

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Floodplain Escambia County, Florida

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that Escambia County under 24 CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under the Escambia County Community Development Block Grant funding and B-20-UC-12-0012, B-21-UC-12-0012, B-22-UC-12-0012, and B-23-UC-12-0012 is located in the FFRMS floodplain, and Escambia County will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, 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 Protection of Wetlands.

The proposed project location is E Johnson Ave in Pensacola, FL, Escambia County. The proposed project consists of planning and design for multimodal transportation and streetscape improvements along Johnson Avenue. Improvements may include new and/or reconstructed sidewalks, designated bike lanes, roadway alignment adjustments, stormwater drainage enhancements, street lighting, pedestrian safety features, landscaping, and related streetscape elements. The project includes approximately 11,500 linear feet and extends along Johnson Avenue, starting at North Davis Highway on the western end and terminating at Happy Valley Trail on the eastern end. The project area includes a 30-foot buffer from the outer edge of the existing roadway on the northern side of the route to account for placement of these improvements.

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 12033C0365J effective on 8/19/2025 and 12113C0415H effective on 11/19/2021, show a total of approximately 1.3 acres of the project footprint located within the Zone A 100-year floodplain and 0.03 acres of the project footprint located within the 500-year floodplain. The project is not a critical action.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplain 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 project impacts on the floodplain. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplain 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 floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by Escambia County at the following address on or before August 14, 2026: Escambia County Neighborhood Enterprise Division 221 Palafox Place, Room 305 Pensacola, FL 32502. Attention: Mr. Garrett Griffin, Division Manager. A full description of the project may also be viewed from 8am-5pm at the same address. Comments may also be submitted via email at grgriffin@myescambia.com.

July 30, 2026