



FEMA

Public Notice of Availability

**Draft Environmental Assessment for the
City of Richmond Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Construction of New Fire Station**

Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant Project

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment for construction of New Fire Station and Apparatus Maintenance Facility to be located at 2211 Semmes Avenue in Richmond Virginia.

The City of Richmond has applied for FEMA's Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5). FEMA provides financial assistance under this program for building a new or modifying an existing fire station in order to enhance the fire departments response capability and protect the communities they serve from fire and fire-related hazards.

FEMA proposes to assist the City of Richmond in the construction of a 10,836 square-foot fire station and asphalt parking. The new fire station will be located at 2211 Semmes Avenue in Richmond Virginia, approximately 0.80 miles from the existing fire station. The existing fire station was built in 1917 and is inadequate to serve the current community needs.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to assess the potential impacts of the Proposed Action on the human and natural environment. This notice serves as an invitation for public comment on the proposed action and its potential effects on historic properties.

The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, alternatives, affected environmental, and potential environmental consequences for the proposed action. The Draft EA is available for comment and can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region3.shtm> or viewed at the following location:

- Fire Station No. 17
2901 Bainbridge Street
Richmond, Virginia 23225

The comment period will end 15 days from the initial notice publication date of May 29, 2010. Written comments on the Draft EA can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the contact below. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

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