

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the
Tyrrell Park Detention Project
HMGP-DR-1780-TX, Project #40
Jefferson County, Texas

Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 has applied to FEMA for assistance with the construction of two detention basins to relieve flooding conditions in portions of the Tyrrell Park subdivision. FEMA previously prepared an EA for this project which resulted in a FONSI, dated February 2012. A Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been prepared to document revisions made to the original approved project, including partial modification to the configuration of the largest detention basin, repair and repaving of an additional 1,650 linear feet of Phelps Road, additional culverts under Downs Road, and minor clean-out of the ditch downstream of the detention basins. The improvements aim to reduce future flood risk to 33 existing structures in the Tyrrell Park subdivision near Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas.

A draft SEA has been prepared to assess the potential impacts of the proposed action and alternatives on the human and natural environment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and the implementing regulations of FEMA (44 CFR Parts 9 and 10). A portion of the channel clean-out downstream of the basins is within the 100-year floodplain. However, the ditch previously existed and the clean-out activity is not anticipated to affect the floodplain.

The draft SEA evaluates alternatives that provide for compliance with applicable environmental laws. The alternatives evaluated include (1) No Action; (2) Detention/Buyout Combination (Proposed Action); (3) Buyout of All Affected Homes; and (4) Channelization.

The draft SEA is available for review and comment between August 20, 2014, and September 3, 2014, at the Beaumont Public Library located at 801 Pearl Street; at the Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 Offices located at 6550 Walden Road in Beaumont, Texas; and at the offices of Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., located at 1507 South IH 35, Austin, Texas. Electronic copies can be accessed on the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents> or by request from Dorothy Weir, Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region 6 at dorothy.weir@fema.dhs.gov.

Written comments regarding this proposed project can be mailed to Dorothy Weir, Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region 6, 800 N. Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209. Electronic comments can also be submitted to dorothy.weir@fema.dhs.gov. Comments should be received no later than 5 p.m. on September 3, 2014. 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.

Betty Holman, Asst. Gen. Manager – Adm.
Jefferson County Drainage District No. Six
6550 Walden Rd.
Beaumont, TX 77707
(409) 842-1818