

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

Friday, July 31, 2026

Vermont Farmers Food Center
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Rutland, VT 05701
(802) 353-6998

Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development
Grace Vinson, Environmental Officer
1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, Vermont 05620
(802) 622-4336

These notices shall satisfy two separate, but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by Chamber and Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CEDRR) and Vermont Farmers Market Education Center Inc. dba Vermont Farmers Food Center (VFFC).

Request for Release of Funds

On or about Tuesday, August 18, 2026, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Department of Housing and Community Development (Agency) will authorize CEDRR and VFFC to submit a request to HUD for the release of Community Project Funding (CPF) grant #B-22-CP-VT-0910 funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, to undertake a project known as Vermont Farmers Food Center's Heart of Vermont Agriculture Program for the purpose of building an addition to the 14,000 SF green building known as Farmers Hall located at 251 West Street, Rutland, Vermont. The total estimated cost of the project is up to \$1,082,500; with up to \$541,219 in VT RFSI Program, and a portion in the amount of up to \$541,250 from the CPF Grant.

Mitigation factors include remediation of environmental contaminants in accordance with the Corrective Action Plan approved by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation.

Finding of No Significant Impact

The Agency 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 Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, 1 National Life Drive Montpelier, Vermont 05620, and may be examined or copied weekdays 9:00 A.M to 3:00 P.M.

Public Comments

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR for consideration by the Agency to the Agency's office at Attn: Environmental Officer, Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Department of Housing and Community Development, One National Life Drive, Davis Building, 6th floor, Montpelier, Vermont, 05620, or via email at Grace.Vinson@vermont.gov. All comments received by Monday, August 17, 2026, will be considered by the Agency prior to taking any administrative action or requesting the release of funds from HUD on the date listed above. Comments must specify which Notice they are addressing, the Finding of No Significant Impact or the Request for the Release of Funds.

Environmental Certification

Agency certifies to HUD that it 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 CEDRR and VFFC to use Program funds.

Objections to Release of Funds

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the certification of Ann Kroll as Responsible Entity 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, Ann Kroll; b) Ann Kroll as Responsible Entity 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 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by email at CPDRROFBOS@hud.gov or by mail at Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, 3rd Floor Boston, MA 02222. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Ann Kroll, Director of Federal Programs