

Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds [Tiered Reviews]

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Date of Publication: January 5, 2026
City of Caribou
25 High St.
Caribou, Maine 04736
207-493-3324

On or after January 16, 2026, the City of Caribou will submit a request to the HUD Community Planning and Development Program for the release of Community Project grant (CPF) funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42) (the FY2024 Act), and the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-47) (the Further FY2024 Act) to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: Caribou Fire and Ambulance Department Upgrade

Purpose: This project will provide needed health and safety upgrades to the fire station. The current fire station, built in 1977, is outdated and inadequate by today's standards and codes. Updated, remodeled living quarters and administrative areas are critical to not only the health and safety, but also the morale and retention of Caribou's essential fire and ambulance personnel.

Location: 111 and 121 High St.

Project/Program Description: The project will renovate and upgrade staff living quarters and common area to current standards and provide accommodation for female staff. Administrative offices and ADA public restrooms will be relocated to a safer, healthier location on campus (removed from "hot zone").

[Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.]

Level of Environmental Review Citation: Rehabilitation of non-residential structures including commercial, industrial, and public buildings 24 CFR 58.35(a)(3)(iii).

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review: Maine Department of Environmental Protection Asbestos Management Regulations: Chapter 425 Asbestos Management Rules, which include OSHA provisions.

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): Asbestos-containing floor tile and mastic will be removed and disposed of in accordance with Maine DEP and OSHA requirements. No permits required due to amount and type of asbestos-containing materials.

Estimated Project Cost: HUD funding: \$1,359,000. Total estimated project cost: \$2,200,000.

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR 58.35(a)(3)(iii). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Caribou City Hall, 25 High St., Caribou, ME 04736 and on the City website at www.cariboumaine.org/publicnotices/ and may be examined or copied weekdays 8A.M to 4P.M. and at <https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews>

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City Manager, City of Caribou, 25 High St., Caribou ME 04736. All comments received by January 16, 2026 will be considered by the Caribou City Manager prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Caribou certifies to HUD that Penny Thompson, Certifying Officer, in her capacity as City 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. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Caribou to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Caribou'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 the City of Caribou; (b) the City of Caribou 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 CPFenvironmental@HUD.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Penny Thompson, Caribou City Manager, Certifying Officer