

COMBINED PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS AND FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

September 23, 2026
Escambia County Neighborhood Enterprise Division
221 Palafox Place, Room 305
Pensacola, FL 32502
850-595-4968

This notice shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by Escambia County.

Per 24 CFR 55.20(b)(1), the combined Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI-RROF) and the Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain will be published simultaneously. As a result, the comment periods for the NOI-RROF and 100-Year Floodplain have been combined. Commenters may submit comments to Escambia County and objections to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to ensure they will receive full consideration.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about October 12, 2026, Escambia County will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Federal funds under the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement funds (CDBG - Entitlement) funds appropriated under the Housing and Community Development Act, 1974 (Pub. L. 93-383) for the CDBG - Entitlement Program to undertake a project known as the Security Camera Project for the purpose of improving safety in Pensacola. The total estimated funding for the Project is \$2,077,601.00.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at Escambia County Neighborhood Enterprise Division 221 Palafox Place, Room 305 Pensacola, FL 32502 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 5 P.M.

FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

This is to give notice that Escambia County under 24 CFR Part 58 has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the Escambia County Community Development Block Grant funding; B-25-UC-12-0012 and B-24-UC-12-0012. The proposed project is located at 42 locations throughout Escambia County and three locations are within the FFRMS floodplain. The project will involve the installation of 42 surveillance cameras at multiple locations

throughout Escambia County, Florida. These cameras will be installed on a telephone-style pole and project locations will include a 10-foot buffer to account for construction equipment staging and shifts in placement on the ground. The poles will extend approximately 6 feet into the ground. The project is not considered a critical action. The purpose of the project is to help with crime prevention; real-time cameras will be a helpful tool for the Sheriff's office. The floodplain provides drainage for surrounding areas as well as the opportunity for natural wetlands and habitats to thrive. Maintaining the floodplain is an invaluable service to the community. Natural benefits of the floodplain will not be significantly impacted. The 0.2 percent flood approach was used in conjunction with the following FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps: Community Panels 12033C0405J, 12033C0410J, 12033C0415J, 12033C0430J, 12033C0440J, 12033C0419J, 12033C0414J, 12033C0418J, 12033C0552J, 12033C0556J, 12033C0557J, and 12033C0420J effective on 8/19/2025 and 12113C0513G effective on 12/19/2006, show three project locations are within the FFRMS floodplain, each location totaling 0.01 acres within the FFRMS floodplain. Myrtle Grove CRA - Fairfield & Lillian Hwy is located within the Zone A 100-year floodplain, Warrington CRA - Navy Blvd & Sunset is located within the Zone AE 100-year floodplain, and Warrington CRA - Gulf Beach & Paulding is located within 500-year floodplain. The project is not within any wetlands. The project is not a critical action. The proposed project is located throughout Escambia County at strategic points on various roads.

Escambia County has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain: 1) Different locations, 2) Preferred Alternative, and 3) No Action Alternative. The locations for the cameras were chosen based on where they were needed in the community, so different locations chosen to avoid floodplains/wetlands would leave areas that require more security vulnerable. The Preferred Alternative is to install 42 surveillance cameras in the chosen locations within existing ROW to help with crime prevention. The No Action Alternative would not allow for the installation of 42 cameras throughout Escambia County and crime rates would likely not improve. There are three project locations within the FFRMS floodplain; the security cameras at these locations must be elevated to a minimum of 2 feet above the Base Flood Elevation. Based on the nature of the project activity, the security cameras will all be elevated at the top of a telephone-style pole and as such, will likely be elevated appropriately. Escambia County is responsible for ensuring elevation meets the appropriate standards. The project will also minimize impacts to waterbodies and wetlands by requiring applicant contractors to use appropriate best management practices (including proper site management, soil stabilization, and erosion controls) during all construction activities. Following these mitigation measures will ensure compliance with state and local floodplain/wetland protection procedures.

Escambia County has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988 and 24 CFR 55, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

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. 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Escambia County. Comments may be submitted to Mr. Garrett Griffin, Division Manager via 221 Palafox Place, Room 305 Pensacola, FL 32502, or by email to grgriffin@myescambia.com. All comments received by October 9, 2026 will be considered by Escambia County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Escambia County certifies to HUD that Wesley J. Moreno, in his capacity as County Administrator, 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 the National Environmental Policy Act and related laws and authorities, and allows Escambia County to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and Escambia County's certification for a period of fifteen (15) 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 of Escambia County; (b) Escambia County 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 in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec 58.76) and shall be addressed to either FL_Webmanager@HUD.gov or the HUD Jacksonville Field Office, 400 West Bay Street, Suite 1015 Jacksonville, FL 32202. Potential objectors should contact HUD at (904) 232-2627 to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Wesley Moreno, Escambia County Administrator