

Combined Notice—Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI/NOI-RROF)

PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT FOR PROJECTS REQUIRING AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Based on 15-day public comment period and 15-day State objection period

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

DATE OF NOTICE: November 13, 2023

NAME OF RESPONSIBLE ENTITY [RE]: Town of Big Stone Gap

ADDRESS: 505 East 5th Street South

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE: Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (276) 523-0115

This Notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about December 14, 2023 the Town of Big Stone Gap will Authorize the Friends of Southwest Virginia to submit a request to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for the release of Appalachian Regional Commission Area Development funds under Title 40 Subtitle IV of the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965, as amended, to undertake a project known as Big Stone Gap – Pump Track, for the purpose of developing a pump track and skate park to complement the existing mountain bike trails that have recently been developed in the Town and surrounding areas. The development is proposed on a vacant site adjacent to the ballfield parking and concession area at Bullitt Park.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Town of Big Stone Gap 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:

- Town of Big Stone Gap Town Hall – 505 East 5th Street South, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

- SWVA Cultural Heritage Center – One Heart Circle, Abingdon, VA, 24210
 - Town of Big Stone Gap Website - <https://www.bigstonegap.org/>
 - Friends of SWVA Website - <https://friendsofswva.org/>
 - Bullitt Park (Project Location) -301 East 1st Street North, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
- and may be examined or copied weekdays (8:00) A.M. to (5:00) P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Town of Big Stone Gap Town Hall. All comments received by November 28, 2023 will be considered by the Town of Big Stone Gap prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Town of Big Stone Gap certifies to DHCD that Stephen L. Lawson in his capacity as Town Manager 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. DHCD'S approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the Friends of Southwest Virginia to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

DHCD will consider objections to its release of funds and the Town of Big Stone Gap certification received by December 14, 2023 or a period of fifteen days from its 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 or other officer of the Town of Big Stone Gap approved by DHCD; (b) the (RE) 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 project have committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by DHCD; 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) and shall be addressed to DHCD at:

Director
Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development
Attn: Program Administration and Assistance Office
Main Street Centre
600 E. Main St., Suite 300
Richmond, Virginia 23219-2430
(804) 371-7061 [TTP 371-7089 / FAX 371-7093]

Potential objectors should contact DHCD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Stephen L. Lawson, Town Manager

THE COMBINED NOTICE (FONSI/NOI-RROF) MUST BE DISTRIBUTED TO:

US EPA Region III (3EA30)
1650 Arch Street, Phila, PA 19103
(215) 814-3322/ Fax: (215) 814-2783
R3_HUDNEPA@epamail.epa.gov

Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Environmental Enhancement
629 East Main Street, 6th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 698-4330

Director
Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development
Attn: Program Administration and Assistance Office
600 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-1321
(804) 371-7061 [Virginia Relay Center 771 / FAX 371-7093]

Local Regional and Tribal Agencies adjacent to or surrounding the jurisdiction
issuing the NOI-RROF.