

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year/500-Year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Gregory under Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) and GLO Contract No. 20-065-114-C313 is located in the 100-year/500-year floodplain, and the City of Gregory will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The project includes the purchase and installation of two generators. One generator to be installed at the sanitary sewer lift station located on Liberty Street at North Avenue and one generator to be installed at the sanitary sewer lift station located on Granajo Street (near Orchid Circle). The generators are intended to serve as a backup/emergency source of power for the lift stations to allow continued operation of the sanitary sewer lift stations during power outages which could occur during natural disasters such as hurricanes, as well as other events. Backup/emergency power for lift stations will reduce potential for discharge of untreated or partially treated wastewater during electrical power outages. Granajo Street location is in Zone X (areas of 0.2% annual chance flood, areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile). Liberty Street at North Avenue location is in FEMA designated Special Flood Hazard Area, Zone AH. Zone AH has flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually areas of ponding). The base flood elevation (BFE) for the Liberty Street location is elevation 31 ft. The project is considered a Critical Action. All Critical Actions, as defined at 24 CFR 55.2(b)(3), within the 500-year (or 0.2 percent annual chance) floodplain must be elevated or floodproofed (in accordance with the FEMA standards) to the higher of the 500-year floodplain elevation or three feet above the 100-year floodplain elevation. If the 500-year floodplain is unavailable, and the Critical Action is in the 100-year floodplain, then the structure must be elevated or floodproofed at least three feet above the 100-year floodplain elevation. The generators will be installed and supported on a masonry (or similar) base. The generators will be elevated 3 ft above the 100-year base flood elevation. Project area at each location is less than 0.01 acres. Due to the nature and scope of the project, the proposed activities shall have little or no impact on the floodplain. The overall cumulative impacts of the project activities are minimal. The proposed project locations are the sanitary sewer lift station on Liberty Street at North Avenue and the sanitary sewer lift station on Granajo Street (near Orchid Circle) in Gregory, San Patricio County, Texas.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by City of Gregory at the following address on or before Wednesday, October 8, 2021: City of Gregory, 204 W. 4th St. Gregory, Texas 78359 and 361-643-6562, Attention: Odilia Reyes, Mayor Pro-Tem. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM at 204 W. 4th St. in Gregory, Texas. Comments may also be submitted via email at cityhall@gregorytx.com.

Date: September 23, 2021