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

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 55LDRC7703** is located in the **Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain**, and **TPCG** 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, 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 **along Main Street from Naquin Street to New Orleans Boulevard, Houma, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana**. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using **a 0.2 percent flood approach. The Main Street Improvements Project will include a "complete streets" retrofit aiming to rebuild and improve the transportation infrastructure. The Proposed Project will include the transformation of a highly trafficked portion of Main Street, approximately 0.75 miles, to include components such as earthwork to elevate sidewalks, enhancing the area's drainage capabilities; updated pedestrian infrastructure; new road signage; and the installation of tree/greenery plantings for environmental benefits. The project area will take place within FFRMS SFHA Flood Zone X, 0.2% annual chance flood hazard in coastal zone. The proposed improvements will take place entirely on land.**

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/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** 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 **TPCG** at the following address on or before **February 20, 2025:** **terrebonneenvironmental@csrsinc.com.** A full description of the project may also 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 experienced catastrophic damage as a result of Hurricane Ida with its 150 mph winds of a Category 4 hurricane. For months after the storm, electricity and water utilities were not functioning and roads were blocked by downed trees, utility poles and other debris, making them impassable. There was extensive damage to the downtown area in Houma to businesses, housing units and basic infrastructure including the total collapse of historical buildings.

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG) has felt the economic repercussions of successive hurricanes and flooding disasters. The Parish has seen a reduction in job opportunities and a trend of young graduates leaving the Parish in pursuit of opportunities elsewhere in the State and region. Additionally, the damage to infrastructure, including transportation networks, has made it more difficult for residents and businesses to quickly recover and thrive, underscoring the need for strategic investments in economic revitalization efforts.

Given these challenges, the proposed Main Street Improvements Project, focused in downtown Houma within the Houma Historic Cultural District, features a "complete streets" retrofit aiming to rebuild and improve the transportation infrastructure in a way that supports both immediate recovery and long-term resilience. By transforming the Main Street downtown corridor into a "complete streets" improvement, the project will enhance accessibility for all users, stimulate economic activity, and create a safer, more connected environment. This initiative is crucial for fostering economic revitalization, supporting local businesses, and ensuring that Terrebonne Parish can be more resilient in the face of future challenges.

Main Street/LA-24 is currently a Louisiana State Road, although the Parish has a pending request for transfer of ownership from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD). The Parish will undertake all necessary permit steps to receive approval for work on the state road. The Main Street Improvements project is also a pedestrian safety initiative with integrated "complete streets" components, aimed at bringing pedestrian traffic back to the Downtown Houma District. Spanning 2.5 miles of Main Street/LA-24 between St. Charles Street and Howard Avenue, this corridor passes through both residential and commercial areas and is in urgent need of safety enhancements for pedestrians in order to revitalize this commercial area.

The current conditions along Main Street reveal deficiencies that put non-motorists at risk, particularly those residents in the surrounding low-to moderate income neighborhoods who rely on walking access or public transportation. These issues include deteriorating pedestrian infrastructure, an absence of signalized crosswalks, and an absence of safety features. There is also an impact on those with disabilities or requiring special mobility accommodations who face additional challenges navigating the existing streetscape.

Statistics support the importance of this project. Louisiana ranked 6th in rates of pedestrian deaths in the Nation in Smart Growth America's annual "Dangerous by Design" 2022 report. The Houma-Thibodaux area was ranked 2nd highest in the State on the Pedestrian Danger Index in the 2019 report, based on 2011-2017 data. The Main Street corridor (also known as LA-24) has been a concern for years, having experienced a high number of pedestrian crashes, numbering at 36 between 2008-2011.

The 2023 Main Street Corridor Plan underscored the importance of transforming the Main Street corridor into a "complete streets" concept to enhance the pedestrian experience within this historic district, which is crucial for revitalizing the downtown area. This Main Street Improvement project supports the "complete streets" concept by including attractive streetscape designs featuring landscaping with tree planting, traffic calming measures, signalized crosswalks, and increased signage. These enhancements will not only create a vibrant and economically supportive downtown but also contribute to the area's resilience by incorporating stormwater-absorbing landscaping and mitigating the heat island effect. This project is essential in fostering community, supporting local commerce, and driving the economic revitalization of Downtown Houma. The improvements will take place in an Historic District, but here will be negative impact to the historic buildings along Main Street.

DISASTER RECOVERY ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Does the proposed project have a tie to at least one of the 2020/2021 disasters? Yes *[X]* 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 made landfall in Southeast Louisiana in August 2021, bringing 150-mile-per-hour winds that picked up debris and caused significant damage to several homes and businesses, leading to widespread devastation in Houma. Specifically, there were an estimated 750 buildings substantially impacted, 250 of which were destroyed. The Main Street corridor, home to many historic storefronts, suffered both physical and economic damage, exacerbating existing blight and vacancies. Main Street now struggles with recovery and economic revitalization due to vacancies, disrepair and scattered occupancy.

The low to moderate income areas along Main Street were particularly hard hit. In response, TPCG is committed to revitalizing this area to create economic opportunities for returning residents. By attracting shoppers and visitors, the proposed improvements aim to facilitate the economic recovery of the parish. Downtown hosts local fairs, festivals, and fundraisers for local non-profits which is an economic driver in the Spring and Fall.

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.

This complete street transformation under the Main Street Improvements project is a vital component in boosting downtown Houma's resilience, providing both immediate and long-term benefits that will help the community withstand and recover from natural disasters. These efforts consist of adaptable, sustainable investments that will be stronger in the face of adverse weather conditions and contribute to economic resiliency post disaster.

Incorporating components of a "complete streets" design contribute to resiliency by incorporating green infrastructure elements like permeable pavements, rain gardens, and tree canopies that manage stormwater, reduce urban heat islands, and enhance overall environmental quality. Additionally, the design prioritizes safe, multi-modal transportation, ensuring accessibility during emergencies and promoting economic stability by creating an inviting environment that supports local businesses. By integrating these features, "complete streets" not only improves the daily quality of life but also strengthen the community's capacity to recover from the impact of future storm events.

The performance metric will be the linear feet of improvements along the Main Street in the project area.

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? Yes [X] No

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

In response to Terrebonne Parish's challenges in recovery after Hurricane Ida, the proposed Main Street Improvements projects offer a "complete streets" transformation aiming to enhance the area's economic resilience. This project will improve access, connectivity, and safety for all users throughout the downtown area. By creating attractive, pedestrian-friendly environments, the project will support local businesses in recovering more quickly by drawing customers safely back to the area.

The project also provides significant environmental benefits. The incorporation of green infrastructure, including stormwater management systems, will reduce flooding risks and minimize the burden on local drainage systems during heavy rain events. Additional environmental benefits aim to include a reduction in urban heat island effects, improved air quality through reduced emissions, and enhanced carbon storage and sequestration.

Overall, the project is designed to reduce vulnerability to economic downturns caused by natural disasters and establish a foundation for enduring recovery. By increasing mobility options and improving infrastructure resilience, this initiative addresses both immediate economic challenges and prepares the community to better withstand and recover from future storm events. The performance metric will be the linear feet of improvements along the Main Street in the project area.

Flood Risk Information

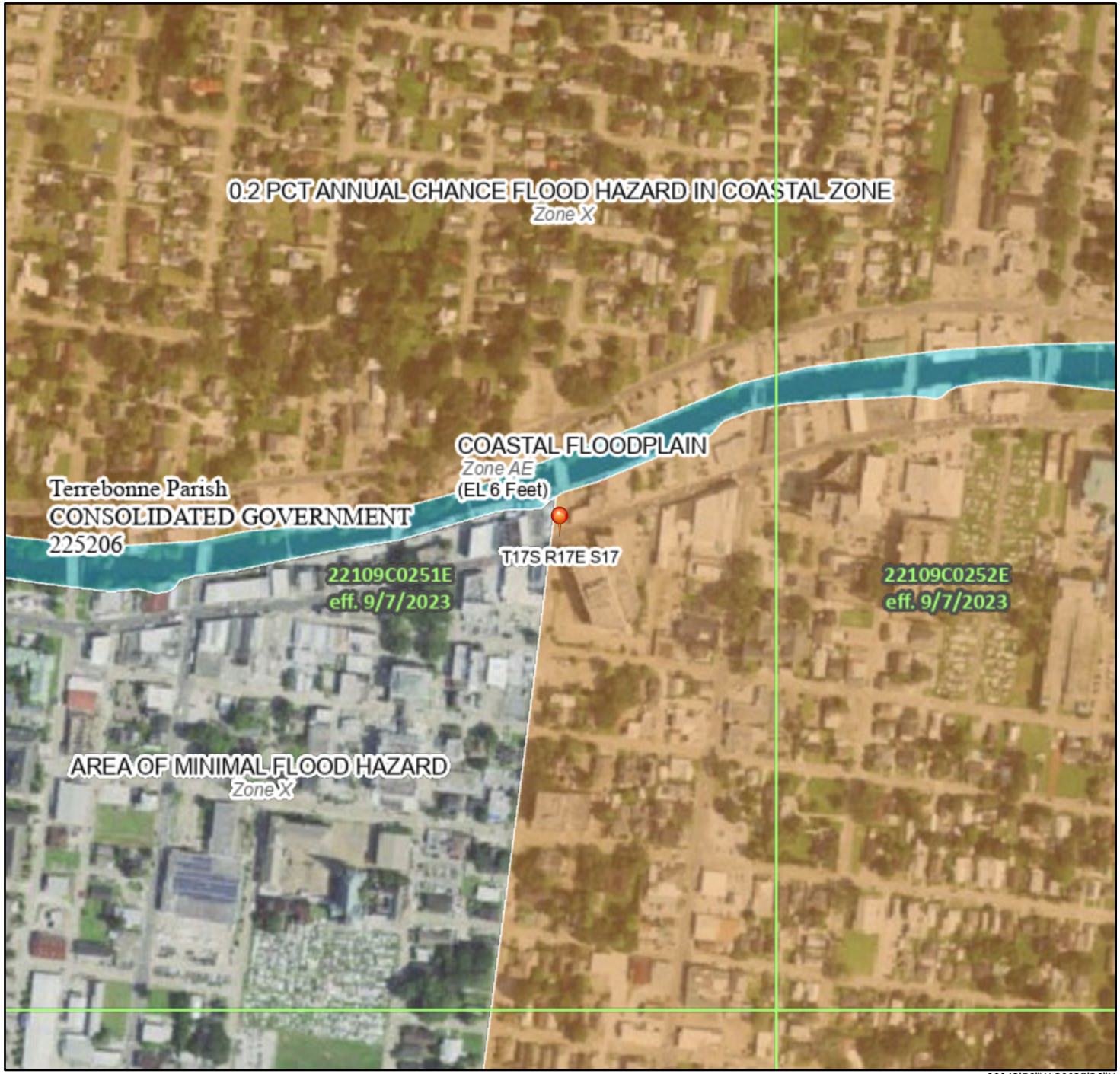
Attach the appropriate flood profile and discharge tables, if applicable, from the Flood Insurance Study with the project site and elements / improvements marked. Please see the Flood Insurance Study Attachment Examples (Appendix 2) for guidance.

Upload here:

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette

FEMA

90°43'34"W 29°36'7"N



0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

1:6,000

90°42'56"W 29°35'36"N

Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

Point (Main St. & Roussell St.)

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS
- Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) *Zone A, V, A99*
- With BFE or Depth *Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR*
- Regulatory Floodway

OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile *Zone X*
- Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard *Zone X*
- Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. *Zone X*
- Area with Flood Risk due to Levee *Zone D*

OTHER AREAS
- NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard *Zone X*
- Effective LOMRs
- Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard *Zone D*

GENERAL STRUCTURES
- Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
- Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

OTHER FEATURES
- 20.2 / 17.5 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance / Water Surface Elevation
- Coastal Transect
- Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
- Limit of Study
- Jurisdiction Boundary
- Coastal Transect Baseline
- Profile Baseline
- Hydrographic Feature

MAP PANELS
- Digital Data Available
- No Digital Data Available
- Unmapped

N

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 1/7/2026 at 8:51 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

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National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette

FEMA

90°43'17"W 29°36'10"N

90°42'40"W 29°35'39"N

0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

1:6,000

Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

Point (Main St. & New Orleans Blvd.)

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