

**Federal Emergency Management Agency  
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the City of Huntsville Town Creek Drainage Improvement Project, Walker County, Texas  
HMGP-DR-1791-TX Project #120

Interested persons are hereby notified that the City of Huntsville has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures that reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.

FEMA proposes to provide funding to the City for improvements along approximately 1.5 miles of Town Creek between 7th Street and Bearkat Boulevard in downtown Huntsville. From 7th Street to 14th Street, railroad tanker cars will be replaced with reinforced concrete box culverts and drainage lines; existing culverts will be replaced and added; cross sections and banks will be modified above the Ordinary High Water Mark of Town Creek; and a new headwall with wing walls will be placed at the southern entrance to the 11th Street culvert. From 14th Street to 17th Street full channel improvements will create uniform creek slopes and bottoms with a shelf on the western bank. An in-channel detention facility within an expanded creek right-of-way will be constructed in the portion of the creek near Avenue J. A four-foot tall drop structure will be placed at the downstream end of the detention facility. From the southern end of the proposed detention facility to the southern terminus of the proposed project, full channel improvements will create uniform creek slopes and bottoms via full reshaping of the creek. An existing detention area utilized as a sports field at Sam Houston State University will undergo cross-section improvements to correct existing hydrological deficiencies.

A draft Environmental Assessment (EA) 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). The draft EA evaluates alternatives that provide for compliance with applicable environmental laws. The alternatives evaluated include (1) no action; (2) the proposed action described above.

The draft EA is available for review and comment at the City of Huntsville City Hall, City Hall 1212 Avenue M, Huntsville, TX 77340 Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm from March 29 to April 13, 2015. An electronic version of the draft EA can be requested from Dorothy Weir, FEMA Region 6, at [dorothy.weir@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:dorothy.weir@fema.dhs.gov) or viewed on FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents>.

The comment period will end 15 days from the initial notice publication date. Written comments on the draft EA can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to Dorothy Weir, Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region 6, 800 N Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209, Fax: 940-297-0152; [dorothy.weir@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:dorothy.weir@fema.dhs.gov). 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.