

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Date of Notice: August 6, 2020

Event: FEMA-4393-DR-NC; Hurricane Florence

Project Title: City of New Bern D: Repairs and Minor Improvements to Stormwater Conveyance System

Notification is hereby given to the public of the intent of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to reimburse the City of New Bern for eligible costs incurred to restore and repair publicly-owned facilities serviced under their authority and jurisdiction damaged as a result of:

Hurricane Florence, incident period of September 7-29, 2018, and under the major disaster declaration FEMA-4393-DR-NC, signed by the President on September 14, 2018;

The initial disaster-wide Public Notice for DR-4393 Hurricane Florence was published on Thursday, October 25, 2018. Comments and other information received were fully evaluated by FEMA along with evaluation of social, economic, environmental, and safety considerations.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990, FEMA is required to consider alternatives, and to provide a public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

This notice serves as a cumulative final notice for FEMA's funding action for the projects located within the floodplain. FEMA has determined that the only practicable alternative is to fund the repairs of canals/ditches and other stormwater conveyance elements, already located within the floodplain prior the event.

Funding for the proposed work project (s) will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions. This action complies with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements.

This Final Public Notice concerns activities involving repairs to the City-wide stormwater conveyance system including canals/ditches, culverts, retaining walls and related safety features which may be in the floodplain prior the event and may affect floodplain or wetland areas. FEMA intends to provide public assistance for the restoration to their pre-disaster condition of these facilities already located within floodplain prior the event, with certain measures to minimize the effect of future flooding, other hazards, and accessibility requirements which may be included in the work. For example, bank stabilization may include a vegetation and slope modification to decrease the risk of future washouts.

For described actions, this will be the Final Public Notice provided. Other construction activities for those involving additional locations and actions that do not meet the criteria are required to undergo more detailed review, including study of alternate locations. Subsequent Project Specific

Final Public Notice(s) regarding such projects will be published if necessary, as more specific information becomes available.

In many cases, the applicant may have started facility restoration before federal involvement. Even if the facility must undergo detailed review and analysis of alternate locations, FEMA will fund eligible restoration at the original location if the facility is functionally dependent on its floodplain location to convey stormwater under road crossings, or the project facilitates an open space use, or the facility is an integral part of a larger network and is impractical or uneconomical to relocate, such as a road. In such cases, FEMA must also examine the possible effects of not restoring the facility, minimizing floodplain or wetland impacts, and determining an overriding public need for the facility clearly outweighs the Executive Order requirements to avoid the floodplain or wetland, and the site is the only practicable alternative. The City of New Bern with their local officials will confirm to FEMA that proposed actions comply with all applicable state and local floodplain management and wetland protection requirements.

Location(s) of Proposed Work, and Flood Insurance Program's FIRM, per review on 07/22/2020.

County, North Carolina	Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)	Issue Date
Craven County	3720544900J	07/02/2004
Craven County	3720545800J	07/02/2004
Craven County	3720545900K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720546800J	07/02/2004
Craven County	3720546900K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720547800K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720547900K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720548400J	07/02/2004
Craven County	3720548600K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720548700K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720548800K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720548900K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720549600K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720549700K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720549800K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720549900K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720554000K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720556000K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720556100K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720557000K	06/19/2020
Craven County	3720557100K	06/19/2020

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The proposed action scopes of work (SOW) include the repair and restoration of the City-wide stormwater drainage conveyance system back to pre-disaster design and function with some potential for upgrades to minimize future flood hazard damage. Repairs consist of fill material, grading, compaction and vegetation replacement for slope stabilization; pipe and culvert replacement with associated headwall components; riprap and geotextile underlayment replacement, remove tree and shrub encroachments, replace chain link/security fencing and block retaining wall repairs. The stormwater canals, ditches and associated components are located City-wide and repairs may or may not be located within a Special Flood Hazard Area or wetland.

Comments:

This will serve as the final public notice regarding the above-described action(s) funded by the FEMA PA program. Interested persons may submit comments, questions, or request a map of specific project(s) by writing to:

FEMA Internal 11988 Reviewer
FEMA Region 4
3005 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia, 30341

Alternatively, comments may be emailed to: FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Please send comments with the subject line [NEW BERN DITCHES FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE FEMA-4393-NC].

All comments are due by no later than 30 days of the posted date of this notice.

*****End of Notice*****