

**Federal Emergency Management Agency
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment
for the Construction of a New Fire Station
LaBelle, Jefferson County, Texas
FEMA-1791-DR-TX

Interested persons are hereby notified that the LaBelle-Fannett Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance with the construction of a new fire station to be located at 12911 FM 365 in LaBelle, Texas. The proposed project would be located on a 3.5 acre site east of LaBelle Road which fronts 100 feet of FM 365. The new location would be located in an area outside of the 100-year and 500-year floodplain, have greater access to major streets and highways, and would allow the VFD to use the station for an emergency shelter during the next flooding event.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an 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 environmental, 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 at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm> or viewed at the following location between March 11, 2009 and April 9, 2009:

Beaumont Public Library
801 Pearl Street
Beaumont, Texas

The comment period will end 30 days from the initial notice publication date of March 11, 2009. Written comments on the Draft EA can be mailed or faxed to the contact listed below. If no substantive comments are received by 5:00 pm on April 9, 2009, 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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