

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**  
**Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment**  
**Motter Avenue Area Community Flood Mitigation Project**  
**EMP-2020-FM-038-0001/LPDM-PJ-03-MD-2022-004**

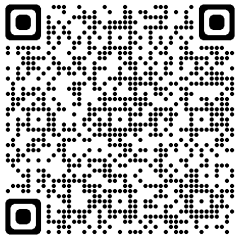
The City of Frederick, Maryland has applied through the Maryland Department of Emergency Management to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance, Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant programs for funding for a flood resiliency and stormwater improvement project. The project is within the City of Frederick in Frederick County, Maryland. Specifically, the project would be implemented within the YMCA Flooding Area, an area prone to flood hazards in the vicinity of the YMCA on N Market Street, and also along a portion of the Abraham Faw Run in Monocacy Village Park (at 39.428232, -77.402724). The PDM funds were made available through Congressionally directed spending in the 2022 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 117-103). This Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500 through 1508), and FEMA procedures for NEPA compliance (FEMA Directive 108-1 and FEMA Instruction 108-1-1). The purpose of the EA is to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The purpose of the proposed project is to reduce hazards associated with the potential for flooding from a failure of the stormwater system in an area prone to flood hazards that has experienced significant storm events in recent years. Stormwater infrastructure improvements are needed to decrease the amount of surface runoff reaching the project area, increase subsurface stormwater system outflow capacity, and improve surface drainage; these improvements would reduce flooding risks and hazards in the project area. Recent major flooding events in 2015 and 2018 have also underscored the need for a more comprehensive approach to addressing inadequate stormwater management infrastructure. The project is needed to reduce potential injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction of property, including damage to critical services and facilities resulting from future natural disasters. Furthermore, the state of Maryland is experiencing more intense rainfall and severe storms due to climate change, which increases the risk of inland flooding and associated soil erosion.

Alternatives discussed in this EA include the No Action and the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action would occur in two phases. Phase 1 (FEMA Grant ID: EMP-2020-FM-038-001) would include creating an additional 1,680 feet of 60-inch pipe along the trunk line starting from Mews Lane north of E. 9th Street to the system outfall at the Abraham Faw Run; increasing sizes of the pipes in the south parking lot of the YMCA to 36-inch diameter; adding a new drainage line with three new 4-foot by 2-foot inlets at the low points in the YMCA south parking lot; and constructing a new 45.5-foot-long by 27-foot-wide plunge pool outfall within the park to facilitate storm flows into the existing channel and provide energy dissipation for stormwater flows. Phase 2 (FEMA Grant ID: LPDM-PJ-03-MD-2022-004) would stabilize and restore

500 feet of eroding streambanks in Abraham Faw Run, improve stormwater treatment, and be designed to address flows and forces associated with the Phase 1 capacity improvements. Measures that would be implemented within the Phase 2 project area include rock sill, riffle with log rollers and reinforced substrate, toewood, and coir matting and live stakes.

The Draft EA has been prepared in accordance with all requirements of NEPA, the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Executive Order 11988 (“Floodplain Management”), Executive Order 11990 (“Protection of Wetlands”), and the implementing regulations of FEMA, for the purpose of assessing the potential impacts of the Proposed Action on the human and natural environment. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose of and need for the project, alternatives considered, the affected environment, and potential environmental consequences of the project.



The Draft EA is available for review and comment and can be viewed on and/or downloaded at <https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/> under the News and Information Section or on FEMA’s website at <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/nepa-repository>, or using

Additionally, a hardcopy of the draft EA is available for review at 140 West Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701.

The comment period will conclude 30 days after the initial publication of this Public Notice. Written comments on the Draft EA can be mailed or emailed to the contact listed below. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA and associated FONSI will become final. Substantive comments received will be addressed as appropriate in the Final EA/FONSI.

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ATTENTION: Motter Avenue NEPA Comments

Email: [FEMA-R3-EHP-PublicComment@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-R3-EHP-PublicComment@fema.dhs.gov)

Select documents are included in the Draft EA appendices. FEMA will provide additional documents upon request; please contact us by email at [FEMA-R3-EHP-PublicComment@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-R3-EHP-PublicComment@fema.dhs.gov).