

Jesse Helms Park Project

---

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

January 24, 2024

Union County Government  
500 N. Main Street  
Monroe, NC 28112  
704-283-3657

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

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or about February 7, 2024, Union County Government will submit a request to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, to undertake a project known as Jesse Helms Park for the purpose of expanding recreational amenities currently offered at 1505 Summerlin Dairy Road in Wingate, NC. The total project cost is estimated to be \$1,258,914.00 (\$758,914.00 in CDBG funds).

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

Union 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 the Union County Government Center, 500 N. Main Street (Suite 300), Monroe, NC 28112 and will be made available for review either electronically or U.S. mail. Additionally, it can be found on our website, <https://www.unioncountync.gov/cdbg>. Please submit your request for a hard or emailed copy by email to [cdbg@unioncountync.gov](mailto:cdbg@unioncountync.gov) or by U.S. mail to:

Sara Scheirer  
500 N. Main Street (Suite 300)  
Monroe, NC 28112.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Union County, County Manager's Office. Please submit comments to Union County by U.S. mail to Sara Scheirer, 500 N. Main Street (Suite 300), Monroe, NC 28112 or by email to [cdbg@unioncountync.gov](mailto:cdbg@unioncountync.gov). All comments received by February 8, 2024, will be considered by Union County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice you are addressing. If, after the 15-day comment period ends, no comments are received or all comments received have been resolved, HUD may issue the Authority to Use Grant Funds authorizing the release of funds.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Union County Government certifies to HUD that its Certifying Officer in his/her capacity 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 Union County to use Program funds.

## OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and Union 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 Union County; (b) Union 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 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 at 1500 Pincroft Rd. #401, Greensboro, NC 27407. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

**Brian Matthews, County Manager**  
**Union County**  
**500 N. Main Street**  
**Monroe, NC 28112**

---

Note: The fifteen or eighteen-day public comment periods are the minimum time periods required by regulation prior to submission of a Request for Release of Funds and Certification (form HUD-7015.15) to HUD/State. The Responsible Entity may choose to allow a longer comment period. 24 CFR Part 58 requires, at Section 58.46, "Time delays for exceptional circumstances," a 30-day comment period for controversial or unique projects or those similar to projects normally requiring preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. The fifteen-day objection period

is a statutory requirement. The objection period follows the submission date specified in the Notice or the actual date of receipt by HUD/State, whichever is later.

Following completion of the comment period recipients may FAX the form HUD-7015.15 to HUD/State together with a copy of the public notice and a cover letter stating whether comments were received and, if so, how the recipient responded to the comment. The Request for Release of Funds and Certification should not be submitted before the recipient has responded. If the request is sent by FAX, the original signed form should be mailed to HUD/State. The date of receipt by FAX will be counted as the submission date. However, HUD will not issue the 7015.16 "Authority to Use Grant Funds" until after the original signed form is received.