

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA)**  
**for the Proposed Replacement of the Salem Civic Center Project**  
**Fulton County, Arkansas**

On December 5 and 6, 2013, a severe winter storm impacted the communities in the Arkansas counties of Crawford, Franklin, Fulton, Johnson, Logan, Madison, Marion, Newton, Polk, Scott, Searcy, Sebastian, Sharp and Van Buren. Subsequently, a Presidential Disaster Declaration, FEMA-DR-4160-AR, was signed on January 6, 2014 for the State of Arkansas to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area affected by the winter storm.

The storm deposited approximately one inch of ice and 10 inches of snow on top of the Salem Civic Center at the Fulton County Fairgrounds in Fulton County, Arkansas. As a result, the building collapsed on December 12, 2013.

Interested persons are hereby notified that the City of Salem, Arkansas, has submitted an Improved Project application (Project Worksheet 109) for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding under FEMA's Public Assistance Program being administered in response to FEMA-DR-4160-AR. As an Improved Project, applicants performing restoration work on a damaged facility may use the opportunity to make additional improvements, while restoring the facility to its pre-disaster function and capacity. The proposed project would involve replacing the old Civic Center Building with a larger building at a new location on the Fulton County Fairgrounds that would allow for large groups and would be in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

The proposed new Civic Center Building would be located approximately 600 feet west of the old facility on the Fulton County Fairgrounds in Fulton County Arkansas (36.38151 -91.84399). This would allow the building to be built on level ground and accessible from the other facilities located at the fairgrounds. The proposed facility is 14,000 square feet, 18 feet high and will be a post frame barn with steel siding. It will meet all the ADA architectural standards for new construction or alteration of state and local government buildings.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the implementing regulations of FEMA, a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to assess the potential impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environment. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, alternatives, affected environment, 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 (<https://www.fema.gov/resource-document-library>) and the White River Planning and Development District's website ([www.wrpdd.org](http://www.wrpdd.org)). The Draft EA can also be viewed at the Fulton County Office of Emergency Services located in the Fulton County Courthouse at 123 North Main Street, Salem, AR between Monday and Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and at the Salem City Hall located at 120 North Main Street, Salem, AR between Monday and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.).

The comment period will end 30 days from the initial notice publication date in the newspaper. 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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