



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

MEMORANDUM FOR: Todd Richardson, General Deputy Assistant
Secretary for Policy Development and Research

FROM: Peter Kahn, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of
Policy Development and Research

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant
Impact Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
for the *Authority to Accept Unsolicited Proposals for Research
Partnerships Notice of Intent (NOI)* (PDR-2600-DC-0USP)

It is the finding of this Office that the subject Notice of Intent (NOI) does not constitute a major Federal action having an individually or cumulatively significant effect on the human environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

This NOI announces the availability of \$2 million in FY 2026 funding to give researchers more flexibility to explore important policy questions and help fill gaps in evidence about housing and community programs.

This research is authorized by Sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. §1701z-1 and §1701z-2). Funding for this program is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (Public Law 119-75, approved February 3, 2026).

This NOI does not direct or provide loans or mortgage insurance for real property acquisition, disposition, rehabilitation, alteration, demolition, or new construction, or establish, revise or provide for standards for construction or construction materials, manufactured housing, or occupancy. Lease or rental of space for any activities supported through this NOI is an eligible use of administrative funds, but only under the following conditions:

- 1) The lease must be for existing facilities not requiring rehabilitation or construction except for minimal alterations to make the facilities accessible for a person with disabilities;
- 2) No repairs or renovations of the property may be undertaken with the funds from this NOI; and
- 3) Properties in the Coastal Barrier Resources System designated under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501) cannot be leased or rented with federal funds.

All activities funded under this NOI are categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC § 4321) and not subject to environmental review under related laws and authorities. The categorical exclusion is in accordance with 24 CFR 50.19(b)(1) and (b)(3), because they lack the potential for any significant effect on the environment.

Accordingly, the Office of Policy Development and Research finds the issuance of this NOI will not create any significant environmental impacts and will not result in significant impacts on the human environment. Therefore, a Finding of No Significant Impact is hereby made.

Concurrences:

Christopher H. Hartenau
Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of General Counsel

Date

Approval

Todd M. Richardson
General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research

Date

Internal HUD Distribution:						
Identification Lines:						
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Date			6/10/2026			

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