of Santa Cruz, Attn: Porcila Wilson, 701 Ocean Street, Room 418, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 or by email to EnvironmentalComments@santacruzcountyca.gov. The ERR can be accessed online at the following website: <https://cdi.santacruzcountyca.gov/UPC/GetInvolved/CEQAInitialStudiesEIRs/CEQADocumentsOpenforPublicReview.aspx>

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Notice is hereby further given to provide the public a 15-day review period beginning June 13, 2025 and ending on June 27, 2025. Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the County of Santa Cruz, Attn: Porcila Wilson, 701 Ocean Street, 4th Floor, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, or by email to: EnvironmentalComments@santacruzcountyca.gov. All comments received by 5:00 pm on June 27, 2025, will be considered by the County of Santa Cruz prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing (2021 Chanticleer FONSI).

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The County of Santa Cruz certifies to HUD that Stephanie Hansen, Assistant Director for Policy, Housing and Code Enforcement for the County of Santa Cruz Community Development and Infrastructure Department, in her capacity as certifying officer, 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 County of Santa Cruz to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the County of Santa Cruz 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 County of Santa Cruz; (b) the County of Santa Cruz 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 the HUD San Francisco Regional Office at RROFSFRO@hud.gov and Alison.M.Brokke@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD or HUD San Francisco Regional Office via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Stephanie Hansen, Certifying Officer
County of Santa Cruz