

**Environmental Assessment
South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority
Pump Station Facility Relocation
Lake Como, Monmouth County, New Jersey**

4086-DR-NJ

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FEMA

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

| | |
|---------|--|
| AD | Area of Disturbance |
| AOC | Area of Concern |
| APE | Area of Potential Effect |
| ASTM | American Society for Testing and Materials |
| CAA | Clean Air Act |
| CEQ | Council on Environmental Quality |
| CFR | Code of Federal Regulations |
| DLUR | Department of Land Use Regulation (NJDEP) |
| EA | Environmental Assessment |
| EAF | Environmental Assessment Form |
| EIS | Environmental Impact Statement |
| EJ | Environmental Justice |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| ESA | Environmental Site Assessment |
| EO | Executive Order |
| FEMA | Federal Emergency Management Agency |
| FIRM | Flood Insurance Rate Map |
| FONSI | Finding of No Significant Impact |
| HEC-RAS | Hydrologic Engineering Center River Analysis System |
| MS4 | Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System |
| NAAQS | National Ambient Air Quality Standards |
| NAVD | North Atlantic Vertical Datum |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act |
| NFIP | National Flood Insurance Program |
| NHPA | National Historic Preservation Act |
| NRHP | National Register of Historic Places |
| NRCS | Natural Resources Conservation Services |
| NJ | New Jersey |
| NJDEP | New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection |
| NJOEM | New Jersey Office of Emergency Management |
| OPRHP | Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation |
| OSHA | Occupational Safety & Health Administration |
| SF | Square Foot |
| SHPO | State Historic Preservation Office |
| SMRSA | South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority |
| SPDES | State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System |
| SSO | Sanitary Sewer Overflow |
| SWPPP | Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan |
| USACOE | United States Army Corps of Engineers |
| USDA | United States Department of Agriculture |
| USFWS | United States Fish and Wildlife Service |
| USGS | United States Geological Survey |
| WBDG | Whole Building Design Guide |

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority (SMRSA), herein referred to as the Subgrantee, has requested federal funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security-Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to construct a new sanitary sewerage pump station facility permanently relocating its services from an existing repetitively flood damaged facility located at 501 North Boulevard in Lake Como, Monmouth County, New Jersey to a new site that would be located at 1800 Parkway in Lake Como, Monmouth County, New Jersey (*See Appendix A, Figure 1*). The Borough of Lake Como experienced storm damages and flooding from Hurricane Sandy that occurred from October 26, 2012 to November 8, 2012. The storm incident period was declared a major disaster by President Obama on October 30, 2012. The combination of record storm surge, sustained winds, and flooding destroyed thousands of structures along the New Jersey Shore and in other low-lying tidal and riparian areas, and caused damages of varying severity to tens of thousands of structures across the entire State of New Jersey. Federal Public Assistance was made available to affected communities and certain non-profit organizations per FEMA 4086-DR-NJ in accordance with the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5172), as amended. The New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) is the grantee partner for the proposed action.

The existing pump station was substantially damaged during the Hurricane Sandy event and has had a past history of flood damages. Due to repeated damage, FEMA has determined that the facility is eligible for permanent relocation in accordance with 44 CFR Part 206.226 and FEMA policy 9580.102. The goal of the project is to construct a sanitary sewerage pump station facility that would be accessible during a major storm event and provide necessary sanitary sewer services to the residents of the Borough. The new pump station would incorporate structural flood damage risk reduction measures to avoid or minimize potential future damages and associated costs, avoiding future disruption of the function of the facility. Because this is a critical action, as defined in 44 CFR Part 9.4 Critical Action (d), the pump station would be relocated out of the 500-year floodplain. The Public Assistance sub-grant application (SA) reference number for this project is PA-02-NJ-4086-PW-UEAUL07; PW03859(0); Application Title UEAUL07 Lake Como Pump Station Repairs.

FEMA is required as a federal agency to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of its proposed actions, and alternatives to proposed actions, in order to make an informed decision in defining a proposed project for implementation. FEMA must consider and incorporate, to the extent practicable, measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse impacts to the human environment. The environmental analysis is conducted in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 and FEMA's regulations at 44 CFR Part 10. FEMA evaluates financial assistance projects prior to grant approval.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) serves as documentation of FEMA's analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed relocation of the sanitary sewerage pump station facility project, including analysis of project alternatives and identification of impact minimization measures. In addition the document serves as written communication of the environmental evaluation for public and interested party comment. Public involvement is a

component of NEPA to inform an agency's determination of whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

2.0 PURPOSE AND NEED

The objective of the Public Assistance Grant Program is to provide assistance to state, tribal and local governments, and certain types of private nonprofit organizations so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies. The purpose of this project is to minimize future impacts of coastal flooding on the Subgrantee's ability to provide sanitary sewer service to the residents of Lake Como. The need is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Lake Como and surrounding communities by providing resilient sanitary sewer service.

3.0 ALTERNATIVES

NEPA requires the analysis of practicable alternatives as part of the environmental review process for the proposed project. Inclusion of a No Action Alternative in the environmental analysis and documentation is required under NEPA. The No Action Alternative is used to evaluate the effects of not providing eligible assistance for the project, thus providing a benchmark against which "action alternatives" may be evaluated. FEMA reviewed all applicable federal, state, and local laws and Executive Orders for each alternative considered. FEMA is considering the following alternatives:

3.1 No Action Alternative

It is anticipated that if FEMA funding was not made available for the proposed alternative that the Subgrantee would repair the flood damages at the existing pump station located at 501 North Boulevard (at the intersection of North Boulevard and Parkway) (See *Appendix A*). The Subgrantee is currently providing sanitary service via temporary diesel driven pumps. Flooding from Lake Como has caused millions in dollars of damage to the Borough of Lake Como. In addition to these flood events, many additional heavy rainfall events have caused localized drainage problems, ponding, stream bank erosion, and other difficulties accessing the station.

The No Action Alternative is not the Subgrantee preferred alternative, as the existing pump station sustained damage and disruption of critical sanitary sewer service not only during Hurricane Sandy, but also during other past flooding events (i.e. Hurricane Irene, Tropical Storm Lee, Etc.). Further, the Subgrantee has determined that it would not be prudent (cost effective) to reconstruct the pump station at the existing site due to the inability to access the site and/or the occupational safety hazards associated with accessing a flooded site. The substantial damage of the structure would also trigger floodproofing and/or elevation requirements in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Program not fully considered for this No Action Alternative. According to the construction cost estimates, the existing facility's estimated repair costs exceed 50% of the replacement cost. FEMA has determined that, due to repeated damage, the facility is eligible for permanent relocation in accordance with 44 CFR Part 206.226 and FEMA policy 9580.102. As repair construction at the existing site was not determined to fulfill purpose and need, the following two (2) alternatives were considered for construction of a new facility.

3.2 Proposed Action – Facility Relocation

The Proposed Alternative would be the construction of a new sanitary sewerage pump station facility at 1800 Parkway, Block 18, Lot 1, Lake Como, NJ 07719 to permanently relocate the facility. The proposed parcel is a 0.1295 acre lot owned by the Subgrantee. As shown on the Lake Como tax map the 1800 Parkway site (Block 18, Lot 1) fronts on 18th Avenue, which forms the property's northern border. The site is bordered by commercial and residential properties. The property is currently housing the temporary diesel pumps which were relocated out of the flood zone. The proposed site is outside the 500-year floodplain. The proposed pump station's finished floor would be elevated to 14 feet whereas the nearest 500-year advisory floodplain elevation is 12 feet.

The proposed new facility building would be approximately 780 square feet in area. The building would be one story and the maximum height of the building would be 18 feet to the peak of the roof. The building would be a masonry block building with fiber cement board siding. The finished floor elevation would be 14.0 feet. The critical electrical components would be installed approximately another 36 inches above finished floor. The building construction would take approximately 12 months to complete.

The relocation of the pump station outside the 500-year floodplain would help prevent sanitary sewer overflows (SSO) during future flooding events. Therefore, the Proposed Alternative is the Subgrantee's preferred alternative. The Subgrantee would be responsible for demolishing the facility structure at the existing site and securing the original facility site. The Subgrantee has plans to return the original facility location to open space. Both properties are in a residential neighborhood. The original facility is adjacent to Lake Como and surrounded by maintained lawn. The proposed facility site was previously developed with a residential structure that was demolished by the Subgrantee in 2012 and now is a vacant lot with exception to temporary diesel pumps.

3.3 Alternative 2 - Facility Replacement & Elevation

An alternative was reviewed to construct a new sanitary sewerage pump facility at the existing 501 North Boulevard site location. The proposed new facility would be required to be constructed to at or above the 500-year floodplain plus one additional foot to elevate the facility to mitigate the effects from future flooding events. Even if it were to be constructed above the 500-year floodplain elevation, it becomes impossible to access the site due to the flooding of the low lying areas around the site. In this regard, the Subgrantee has determined that constructing a new facility at the existing site would not be prudent or cost effective due to the inability to access the site during future flooding events and/or the occupational safety hazards associated with accessing a flooded site. See *Appendix B* Flood Insurance Rate Map, which shows the location of the existing site relative to the flood zone(s).

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF CONSIDERED ALTERNATIVES

The following table summarizes potential impacts of the No Action, Proposed Action and Alternative Site alternatives:

Table 1 Summary of Potential Environmental Impacts and Mitigation

| Resource | Potential Impacts | | | Agency/ Permits | Mitigation |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | No Action Alternative (Repairs) | Proposed Action Facility Relocation | Alternative Action Facility Replacement & Elevation | | |
| Topography, Geology and Soils | No impact. | No significant impact. Soil disturbed during construction. | No significant impact. Soil to be disturbed during construction. | Freehold Soil Conservation District/potential permit | Best management practices for erosion and sediment control. |
| Land Use and Zoning | No impact | No impact | No impact | | |
| Water Resources and Water Quality | No impact | No impact | No impact | | Compliance with stormwater and erosion & sedimentation control requirements. |
| Wetlands | No impact | No impact | No Impact | | |
| Floodplains | Results in adverse impacts associated with continued floodplain occupancy. | Positive impact due to relocation of facility outside the 100-year and 500-year floodplains. | Results in continued floodplain occupancy and associated adverse impacts, although minimized in comparison to No Action Alternative due to elevation of the replacement facility. | Elevation Certificate with exception to Proposed Action | Relocation alternative represents the floodplain management minimization measure. |
| Vegetation | No impact. | No significant impact. Site previously disturbed. | No significant impact. Site previously disturbed. | | Native plant species would be selected for e landscape plantings to the extent practicable in accordance with EO13112. |
| Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat | No impact | No impact | No impact | | |
| Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat | No impact | No impact | No impact | | |
| Cultural Resources | No impact | No Historic Properties Affected | No impact | NJSHPO | |
| Aesthetic and Visual Resources | No impact | No significant impact | No impact | | |
| Socioeconomic Resources | Potential adverse impact associated with functional operation losses. | Short-term positive impact with construction, long-term net-return to pre-disaster conditions. | Short-term positive impact with construction, long-term net-return to pre-disaster conditions. | | |
| Environmental Justice | No impact | No impact | No impact | | |
| Air Quality | No impact | Temporary dust and emissions due to construction; no long-term impact to air quality. | Temporary dust and emissions due to construction; no long-term impact to air quality. | Generator air permit | Best management practices. |
| Hazardous Materials | No impact | No impact | No impact | NJDEP | Best management practices. |
| Noise | No impact | Temporary construction noise; no long-term impact. | Temporary construction noise; no long-term impact. | | Compliance with local ordinances and best management practices. |
| Traffic | No impact | Short-term impact during construction, no long-term impact | Short-term impact, no long-term impact | | Compliance with local ordinances related to operations on the construction site. |
| Infrastructure | Adverse impact with operational impacts during future flooding events. | Positive impact due to new facility for the affected community. | Positive impact due to new facility for the affected community. Adverse impact with operational impacts during future flooding events; however minimized in comparison to the No Action Alternative due to facility elevation. | | |
| Public Health and Safety | Adverse impact to community with facility loss. | Positive impact due to new facility for the affected community. | Positive impact due to new facility for the affected community. | | Compliance with Federal, State, and local safety standards and codes. |
| Climate Change | No impact | No significant adverse impact on/by facility. | No significant adverse impact on/by facility. | Generator air permit | |
| Cumulative Impacts | Adverse impact to community. | No adverse cumulative impacts. | No adverse cumulative impacts. | | |

4.1 Geology, Topography and Soils

4.1.1 Existing Conditions

The proposed project site (1800 Parkway) is located within the Lake Como watershed and Atlantic Coastal Landscape. The physiographic province is the Coastal Plain. There is no significant drop in elevation within the proposed area of disturbance (AD). The AD itself is relatively level with only a zero to one foot change in elevation. A grade change of approximately 3 to 5 feet exists to the south towards Lake Como. The original facility site (existing site off Northern Blvd), is several feet lower in elevation than the proposed site and is also level.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) operates the Web Soil Survey, which includes the soils of Monmouth County. The original and proposed alternative project sites consist predominantly of one soil type: Klej Loamy Sand-Urban Complex with map unit KkhB. Klej Loamy Sand soil consists of nearly level, moderately well drained and somewhat poorly drained soils with permeability rapid in the subsoil and moderate in the substratum creating seasonably high water tables. The soil's farmland classification is not prime farmland; therefore, no further consultation or impact conversion rating form would be needed for project implementation of any of the action alternatives in accordance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.

Executive Order 12699 requires Federal agencies, assisting in the financing through Federal grants or loans or by guaranteeing the financing through loan or mortgage insurance program of newly constructed buildings, to initiate measures to assure appropriate consideration of seismic safety (WBDG, 1990). The United States Geological Survey (USGS) Percent Peak Ground Acceleration Seismic Hazard Maps (USGS, 2008) indicate that the original and proposed alternative sites are located within a low to moderate seismic hazard area, as is most of New Jersey. Seismic Hazard Maps are available for download from the following website: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/hazards/products/>.

4.1.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

There would be no impact to geology, topography and soils with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

Proposed Action Alternative

There would be no significant impact to geology, topography or soils. The proposed facility site has been previously disturbed and as mentioned above, the soils are not classified as farmland soils. Less than 0.25 acres would be disturbed for the facility development. Best management practices would be utilized during construction, and demolition of the original facility, to minimize erosion and sedimentation as well as dust. The Subgrantee and or its contractor would be responsible for any permits that may be required by Freehold Conservation District in Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act (N.J.S.A. 4:24 -39 et seq.) and Stormwater Management Rules (N.J.A.C. 7:8). Since seismic activity is so low within an area categorized as a moderate

seismic hazard area, the construction of buildings would not have to meet any higher standards. The architect/engineer on the project design would be responsible to follow building codes and standards for design and construction of the facility.

Alternative 2

There would be no significant impact to geology, topography and soils with implementation of Alternative 2.

4.2 Water Resources and Wetlands

4.2.1. Existing Conditions

The Borough is located in Watershed Management Area #12 (Monmouth Watersheds). The existing site is located immediately adjacent to Lake Como, a freshwater lake. The water quality of the lake is known to be impaired by phosphorous levels as indicated by the lake's listing to Sublist 5 of the *New Jersey Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (305(b) and 303(d)) (Integrated List)*. The proposed site is approximately 911 linear feet from the water's edge of Lake Como.

The existing facility site is located in an area mapped as wetland on state NJ GeoWeb mapping as a "Managed Wetland in a Built-Up Maintained Recreational Area." The lake is classified as L1UB1Hx or Lacustrine Limnetic Unconsolidated Bottom Permanently Flooded Excavated per the National Wetland Inventory mapping. The proposed site is not located within any wetland or wetland buffer areas. Executive Order (EO) 11990 "Wetlands Protection" requires that Federal agencies take actions to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands, and preserve and enhance the beneficial effects of wetlands. The evaluation of the proposed project's impact on wetlands is incorporated into the EO 11988-11990 Floodplain Management & Wetlands Protection Eight-Step Decision-Making Summary included in *Appendix B*.

4.2.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

As the facility would be maintained in a floodplain, the potential risk of future sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) releases into Lake Como with this alternative is higher as compared to the proposed action alternative. SSO releases could result in adverse pollution to the coastal lake that has existing water quality impairment due to phosphorus levels and also due to saltwater intrusion and debris that resulted from Hurricane Sandy. There would be no impact to the footprint of wetlands with the No Action Alternative.

Proposed Action Alternative

The relocation of the facility away from the water's edge would decrease risk of SSOs and further buffer the facility from coastal lake/wetland habitat. The relocation alternative is not anticipated to have any adverse effects on water resources or wetlands. It is anticipated to have a positive impact on the environment due to project's address of the damaged facility and enhancement of operations in the future with less disruption of service and decreased risk of potential pollution.

Alternative 2

As the facility would be maintained in the floodplain location, the potential risk of future sanitary SSO releases into Lake Como with this alternative is higher as compared to the proposed action alternative. SSO releases could result in adverse pollution to the coastal lake that has existing water quality impairment due to phosphorus levels and also due to saltwater intrusion and debris that resulted from Hurricane Sandy. There would be no substantial impact to wetlands with Alternative 2; however, some footprint expansion may be involved with elevation of the facility and infringe on managed wetlands. No site visit was conducted to determine the existing condition of surrounding potential wetland areas, nor was a more detailed design produced to evaluate this concern in detail.

4.3. Floodplains

4.3.1. Existing Conditions

EO 11988 Floodplain Management requires that Federal agencies avoid funding activities that directly or indirectly support occupancy, modification, or development of the 100-year floodplain whenever there are practicable alternatives. FEMA uses Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) to identify floodplains for the NFIP. Federal actions within the 100-year floodplain, or 500-year floodplain for critical actions, require the Federal agency to conduct a decision-making process to evaluate proposed investments in floodplain locations. This process, like NEPA, requires the evaluation of alternatives prior to funding the action per implementing regulations at 44 CFR Part 9. The existing site is located within the 100-year floodplain, also known as the Special Flood Hazard Area. The existing site has a Base Flood Elevation (BFE) of 11 feet NAVD88 as indicated on best available floodplain elevation maps available at www.region2coastal.com/sandy/abfe. The 500-year floodplain elevation in vicinity to the proposed site has an elevation of approximately 12 feet NAVD88. The proposed action site is not located within any Flood Zone or floodplain (Refer to *Appendix B*).

4.3.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would promote continued floodplain occupancy and future risk of not only additional flood damage to the facility itself, but disruption of service that can be detrimental to the public and also the environment. As discussed previously, the site's accessibility has been compromised in past flooding events, as well as Hurricane Sandy, thus adversely impacting operations. The repair of the facility, without elevation or floodproofing, may not fully address requirements in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Program.

Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative is a practicable alternative to relocate the facility outside the 500-year floodplain. The facility would be located on higher ground with first floor elevation constructed at approximately 14 feet NAVD88. Equipment would be elevated to approximately 16.5 feet NAVD88. The proposed relocation not only minimizes risk of future flood damage to the facility itself, but also improves operational capabilities to have facility access outside the

500-year floodplain. The proposed action would have a beneficial impact on floodplain habitat and function, as the existing facility would be demolished and removed as a structure in the floodplain and as source of potential pollution. The area would be returned to open space for enhancement of lakeside habitat and recreational space.

Alternative 2

Alternative 2 would promote continued floodplain occupancy and future risk of not only additional flood damage to the facility itself, but disruption of service that can be detrimental to the public and also the environment. As discussed previously, the site's accessibility has been compromised in past flooding events, as well as Hurricane Sandy, thus adversely impacting operations. Elevation or floodproofing of the replacement facility at the original site to at/above the 500-year floodplain elevation plus one foot elevation would help minimize risk of future flood damage to the facility, but would not be as risk averse as the Proposed Action Alternative. The alternative would not fulfill full operational needs of the project.

4.4 Coastal Resources (Coastal Zone and Barriers)

4.4.1. Existing Conditions

Both the existing and proposed action sites are located within the coastal zone and Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA) designation. The project is not located in a Coastal High Hazard Area or Coastal Barrier Resources Unit.

4.4.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would have no significant adverse impacts on coastal resources; however, as stated previously, continued floodplain occupancy maintains risk of future SSOs that could impact the freshwater lake and coastal environment.

Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative would have minimal adverse impacts on coastal resources. The proposed construction would be in accordance NJDEP CAFRA requirements. On February 15, 2013, the Subgrantee received an e-mail from the NJDEP issuing an approval for an Emergency Authorization for the work specified for the relocation of the pump station (*See Appendix C*). Subsequently an application for formal New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) approval for a CAFRA Permit for Public Development, as found within the Coastal Permit Program Rules (within NJAC 7:7-2.1(a)5iii), was submitted for review and approval. Reference DLUR File No. 1347-13-0001.1 CAF130002 and see *Appendix C* for Compliance Statement excerpt from the CAFRA Permit application. The application package is pending formal approval. FEMA has determined that the proposed action is consistent with the NJ Coastal Zone Management Plan and would have minimal adverse effects on coastal resources. The federal grant would be conditioned upon the Subgrantee obtaining the CAFRA permit prior to construction and adherence to the CAFRA permit. The original NJDEP Emergency Authorization email noted the project's consistency with the NJ Coastal Zone Management Plan

and also authorized the demolition of the residential structure that had previously existed at 1800 Parkway.

Alternative 2

Alternative 2 would have no significant adverse impacts on coastal resources. As stated for the No Action Alternative, continued floodplain occupancy maintains risk of future SSOs that could impact the freshwater lake and coastal environment. The proposed replacement with elevation and/or floodproofing would require a CAFRA permit from NJDEP.

4.5 Biological Resources

4.5.1.1 Existing Condition - Vegetation

The existing facility site is surrounded by maintained lawn. The proposed relocation site, which is approximately 0.1295 acres, is now a vacant lot with minimal amount of residential lawn landscape remaining. The project site is within the Metropolitan Planning Area, or PA1, which allows up to 80 percent impervious coverage.

4.5.1.2 Existing Condition - Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat

The proposed relocation site was previously cleared, vacant, and is characterized as recreational upland landscape. The site is surrounded on all sides by existing development. It is anticipated that passerine birds or small mammals may pass through the relocation property or the existing facility site, but neither site supports quality foraging, nesting or shelter for wildlife or fisheries species, including migratory birds. Waterfowl may also occasion the existing facility site due to proximity to the lake.

4.5.1.3 Existing Condition - Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Endangered Species Program webpage was reviewed to determine whether any federally threatened or endangered species were known to be on or near the site. The USFWS website indicated no federally listed endangered species on or near the proposed site. The NJ GeoWeb was reviewed for potential New Jersey State threatened and endangered species or their habitat within the project site. There were no rare or threatened species indicated to potentially exist on the existing or alternative sites.

4.5.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would have no significant impacts on vegetation, wildlife & fisheries habitat, migratory bird habitat and federally listed candidate, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat. The continued floodplain occupancy maintains risk of future SSOs that could impact the freshwater lake and coastal environment.

Proposed Action Alternative

Given that the lot size is 5,640 square feet, the total area of new impervious coverage is 1900 square feet, and there are no special areas onsite, the impervious coverage is 33%, which is well below the 80% maximum. The introduction and spread of non-native plant materials would be

minimized or avoided by reseeding or replanting of any construction-disturbed locations with native or noninvasive plant material as soon as practicable post site disturbance. Plantings cannot be provided in the northwest corner of the property due to the below grade structure and sight line issues at the corner of Parkway and 18th Avenue. Plantings would be designed for clear open sight into the property from Parkway. An additional planting, ornamental and low to the ground, would be provided in the southwest side of the property.

The relocation of the pump station is in itself a mitigation measure, which helps prevent sanitary sewer overflows (SSO) during future flooding events and to ensure the quality of the fishery and migratory bird habitat of Lake Como.

FEMA has found that the Proposed Action Alternative would have no significant adverse impacts on vegetation, wildlife & fisheries habitat or migratory bird habitat. FEMA has found that the Proposed Action Alternative would have no effect on federally listed candidate, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat.

Alternative 2

The No Action Alternative would have no significant impacts on vegetation, wildlife & fisheries habitat, migratory bird habitat and federally listed candidate, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat. The continued floodplain occupancy maintains risk of future SSOs that could impact the freshwater lake and coastal environment.

4.6 Cultural Resources

Cultural resources include properties of historic, cultural and/or archaeological significance. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1964 defines a historic property as “any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion on the National Register.” Criteria for listing a property on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are found at 36 C.F.R. Part 60. Two types of historic properties may be associated with the two purposed sites; archaeological sites and historic buildings.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is comprised of two locations: 501 North Boulevard, which is where the damaged pump station is located, and 1800 Parkway, where the new pump station is proposed to be relocated. The applicant is proposing to demolish the current pump station located at 501 North Boulevard. The relocation site is currently a vacant lot, as the applicant demolished the home that was at the location. The demolition of the building located at 1800 Parkway is not a FEMA undertaking and thus would not be included in the assessment.

4.6.1.1 Existing Conditions - Archaeological Resources

Archaeological evidence verifies Native American occupation in New Jersey from the Paleo-Indian period to the present (Marshall 1982). Archaeologists assigned a classification system to document the period represented by Native American sites in the region. The primary classification encompasses three broad time periods defined as: Paleo-Indian 9000-7000 B.C.; Archaic 7000-1000 B.C.; and Woodland 1000 B.C.-1600 A.D. (Chesler 1982; Custer 1996; Grossman-Bailey 2001; Kraft 1986; Ritchie 1980). An additional period, designated as the Contact period, represents the first interactions between the native inhabitants of New Jersey and

Europeans. The majority of prehistoric sites consist of campsites within 300 feet of wetlands or other water sources (Hasenstab 1991; Ranerse and Hansell 1987). Sites located beyond 300 feet of a water source typically fall on drainage divides and upland areas, but represent less than those near a water source (Pagoulatos 1998). The potential for prehistoric sites also increases in areas with well-drained soils, level topography, historic trails, and a good vantage point (Pagoulatos and Walwer 1991).

An assessment was conducted by FEMA Archaeologists to determine the Area of Potential Effect (APE)'s possibility of containing archaeological resources. Aspects of the project, such as its proximity to known archaeological resources, waterways and historic properties, as well as the site's environmental characteristics, such as soil types and previous ground disturbance activities within the APE, were analyzed. Based on the analyses and predictive modeling, an assessment can be determined if the site has a high, moderate, or low sensitivity to both historic and prehistoric archaeological resources.

According to GIS mapping and New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (NJSHPO) records, neither 501 North Boulevard nor 1800 Parkway are located within an archaeological sensitive area. There are no known archaeological resources or surveys documented within 1-mile of either proposed site locations.

The APE is located less than one-half mile North of Lake Como and less than one-half mile west of the Atlantic Ocean. Soils in this area have been modified from road construction and residential development. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Web Soil Survey confirms that Klej Loamy Sand-Urban Complex which is described as moderately well drained is the most prevalent soil type in the area.

The proposed relocation site of 1800 Parkway has been modified by former grading and excavation related to the construction and demolition of a residential structure. Site preparation would include grading, pump house and dry well construction, utility installation, construction of access/parking area and other activities that would cause ground disturbance to varying depths. No archaeological materials are expected to be located at this site.

4.6.1.2 Existing Conditions - Historic Buildings

A review of historic aerial maps (historicaerials.com) has indicated that no additional or earlier buildings existed at either of the site locations. The building located 1800 Parkway was demolished by the Subgrantee in fall 2012; and the site has been substantially modified by grading and excavating. The existing pump station located at 501 North Boulevard is less than 50 years of age as per historicaerials.com. Both locations are also located within an area with no above-ground historic properties according to the 2012-2013 Windshield Survey prepared jointly by FEMA and NJ State Historic Preservation Office (Concurrence letter received 2/8/2013).

The results of the Monmouth County Historic Sites Inventory (1983) indicate that 28 buildings were documented within one mile of the APE. The New York and Long Branch Railroad Historic District (SHPO Date 8/20/2004) is located approximately 2,320 feet west of the 501

North Boulevard property, and 2320 feet west of the 1800 Parkway location. A single National Register/State Register listed property is located approximately 3,790 feet to the south of the 501 North Boulevard location at 21 Tuttle Avenue. The Audenried Cottage (Normandy Inn) was listed on the State Register on 1/14/1991 and the NRHP on 3/8/1991. None of the properties within one-mile of the APE would be affected by the proposed project.

4.6.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would have no effects on historic properties.

Proposed Action Alternative

Based off the map data and the 2012-2013 Windshield Survey prepared jointly by FEMA and NJ State Historic Preservation Office, no historic properties would be affected by the undertakings at North Boulevard and 1800 Parkway. Under the provisions of Section II.C.d. of the Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Emergency Management Agency, NJ SHPO, The New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Delaware Nation, the Delaware Tribe of Indians, the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohicans as a Result of Hurricane Sandy (FEMA, 2013), FEMA made a determination of No Historic Properties Affected in accordance with 36 C.F.R. Part 800.4(d)(1) for the proposed action. The Subgrantee also coordinated with NJ SHPO via letter dated February 20, 2013. The NJ SHPO concurred with No Historic Properties Affected on March 27, 2013 (*See Appendix D*).

Alternative 2

The proposed demolition at 501 North Boulevard would not result in substantial ground disturbance if the Borough of Lake Como followed the guidelines in FEMA's Best Practices for Lower Impact Debris Removal and Demolitions. Alternative 2 would not adversely impact archaeological resources or other historic properties.

4.7 Aesthetic Resources

4.7.1 Existing Conditions

The existing facility is surrounded by the lake and open space maintained lawn around the lake; however, is surrounded by a residential community. The existing facility has some separation from the residences with location across the street; however, the proposed facility site is integrated with residential structures at the north end of Parkway. As described previously, a residential structure was previously located on the lot and was demolished by the Subgrantee in 2012.

4.7.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would have no adverse effect on aesthetic resources.

Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative could have a minor to moderate adverse effect on residential neighborhood character; however, the Subgrantee would plan to design the building structure to look like a residential structure, would include plantings as practicable to emulate a landscaped residence and would incorporate public input on color, fence materials or additional fences to enhance the aesthetics of the proposed facility. Concept renderings of the proposed facility are included in *Appendix A*.

Alternative 2

Alternative 2 would have no adverse effect on aesthetic resources, as the replacement facility would be at the same location and substantially conform to existing footprint.

4.8 Socioeconomics

4.8.1 Existing Conditions

According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Population, the population for the Borough of Lake Como was 1,759 persons and Monmouth County had a population of 630,380 persons. The total number of households located in the Borough is approximately 785 whereas the County consists of approximately 233,983 households. The 2010 median household income for the Borough is well below that of County, \$76,576 and \$82,265, respectively.

4.8.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

If the pump station were to remain at its existing location, the continued flooding events would prove to have a negative impact on the local economy as the Subgrantee would be required to spend additional monies on repairs, which would have a direct effect on sewer rates. In addition, the effect of having to close beaches due to SSO's would be severely detrimental to the beach resort community of Lake Como.

Proposed Action Alternative

Relocating the pump station would provide a reliable means of sanitary sewer service during future flood events. The project would also bring temporary construction related jobs to the area. Such jobs would also bring ancillary economic benefit to local hospitality, service and supply businesses.

Alternative 2

Elevating and replacing the pump station at the existing location would decrease risk of loss of sanitary sewer service during future flood events; however, would still be problematic due to limited access and flood inundation around the facility during future flood events. The project would also bring temporary construction related jobs to the area. Such jobs would also bring ancillary economic benefit to local hospitality, service and supply businesses.

4.9 Environmental Justice

4.9.1 Existing Conditions

Executive Order 12898, entitled “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations,” guides Federal agencies to “make environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.”

4.9.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

The EPA Environmental Justice (EJ) Mapper indicates that there are no potentially sensitive EJ communities within the Borough of Lake Como. None of the project alternatives would have disproportionately high or adverse impacts on human health and human environment of minority or low-income populations.

4.10 Air Quality

4.10.1 Existing Conditions

The Federal Clean Air Act requires each state to attain and maintain specified air quality standards. National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) have been promulgated by the Federal government and by NJ for criteria pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, particle pollution, sulfur dioxide and lead. Primary air quality standards are set to protect human health and secondary standards are set to protect human welfare. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is presently implementing the 2008 ozone standards as required by the Clean Air Act; meeting these standards would provide important public and environmental health benefits. The project area is a nonattainment area for Ozone 8-hour (1997 standard), Particulate Matter 2.5 Annual (1997 standard) and Particulate Matter 2.5 24-hour (2006 standard), as indicated on EPA’s EJ View online mapper.

4.10.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

There would be no impact to air quality with implementation of the No Action Alternative. The emissions associated with repair construction activities would be below de minimis levels for criteria pollutants; therefore, no general conformity analysis is triggered by the Clean Air Act (CAA) and activities, construction and operational, are anticipated to be accounted for in the State Implementation Plan per CAA.

Proposed Action Alternative

The proposed new 125 KW generator would be emitting much cleaner emissions than the existing circa 1976 generator because the new equipment is required to meet current EPA regulations. The emissions associated with relocation & new construction activities would be below de minimis levels for criteria pollutants; therefore, no general conformity analysis is triggered by the Clean Air Act (CAA) and activities, construction and operational, are

anticipated to be accounted for in the State Implementation Plan per CAA. The design of the pump station will be enhanced compared to the existing pump station. Old design standards were based on air exchanges in the wet well which created odors outside the station. The new design will contain the air within the wet well through sealed manholes. Also the new design slopes the influent sewage to below the water level, minimizing splashing and disturbance, a primary cause of odors. The wet well water level in the old station fluctuated up and down, also releasing odors, whereas the new station is designed to maintain a constant level. The Subgrantee monitors and responds to odor complaints at any of their facilities.

Alternative 2

There would be no significant impact to air quality with implementation of Alternative 2. Refer to Proposed Action Alternative for description of minor temporary air quality and odor impacts related to construction and long-term operation of a generator.

4.11 Hazardous Materials

4.11.1 Existing Conditions

French and Parello Associates, P.A. was retained by the Subgrantee to conduct a preliminary assessment (PA) of the proposed 1800 Parkway Site. This PA was performed in accordance with NJDEP's Technical Requirements for Site Remediation, N.J.A.C. 7:26E-3.1 through 3.2 and the NJDEP Preliminary Assessment Technical Guidance Documents. The purpose of PA is to identify the presence of areas of concern (AOCs). AOCs are defined by the NJDEP as any existing or former distinct location where any hazardous substance, hazardous waste, or pollutant is known or suspected to have been discharged, generated, manufactured, refined, transported, stored, handled, treated or disposed, or where any hazardous substance, hazardous waste, or pollutant has or may have migrated. During the completion of this PA, including site reconnaissance, no areas of concern were identified within the subject proposed property. Therefore, no further investigation is warranted. No known hazardous materials or soils are of special concern at the existing facility site. Materials that may be classified as hazardous or have risk of contamination if handled improperly may be present on-site during construction of any of the project alternatives.

4.11.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

Best management practices would be used in the event of a petroleum or other hazardous material leak. These practices include requiring all contractors to keep materials on hand to control and contain a petroleum spill. Any spills would be reported in accordance with NJDEP regulations. Contractors would be responsible for ensuring responsible action on the part of construction personnel. Based upon the lack of hazardous materials on site and the implementation of best management practices and spill control during project construction, none of the project alternatives would have an adverse impact associated with hazardous or otherwise contaminated materials.

4.12 Noise

4.12.1 Existing Conditions

The United States Congress' Noise Control Act of 1972 required the EPA to create noise criteria. In response, in 1974, the EPA published information on levels of environmental noise requisite to protect public health and welfare with an adequate margin of safety, which explains the impact of noise on humans. Noise pollution is in general measured in decibels (dB) which measure the intensity of sound. Day-night average sound level (Ldn) is used to measure the average sound impacts for the purpose of guidance for compatible land use. The EPA report found that the maximum 24-hour Ldn value is 70 dB before causing hearing loss. Maximum outdoor activity interference in a residential neighborhood is 55 dB for Ldn. Maximum indoor activity interference in a residential neighborhood is 45 dB for Ldn. However, impulse noise or peaks can be a maximum of 167 dB before causing hearing loss. The ambient noise level in the vicinity of the proposed project site is typical for a commercial/residential area. The project site is centrally located within the Borough of Lake Como, Monmouth County.

4.12.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

Temporary impact to ambient noise levels is anticipated during construction for all considered alternatives. The noise levels created by construction equipment would vary greatly depending on factors such as the type of equipment, the specific model, the operation being performed and the condition of the equipment; however it is anticipated that construction noise levels would be less than 100 dB(A). The Subgrantee's construction contractor would adhere to construction hours (7 AM – 6 PM) per Borough ordinance.

Proposed Alternative

The pump station would generate noise during operations. Normal operation of the pump station would typically not create noise outside of the building. When the generator that would be located inside the building operates, noise may be heard outside of the pump station building. In order to minimize noise levels during power outages when generator is running, the Subgrantee would incorporate sound attenuation materials, a critically silenced muffler, and a baffle wall disguised as a chimney, in order to direct noise from generator exhaust directly upwards.

4.13 Traffic

4.13.1 Existing Conditions

The existing pump station is situated at 501 North Boulevard. Access to and from the site is readily available under normal conditions but hindered greatly or completely blocked during significant flood events.

The proposed project site at 1800 Parkway consists of one parcel Block 18, Lot 1 which was once a residential site. The site is located in a residential/commercial area along the primary roadway 18th Avenue in and out of the community. This site is out of the floodplain, not prone to flooding and therefore fully accessible.

4.13.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

All considered alternatives would result in temporary impact to traffic involved with construction vehicles; however, no long-term impacts would be expected for any of the alternatives. The Subgrantee would visit the site once per day for routine inspection, maintenance and operations.

4.14 Public Services and Utilities

4.14.1 Existing Conditions

All sites are served by the Borough of Lake Como Water System. On-site sewer service is provided by the Subgrantee. Natural gas would be provided by NJ Natural Gas. All sites are serviced by Jersey Central Power & Light electric lines.

4.14.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

There would be no adverse effect on public services and utilities other than the sanity sewer service addressed by the proposed project.

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would promote continued floodplain occupancy and future risk of not only additional flood damage to the facility itself, but disruption of service that can be detrimental to the public and also the environment. As discussed previously, the site's accessibility has been compromised in past flooding events, as well as Hurricane Sandy, thus adversely impacting operations. The repair of the facility, without elevation or floodproofing, may not fully address requirements in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Program.

Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative is a practicable alternative to relocate the facility outside the 500-year floodplain. The proposed relocation not only minimizes risk of future flood damage to the facility itself, but also improves operational capabilities to have facility access outside the 500-year floodplain.

Alternative 2

Alternative 2 would promote continued floodplain occupancy and future risk of not only additional flood damage to the facility itself, but disruption of service that can be detrimental to the public and also the environment. As discussed previously, the site's accessibility has been compromised in past flooding events, as well as Hurricane Sandy, thus adversely impacting operations.

4.15 Public Health and Safety

4.15.1 Existing Conditions

The Borough of Lake Como's public health and safety was negatively impacted by Hurricane Sandy. The existing pump station received flood damage during this storm event and has been prone to repetitive flood damage.

4.15.2 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative

Taking no action would have a potential adverse impact on the public health and safety of the people in the Borough of Lake Como and surrounding areas. As discussed, the pump station would not be accessible or functional during a flood event. The frequency of flood events at this site is a cause for concern. Reliable sewer service capabilities are vital to the health and safety of any community and the existing pump station facility does not provide an adequate level of reliability during flood events. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards would be followed to protect worker health and public safety.

Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative would have a positive impact on public health and safety. Flooding potential at this site would be reduced, thus improving sewer service to the community. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards would be followed to protect worker health and public safety.

Alternative 2

Alternative 2 would have a potential adverse impact on the public health and safety of the people in the Borough of Lake Como and surrounding areas. As discussed, the pump station would not be accessible or functional during a flood event. The frequency of flood events at this site is a cause for concern. Reliable sewer service capabilities are vital to the health and safety of any community and the existing pump station facility does not provide an adequate level of reliability during flood events. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards would be followed to protect worker health and public safety.

4.16 Climate Change

Climate change could potentially increase temperatures in the northeast United States, causing more severe weather incidents to occur and sea levels to rise. New Jersey has one of the highest projected rises in sea level. This fact was a major item in the decision process for the relocation of the pump station. The Proposed Action Alternative of relocating the pump station results in the facility being located at a higher elevation and outside of the flood zones.

Relocating the pump station facility would not exacerbate potential future climate change impacts. No significant air emissions (pollutant load) are anticipated as a result of the proposed construction or future operations. A standby generator is considered a general permit item by the State of New Jersey and the equipment would be certified to meet all federal, state and local emissions requirements. The architect and/or engineer could also take into consideration principles for energy saving and renewable materials such as promoted by NJDEP Planning & Sustainable Communities, NJ's Clean Energy Program, Leadership and Energy and Environmental Design and the Energy Star program for selecting appliances and utilities. For more information, visit the following websites:

- www.state.nj.us/dep/opsc/sdtguide.html
- www.njcleanenergy.com/

- www.usgbc.org/leed/rating-systems/core-shell
- www.usgbc.org/resources/core-and-shell-v2009-checklist-xls
- www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=pt_univ.eeps_sites_nyserda

4.17 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative effects are defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) as the impact on the environment resulting from the incremental impacts of the evaluated actions when combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of the source, such as Federal or non-Federal. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taken over time. The potential cumulative impacts from this proposed project would not have a significant adverse effect on the human environment. However, the potential exists for adverse effects to floodplains, socioeconomic resources and public health and safety through the execution of the No Action Alternative. (Table 1 summarized the potential impacts of the Proposed Action, Alternative Action, and No Action alternatives).

5.0 PERMITS & PROJECT CONDITIONS

The Subgrantee is responsible for obtaining all applicable federal, state, and local permits for project implementation prior to construction and to adhere to all permit conditions. Any substantive change to the approved scope of work would require re-evaluation by FEMA for compliance with NEPA and other laws and executive orders. The grantee must also adhere to the following conditions during project implementation:

1. The new critical facility must be located at an elevation, elevated or floodproofed to at/above the 500-year floodplain elevation plus one foot vertical height in accordance with EO 11988, implementing regulations at 44 CFR Part 9 and the National Flood Insurance Program, as well as Hurricane Sandy Task Force Rebuilding Task Force Uniform Flood Risk Reduction Standard for Sandy Rebuilding Projects. Refer to best available flood elevation data available at: www.region2coastal.com/sandy/abfe.
2. Excavated soil and waste materials would be managed and disposed of in accordance with applicable local, state and federal regulations.
3. In the event that unmarked graves, burials, human remains, or archaeological deposits are uncovered, the Subgrantee and its contractors will immediately halt construction activities in the vicinity of the discovery, secure the site, and take reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the findings. The Subgrantee will inform the NJOEM, SHPO and FEMA immediately. The Subgrantee must secure all archaeological findings and shall restrict access to the area. Work in sensitive areas may not resume until consultations are completed or until an archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards determines the extent and historical significance of the discovery. Work may not resume at or around the delineated archaeological deposit until the Subgrantee is notified by NJOEM.

4. It is expected that the Subgrantee and its construction contractor(s) will conduct construction utilizing best management practices to limit noise, dust, sedimentation, and erosion during construction.
5. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards shall be followed during construction to avoid adverse impacts to worker and public health and safety.
6. The Subgrantee shall be responsible to obtain any applicable certifications or permits in accordance with the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act (N.J.S.A. 4:24 -39 et seq.) and Stormwater Management Rules (N.J.A.C. 7:8) prior to start of construction. For more information contact the: FREEHOLD CONSERVATION DISTRICT at 4000 Kozloski Road, PO Box 5033, Freehold 07728; 732-683-8500; 732-683-9140 (fax); email info@freeholdscd.org; and following website at: www.freeholdscd.org.
The following website has general information about Soil Erosion & Sediment Control Plan requirements, as well as Stormwater Permits for new site construction: www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/anr/nrc/njdep.html.
7. It is recommended that the grant applicant restore disturbed construction areas of the site with native seed and/or plant species to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation, as well as enhance environmental habitat quality of project area. It is recommended that disturbed soil areas be planted with native plant material, as soon as practicable after exposure, to avoid or minimize growth of undesired and potentially invasive plant species that can potentially take hold without competition of native plant materials. Local landscape plant nurseries and soil conservation offices can assist with identification of suitable native plants for site location type. The following websites may also be useful for the identification of native plant material for the proposed project site:
 - <http://plants.usda.gov/java/>
 - www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/plantsanimals/plants/
 - www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/nativeplantmaterials/rightmaterials.shtml

6.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

In accordance with NEPA, this EA Report will be released for a 15-day public review and comment period. Availability of the document for comment will be advertised in The Asbury Park Press newspaper. A hard copy of the EA will be available for review at the Subgrantee(s) Administration office located at 1235 18th Ave, Belmar, New Jersey. The office is open weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. An electronic copy of the EA may be requested by emailing FEMA4086COMMENT@fema.dhs.gov. The EA will also be made available for download from the FEMA website at www.fema.gov/resource-document-library. This EA reflects the evaluation and assessment of the Federal government, the decision-maker for the Federal action; however, FEMA will take into consideration any substantive comments received during the public review period to inform the final decision regarding grant approval and project implementation. The public is invited to submit written comments by mail to FEMA Region 2,

Office of Environmental Planning & Historic Preservation, 13 Floor, 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278, or email to: FEMA4086COMMENT@fema.dhs.gov.

The EA evaluation resulted in the identification of no unmitigated significant impacts to the human environment. Obtaining and implementing permit requirements along with appropriate best management practices will avoid or minimize potential adverse effects associated with the three alternatives considered in this EA to below the level of a significant impact. If no substantive comments are received from the public and/or agency reviewers, the EA will be adopted as final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued by FEMA. If substantive comments are received, FEMA will evaluate and address comments as part of Final Environmental Assessment documentation. The proposed project is also expected to receive funding through the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program as described in correspondence and Level I Environmental Review included in Appendix D.

Copies of the EA will be sent to:

Attn: Monmouth County Section Chief
 New Jersey Department of Environmental
 Protection - Land Use Regulating Program
 PO Box 439, 501 East State Street
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0439

Attn: Louise A. Mekosh, RMC, CMC, CMFO,
 Borough Clerk/Administrator
 PO Box 569
 Lake Como, New Jersey 07719

7.0 CONCLUSION

FEMA, through the NEPA evaluation, has found that the Proposed Action to construct the new sanitary sewerage pump station at the 1800 Parkway relocation site, which is the Subgrantee’s preferred alternative, is a practicable alternative that would not have significant adverse impacts on the human environment. During the construction period, short-term impacts to soils, transportation, air quality, and noise are anticipated. Short-term impacts would be mitigated utilizing best management practices, such as silt fences, proper equipment maintenance, and appropriate signage. Any long-term environmental impacts to soils, topography, vegetation, and the floodplain as a result of the pump station construction are outweighed by the positive impacts that the new pump station would have for the Borough of Lake Como community and the Subgrantee’s operations.

8.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

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|--|---|---|
| South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority 1235 18 th Avenue Belmar, NJ 07719 | CME Associates 3141 Bodentown Ave. Parlin, NJ 08859 | FEMA Region II 26 Federal Plaza New York, New York 10278 |
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