

FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

State of Louisiana, Office of Facility Planning and Control Northshore Technical Community College St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed relocation of the Northshore Technical Community College (formerly known as Louisiana Technical College) campus, in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. The Parish of St. Tammany prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a larger tract containing the new proposed campus location as part of its Community Development Block Grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD issued a FONSI for this proposed undertaking. In lieu of conducting an independent EA for this project, pursuant to 40 CFR §1500.4(n), §1500.5(h), and §1506.3, FEMA intends to adopt the EA prepared by St. Tammany Parish without modification. In accordance with the statutes cited, any federal agency may adopt another federal or state agency's EA, and is encouraged to do so, when such adoption would save time and money, providing the original document satisfies the agency's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements.

Northshore Technical Community College (NTCC) was formerly located at 1000 Canulette Road, Slidell, Louisiana 70458. The campus facility is owned by the State of Louisiana, Office of Facility Planning and Control (FP&C) and is not presently in use, having been made safe and secure after Hurricane Katrina. NTCC, the tenant of FP&C, has determined that their needs would best be served by moving this facility to a new location. With FP&C's concurrence, NTCC proposes to relocate to a 12.6-acre site within a currently undeveloped 41-acre tract owned by St. Tammany Parish. The new NTCC campus would consist of a 22,800 square-foot, single story building housing the functions that were distributed among the various buildings of the former Slidell location. There also would be parking as required by St. Tammany Parish Code. No change in function is proposed. The new facility would be sited at 65726 Highway 434, Lacombe, Louisiana 70445. An additional 185-acre tract located across Highway 434 from the project area would be acquired by St. Tammany Parish to accommodate stormwater detention. Only the NTCC project budget is being funded by FEMA.

In accordance with NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4371 et seq.) and associated environmental statutes, St. Tammany Parish's EA evaluates the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. FEMA's Draft FONSI concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment.

This Public Notice and FEMA's Draft FONSI can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/search/Northshore>. St. Tammany Parish's EA and FEMA's Draft FONSI will also be available for public review at the St. Tammany Parish Library, 3505 Highway 190, Mandeville, Louisiana.

A notice of availability for this project will be published for (2) days in *The Farmer* on Thursday, November 13, 2014, and Thursday, November 20, 2014; and for (3) days in *The Times Picayune* on Friday, November 14; Sunday, November 16, 2014; and Wednesday, November 19, 2014. Additionally, there will be a fifteen (15) day comment period, beginning on Thursday, November 20, 2014, and concluding on Friday, December 5, 2014.

Written comments on the proposal may be mailed to: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY/Federal Emergency Management Agency, Environmental / Historic Preservation (EHP), Northshore Technical Community College Project, 1500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802 or emailed to: FEMA-NOMA@dhs.gov. Verbal comments will be accepted at 225-267-2962 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. during the comment period. If there are no substantive comments received, the Draft FONSI will become final and this Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice.