

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

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that Royal Engineers & Consultants (Royal) on behalf of the City of Port Aransas (COPA) has determined that the following proposed action, City of Port Aransas Hurricane Harvey CDBG- Disaster Relief Infrastructure Project under the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Contract No. 20-065-143-C811 is located in the 100- year and 500-year floodplains, and the COPA 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.

Hurricane Harvey overwhelmed the drainage system within Port Aransas, Texas. Heavy rainfall caused flooding of homes and streets. Inadequately sized culverts and low water crossings throughout the city prohibited stormwater from draining effectively. This inundated streets, homes, and threatened public health, safety, and welfare. Utilizing CDBG funding, COPA will conduct drainage infrastructure improvements to facilitate proper stormwater conveyance, reduce the impact of future flooding, and provide continued ingress and egress to the area. Five (Sites 1, 2, 3B, 4B, and 5, 4.8 acres) of the six project sites are located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), 100-year floodplain, Flood Zone AE and one project site (Site 3A, 0.13 acres) is located in the 500-year floodplain, 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Zone X. As proposed, the project will install new storm sewer pipe; install new storm sewer culverts and reinforced concrete pipe; regrade roadside ditches; improve outfall ditches (via excavation and box culvert installation); and complete all associated appurtenances at six locations, totaling approximately 5 acres. The proposed project is located across six sites in Port Aransas, Nueces County, Texas (shown in Table 1).

Table 1. Project Sites and Approximate Locations

Project Sites	Approximate Location
Site 1	Existing drainage system along West Avenue E, from concrete ditch to Trojan Street (27.829017, -97.064969).
Site 2	Existing open drain system on West Avenue F, from concrete ditch to S. Alister Street (27.829556, -97.06734).
Site 3A	On Summer Place from cul-de-sac to Twelfth Street (27.826400, -97.060994).
Site 3B	On Dolphin Lane from the end of Dolphin Lane towards East Avenue C (27.825175, -97.058575).
Site 4B	Existing open channel drainage ditch to the bay on the west side of S. Alister St at Avenue J (27.826903, -97.070153).
Site 5	Existing open drainage on West side of Hwy. 361 at Keewaydin Lane (27.778927, -97.106948).

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 the City of Port Aransas at the following address on or before June 22, 2024: 710 West Avenue A, Port Aransas, TX 78373, Attention: David Parsons, City Manager. Phone: 361-749-4111. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00 AM- 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Monday-Friday at 710 West Avenue A, Port Aransas, Texas 78373. Comments may also be submitted via email at Davidparsons@cityofportaransas.org.

Date: June 7, 2024