

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR
RECONSTRUCTION AND REORIENTATION OF THE WESLEY
BARROW STADIUM FACILITY, ORLEANS PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed reconstruction and reorientation of the Hurricane Katrina damaged Wesley Barrow Stadium formerly located at Press Drive and Haynes Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana. The proposed action is for replacement of the Wesley Barrow Stadium 2900 SF concrete block covered stadium building and 3,860 SF corrugated steel roof in with a 4,670 SF facility in a different orientation at 6500 Press Drive, New Orleans, LA at Latitude 30.02881, Longitude - 90.04205. City of New Orleans seeks federal grant funds for this action eligible for repairs under a Presidential Disaster Declaration, signed on August 29, 2005 (FEMA-1603-DR-LA).

This proposed action would include developing an approximately 1.8-acre site (termed "Proposed Wesley Barrow Stadium Reconstruction and Reorientation Site") adjacent to and approximately 330 feet west of its original location. This would include constructing an approximately 4,670 square foot building, to mainly service the current needs in this community and the surrounding areas. Activities would include, where necessary, site clearing, grading, driveway construction, and placement of appurtenant utilities (electricity, telephones, water, and sewer) for the site. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a Draft EA has been prepared to evaluate the action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, alternative site analysis, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action.

The public comment period will be 15 days – May 29, 2011 through June 12, 2011. Written comments on the Draft EA or related matters can be faxed to FEMA's Louisiana Recovery Office at (504) 762-2323; or mailed to FEMA Louisiana Recovery Office, 1 Seine Court, New Orleans, Louisiana 70114. The Draft EA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm>. A public notice will be published for 5 days in the local newspaper, *The Times-Picayune* announcing the availability of the Draft EA for public review at the Orleans Parish Main Library at 219 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112, (hours are 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Mon. - Thurs., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fri. & Sat.).

Based on FEMA's findings to date, no significant adverse environmental effects are anticipated. However, if FEMA receives new information that results in a change from no adverse effects then FEMA would revise the findings and issue a second public notice allowing time for additional comments.

If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.