

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment**

**For Ottawa Intermediate School, Public Assistance Grant**

**City of Ottawa, LaSalle County, Illinois**

Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Ottawa Intermediate School construction project.

Interested persons are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)/Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is proposing to provide funding for the construction of a new intermediate school for the City of Ottawa located adjacent to the Shepherd School (N 41° 19' 19.6" and W 88° 49' 45.78"). This project is to construct a two-story 97,663 square foot school, associated asphalt paved driveways and parking, storm water detention, and the relocation of the 1855 schoolhouse, Washington Memorial Bell, Washington School Cupola and accompanying privy. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an EA is being prepared to assess the potential impacts of each of the proposed alternatives on the human and natural environment. This also provides public notice to invite public comments on the proposed project in accordance with Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, and Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands. In addition, this notice and the draft EA provide information to the public on potential impacts to historic and cultural resources from the proposed undertaking, as outlined in the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966.

The draft EA is available for review between July 29, 2010 and August 28, 2010 at the Ottawa Elementary School District Office located at 320 West Main St. Ottawa, IL 61350. The draft EA is also available for review online at the FEMA website <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region5.shtm>.

Written comments regarding this environmental action should be received no later than 5 p.m. on August 28, 2010, by Amanda C. Ratliff, Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA, 536 South Clark Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL 60605-1521, or at [Amanda.Ratliff@dhs.gov](mailto:Amanda.Ratliff@dhs.gov).

If no substantive comments are received by the above deadline, the draft EA and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and be published by FEMA. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

The public may request a copy of the final environmental documents from Amanda C. Ratliff at the address listed above.