

Appendix F

Environmental Review Record

Environmental Assessment

HMGP CDBG-DR Global Match Acquisition & Elevation, Village of Sidney, Delaware County, New York

ERR Project Summary	
Responsible Entity:	New York State Homes and Community Renewal
Certifying Officer:	Thomas J. King, Esq., Governor's Office of Storm Recovery Katherine S. Zeringue, Federal Emergency Management Agency
Project Name:	HMGP Global Match Acquisitions – Delaware County, NY
Federal Agency:	Federal Emergency Management Agency / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Project Sponsor:	Delaware County Board of Supervisors/ New York State Homes and Community Renewal
Program Name:	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program / New York State Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery
Project Site Address:	Various parcels, Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, Delaware County, NY
Project County:	Delaware County, New York
Estimated Project Cost:	Approximately \$19.2 million
Project Sponsor Address:	Delaware County Board of Supervisors 111 Main Street Delhi, NY 13753 New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation 38-40 State Street Albany, NY 12207
Primary Contact's Name:	Thomas J. King, Esq.
E-Mail address:	thomas.king@stormrecovery.ny.gov
Telephone Number:	646-417-4660
Project NEPA Classification:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finding of No Significant Impact - The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. <input type="checkbox"/> Finding of Significant Impact - The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.
ENVIRONMENTAL FINDING:	<p>The undersigned hereby certifies that New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation, as HUD responsible entity, and FEMA have conducted an environmental review of the project identified above and prepared the attached record of environmental considerations in compliance with all applicable provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, (42 USC sec. 4321 et seq.) and its implementing regulations under 24 CFR Part 58 and 44 CFR Part 10.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: 200px;">  </div> <p>NAME: Thomas J. King, Esq. Title/Agency: Certifying Officer/NYS Homes and Community Renewal Date:</p> <hr style="width: 200px; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>NAME: Katherine S. Zeringue Title/Agency: Environmental Officer/Federal Emergency Management Agency, Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Date:</p>

Appendix G Public Comments

APPENDIX G

PUBLIC COMMENTS

GOSR/FEMA received one comment objecting to the potential for the Proposed Action to cause further blight, housing deterioration, tax base erosion, and a “gap tooth” effect of the remaining housing stock.

GOSR/FEMA received one comment objecting to the conceptual Riverlea Housing project, and the potential costs and eligibility of that development.

GOSR/FEMA received two comments questioning the eligibility of certain properties for the Proposed Action. Specifically, the commenters questioned at what point a person needed to apply to the program to be considered, and the level to which prior flood damage was considered. One of the commenters recommended that all property owners be eligible, that coordinated clustering be the policy, and that no one be left behind unless they want to be.

GOSR/FEMA received one comment that the pattern of housing elevation/demolition will interfere with the conceptual GreenPlain project.

GOSR/FEMA received one comment questioning whether all of the substantially damaged properties in the floodplain were included, and whether the monetary incentive of the buyout was sufficient.

GOSR/FEMA RESPONSES

GOSR/FEMA have found that the Proposed Action would have a beneficial effect on community character over the No Action alternative. The Proposed Action, which would seek voluntary elevations or acquisition/demolitions of repetitive loss properties, would provide options to community members for risk reduction. Homes to be elevated would remain in place, contributing to continuity in land use and community character while reducing the risk of repetitive flood losses. The acquisition and demolition of other properties by Delaware County would enable the future development of a portion of the neighborhood for use as community greenspace, as well as flood protection.

The Riverlea Housing project is a separate action that is not considered part of the Proposed Action.

The intent of the Proposed Action is to reduce the loss of life and property. GOSR/FEMA encourages any property owner interested in the Proposed Action to contact the Applicant, Delaware County, to determine their individual eligibility for the program.

The GreenPlain project is a separate action that is not considered part of the Proposed Action.

The intent of the Proposed Action is to reduce the loss of life and property. GOSR/FEMA encourages any property owner interested in the Proposed Action to contact the Applicant, Delaware County, to determine their individual eligibility for the program.

GOSR/FEMA received one comment questioning what will happen to the Main Street commercial properties, churches, and library in the floodplain, and recommended that these properties be flood-proofed.

GOSR/FEMA received one comment recommending a berm in the northeast quadrant of the Village and extending downstream to protect existing properties.

Commercial properties were not included in the Proposed Action. However, these properties may be eligible for other programs not included as part of the Proposed Action.

As described in the EA, GOSR/FEMA considered a levee/floodwall system as an alternative to the Proposed Action and found that it was not feasible due to potential increased flood levels in Unadilla, wetland impacts, habitat loss, aesthetics, and cost.