

COMMISSIONER DAWN BUCKINGHAM, M.D.

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain or Wetland

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

Date of publication: April 10, 2025

This is to give notice that the Texas General Land Office (GLO) under 24 CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-Disaster Recovery (DR) and Mitigation (MIT) programs and HUD Grant Number 24-064-000-E151 is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain and wetlands. As such, the GLO will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the FFRMS floodplain and wetlands and the potential impacts on the FFRMS floodplain and wetlands from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. In addition to CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT funding, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is contributing funding for the project. The proposed project location is the Kingwood area in Harris and Montgomery Counties near Woodland Hills and Northpark Drive (30.079567, -95.199897).

The proposed action (HCFCD Project ID G103-80-03.1-E001&2 / G503-06-00-E004) will improve the stormwater conveyance in Taylor Gully through channel dredging and bank lining as well as flowline improvements; increase stormwater detention volume with the construction of a wet bottom stormwater detention basin with 412 acre-feet of detention capacity; replace the Rustling Elms Drive bridge class culvert with a single span concrete bridge, which is required due to the channel improvements where Rustling Elms Drive crosses Taylor Gully; remove and replace several storm sewer pipes between 24" to 84" diameter that outfall into Taylor Gully; and remove and replace a 36" culvert at the upstream end of the channel with a reinforced concrete pipe. Based on the effective FEMA FIRMs, 25.6 acres are in the Floodway, 5.6 acres are in the 100-Year Floodplain, 3.7 acres are in the 500-Year Floodplain, and 56.6 acres are outside of the floodplain. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 500-year flood approach, totaling 3.7 acres in the FFRMS floodplain. The proposed action includes 0.9 acres of wetland impacts. The impacted wetlands provide no recreational, educational, scientific, cultural, or historic value beyond flood risk reduction. The proposed action is needed to alleviate flooding within the Taylor Gully watershed and to remove the 100-year floodplain from approximately 276 structures identified in the flood hazard area.



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

Written comments must be received by GLO at the following address on or before April 25, 2025. A minimum 15 calendar day comment period will begin the day after the publication and end on the 16th day after the publication:

Texas General Land Office Community Development & Revitalization (CDR) Division PO Box 12873, Austin TX 78711-2873

(512) 475-5051 ATTN: David Camarena, Director of Environmental Oversight

A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M at the address above and at:

https://www.hcfcd.org/F-14Taylor. Comments may also be submitted via email at env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov.