

jlee73@comcast.net

To: Peirent; Robert
Subject: Re: Potential choice-limiting action by Jones Library Renovation-Expansion (CPF Grant B-23-CP-MA-0655)

From: Curran, Martha A, HUD Boston Regional Environmental Officer
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 9:18 AM
Subject: Potential choice-limiting action by Jones Library Renovation-Expansion (CPF Grant B-23-CP-MA-0655)

Hello Bob,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me yesterday afternoon. As we discussed, HUD's position is that we discourage construction bids prior to the completion of the environmental review. Going out to bid would not be a choice limiting action, however. We understand that in this case the total project cost may be such that the project is not viable, and thus the information is a crucial determining factor as to whether to continue to proceed with project planning. HUD suggests that the solicitation for bids explicitly state that no bid(s) will be awarded prior to completion of the environmental review record, which includes completion of the Section 106 review process, including a fully executed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with all relevant parties, if in fact an MOA is required.

I would also like to acknowledge Mr. Lee's citation of the document found at: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Historic-Preservation-Basics.pdf>. HUD has updated its internal guidance on construction bids as they relate to choice limiting actions. The guidance provided above is HUD's current position with respect to the bidding process and choice limiting actions.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

Martha

Martha A. Curran

Regional Environmental Officer: Region I
Office of Environment & Energy
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
10 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02222

[HUD Environmental Review Website](#)