Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain & Next To A Wetland

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG) under 24 CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under Resilient Communities Infrastructure Program (RCIP) Project Number 55LDRC7704 is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain and Next To A Wetland, and TPCG will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the floodplain and wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain and wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, 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 8700-8812 LA-24 to 9017-8979 LA-24 in Houma, Terrebonne Parish. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 0.2 percent flood approach. The proposed activity involves rehabilitation of approximately 22,300 linear feet (4.2 miles) of 8-inch sewer main using cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) technology and upgrades to the Village East lift station. The project site is located within a FFFRMS floodplain Special Flood Hazard Area (Zone AE) and adjacent to wetlands classified as R1UBVx and R4SBC riverine wetlands. The proposed improvements aim to improve the infiltration and inflow (I&I) in the East Main Street Sewer System.

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

Written comments must be received by **TPCG** at the following address on or before **July 2, 2025**: **terrebonneenvironmental@csrsinc.com.** A full description of the project may be reviewed below.

Problem Definition

Instructions:

- · All required fields are marked with an *.
- Given you have the proper permissions, use the SAVE button to save information and calculate data on each page.
- Save at least every 30 minutes to avoid losing data.

Please fill out the sections below or provide attachments with requested information.

Provide a comprehensive description of the problem this project will address. Including, but not limited to:

- · What are the expected results?
- Is this a new/existing problem?
- What was the previous use of the site?
- · Does the problem affect a historic area?

Terrebonne Parish, located in Louisiana's coastal region, is facing increasing challenges related to stormwater management and flood mitigation. The Parish is characterized by a unique and complex landscape of wetlands, bayous, and low-lying areas, making it highly susceptible to flooding. This vulnerability is exacerbated by the Parish's proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, where hurricanes, tropical storms, and other severe weather events have become more frequent and intense.

Terrebonne Parish has experienced significant flood events that have caused widespread damage to homes, businesses, infrastructure, and natural habitats. These events have also highlighted the limitations of existing sewerage systems in an area in East Houma with outdated terracotta pipes and needed upgrades to the corresponding lift station. The existing terracotta pipes are broken in several places and absorb groundwater during even light rain events. Terracotta pipe is a type of clay-based ceramic pipe that was commonly used in sanitary sewer systems. Terracotta pipes are chemical resistant and can last 50 to 60 years. However, the pipes can fail over time due to ground movement, tree root damage, damage related to storms, and subsidence. Breaks, cracks, or openings in the pipes cause stormwater and/or groundwater to enter the sewer system, known as infiltration and inflow (I&I). I&I causes sewage volumes to exceed design capacities which increases pumping costs and overwhelms the treatment plants, causing a decrease in the efficiency of treatment. The Terrebonne Parish Public Works Department has made it a priority to improve the infiltration and inflow (I&I) in their sewer systems by rehabilitating and improving the sewer collection network.

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG) plans to replace and/or reline the old terracotta lines with cured in place pipe (CIPP). This project includes the rehabilitation of approximately 22,300 linear feet (4.2 miles) of 8" sewer main within the Village East area using (CIPP). CIPP is a trenchless method of sewer construction requiring little or no digging and significantly less time to complete than other sewer repair methods. CIPP involves inserting a flexible liner inside the existing pipe, inflating the liner, and exposing it to a curing element to harden the liner inside the pipe. The liner essentially forms a smooth surface inside the existing pipe, restoring it to an as-new condition.

Additionally, the system lift station has experienced frequent damage due to storm debris, wastewater solids, sand, and silt accumulation. This issue is not only persistent but also expected to become more severe in the future due to the impact of climate change. This accumulation can cause blockages and reduce its efficiency, leading to malfunction and potential failure. This can result in increased maintenance costs and service interruptions, posing a threat to the functioning of the lift station and affecting the local community. Therefore, it is crucial to address this ongoing problem and to implement measures to mitigate the impact of severe storms and climate change on the lift station

Upon completion, the updates to the sewage lift station and connection network will address the issues faced during Hurricane Ida and prevent potential health hazards to people and the environment caused by sevage overflows. It will also help businesses in the area reopen more quickly after a disaster, facilitating the recovery of the local economy.

This project will not impact any historical properties.

DISASTER RECOVERY ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Does the proposed project have a tie to at least one of the 2020/2021 disasters?

Yes No

Which disaster does the project tie back to? Select all that apply. Hurricane Laura

Hurricane Ida

[X] Hurricane Delta

May Flood

Explain the project rationalee for the tie-back to the disaster(s):

Hurricane Ida left Terrebonne Parish without power for an extended period, with significant flooding and storm damage across the entire parish. This storm created issues that caused lasting damage to the existing infrastructure like the terracotta pipes. The sewer systems in Houma have struggled to operate effectively and efficiently since Ida, and improvements are needed in order to ensure waste is able to be processed, treated, and contained correctly. The improvement to pipes and the connected lift station is needed to reduce risk to Houma neighborhoods and essential services in the face potentially more destructive issues of flooding, contamination, and damage durina future storm events.

Per FR-6303-N-01, HUD requires that grantees demonstrate that they have incorporated mitigation measures into CDBG-DR activities as a construction standard to create communities that are more resilient to the impacts of the recurring natural disasters and the impacts of climate change.

Describe the resiliency efforts and/or performance metrics applicable to this activity.

Addressing these pipes and lift station will be a long-term investment in the resiliency of the parish. It will significantly enhance Houma's sewer system and its ability to withstand, respond to, and recover from Hurricane events. This reduces the overall risk to the population and structures from flooding and future hazardous events. It will also reduce the Parish's reliance on Federal funding in future disasters. making it a sustainable and cost-effective solution. The performance metric will be the linear feet of pipe replaced or improved.

MITIGATION ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Per FRN-6368-N-01, HUD defines mitigation activities as those activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-germ risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters.

Does the proposed project meet the definition of a mitigation activity?

Nο

RCIP-LDI-Terrebonne Parish-TER Village East -0186

[X]

Describe the mitigation aspects, including performance metrics applicable to this activity.

These improvements will be in full alignment with the most up-to-date technology and strategies in alignment with the Terrebonne Parish Mitigation Plan and all relevant building codes. The Terrebonne Parish Mitigation Plan was updated after Hurricane Ida to better understand and educate the public about the community's risk and resilience in the face of future storms. The Parish's mitigation plan includes a wide spectrum of activities from increased power and water redundancy and strengthened infrastructure.

This project was included in Terrebonne Parish's 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update list of priority projects, page 15: "Modification to Village East Lift Station (Conversion from Dry Pit to Submersible Station)".

The performance metric will be the linear feet of pipe replaced or relined.

Flood Risk Information

Attach the appropriate flood profile and discharge tables, if applicable, from the Flood Insurance Study with the project site and elements / improvements marked. Please see the Flood Insurance Study Attachment Examples (Appendix 2) for guidance.

Upload here:

Attach the FIRMette from the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). FIRMs are typically available from your local floodplain administrator who may be located in the planning, zoning, or engineering office, or the FEMA web page at https://msc.fema.gov/. Maps can also be ordered from the Map Service Center at 1-800-358-9616. Clearly mark all construction areas of the project on the map.

FEMA FIRMette.pdf

Additional Flood Risk Information

Description

Using the Flood Insurance Study or FIRM, indicate the applicable flood zones for the project site. Check all that apply.

VE or V 1-30 /X/AE or A 1-30 AO or AH

A (no base flood elevation given)

B or X (shaded) C or X (unshaded) Floodway

Coastal Barrier Resource Act (CBRA) Zone

Applicant:

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government

TER Village East Wastewater

Project Name:

Project #:

RCIP-LDI-Terrebonne Parish-TER Village

East -0186