

**JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL
PUBLIC NOTICE
March 17, 2022
HMGP-DR-4564-026 Escambia County, Ranch Lands Neighborhood, Acquisition**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Florida Division of Emergency Management have received the following application for Federal grant funding. Final notice is hereby given of the FEMA's consideration to provide funding in the form of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Funds will be provided in accordance with Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

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 to and to provide 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 or low-income populations.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

Applicant:

Escambia County, FL

Project Title:

HMGP-DR-4564 (State #026) - Escambia County, Ranch Lands Neighborhood, Acquisition

Location of Proposed Work:

The area affected by this project consists of five (5) homes on Sagebrush Tail and Fowler Avenue, Pensacola, Florida 32534.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

Escambia County proposes to take mitigation action on five (5) properties located within the Ranch Lands neighborhood. All of the properties are located within the 100-year floodplain. The proposed project seeks to eliminate the impacts from flooding to these residential structures through acquisition and demolition of the structures followed by maintenance of the parcels as deed-restricted open space in perpetuity.

Project Alternatives:

The alternatives to the project that have been and will be considered are: 1) the no action alternative and 2) elevation of the subject properties. These alternatives to the proposed project are not viable because under Alternative 1) the risk of flooding is not alleviated, and the needs of the community would not be served; and Alternative 2) does not completely eliminate the risk of impacts from flooding. While physical damages would be reduced, residents are not removed from the flood hazard area. In the instance of a flood event residents would likely be either trapped in their homes or prevented from accessing them unless they were to traverse the flood waters placing themselves and potentially first responders at risk. Finally, the alternative is also cost prohibitive, and therefore not considered practicable or cost reasonable.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state, or federal agencies; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to the Florida Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Mitigation, 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100. These are due within 30 days of this notice. The State will forward comments to applicable regulatory agencies as needed. Interested persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

Robert McCracken, PE, CPESC
Construction Management Division Manager
Escambia County Engineering

(850) 595-1625
rob_mccracken@myescambia.com

Kayla Born, State Lead Environmental Specialist
Florida Division of Emergency Management

(850) 815-4582
Kayla.Born@em.myflorida.com