

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

PUBLICATION DATE: August 25, 2025
GRANTEE NAME: Cornell Cooperative Extension
ADDRESS: Town of Mount Hope
1706 Route 211
Otisville, NY 10963
TELEPHONE: (845) 956-4378

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Town of Mount Hope.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about September 10, 2025, the Town of Mount Hope will authorize the Cornell Cooperative Extension to submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release federal Community Project Funding/Economic Development Initiative funding authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328) to be used for the following project:

Little Red Barn: The Little Red Barn will be a key feature of the Education Center and 4-H Park, designed as a 40 x 60 temperature-controlled facility resembling a traditional red dairy barn with a gabled roof. Facility Features:

- Concession Area/Stand – Supports events and gatherings with food and beverage services.
- Office Space – Dedicated offices for fair, camp, and park management.
- First Aid Station – Ensuring safety and medical support for event attendees.
- Gender-Neutral Bathrooms – Inclusive restrooms with a breastfeeding room for added convenience.
- Open Meeting Space – A flexible area for workshops, presentations, and community discussions.
- 4-H Exhibits & Demonstrations – Showcasing youth projects, agricultural displays, and interactive learning opportunities.
- Storage – Ample space for tables, chairs, and exhibits.
- Patio Overhang – Provides a shaded outdoor area for additional event space.

The project is located at 300 Finchville Turnpike, Town of Mount Hope, Orange County, New York. Proposed HUD Funding: \$1,000,000; Estimated Total Project Cost \$1,000,000.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

The Town 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 (NEPA) of 1969 is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). The ERR will be made available to the public for review at the Town of Mount Hope; 1706 Route 211; Otisville, NY 10963 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Town of Mount Hope at the address listed above. All comments received by September 9, 2025, will be considered by the Town of Mount Hope prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which part of the notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Town of Mount Hope certifies to HUD that Paul Rickard, in his capacity as Town Supervisor, 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 Cornell Cooperative Extension to use the project funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of Mount Hope'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; (b) the Town of Mt Hope 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 via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the New York Office of Community Planning and Development CPDRROFNYC@HUD.GOV Potential objectors should contact HUD New York via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

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Paul Rickard, Town Supervisor
Town of Mount Hope, County of Orange, NY