

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300
Kansas City, Missouri, 64114-3372



FEMA

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
CITY OF IOWA CITY ANIMAL CENTER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
IOWA CITY, JOHNSON COUNTY, IOWA
FEMA-1763-DR-IA

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to fund the construction of a new Iowa City Animal Center in Johnson County, Iowa under the authority of Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5121-5206, as amended (Stafford Act, Public Law 93-288). FEMA was authorized under a Presidential disaster declaration (FEMA-1763-DR-IA) to provide Federal disaster assistance to City of Iowa City, Johnson County, Iowa, as a result of the devastating flood that impacted Johnson County, Iowa, beginning on June 9th, 2008. The Proposed Action would require the replacement of the Iowa City Animal Center as it currently operates out of a temporary facility because the current structure was extensively damaged from the flood beginning June 9th, 2008. The Animal Center provides essential services to the Johnson County area communities. These services include animal adoption, licensing and tagging animals, free education programs, investigation of animal cruelty complaints, and a public lending library devoted to animal care books, magazines, and videos. The proposed site of the new Iowa City Animal Center is located on Napoleon Lane, west of South Gilbert Street and north of McCollister Boulevard, east of the Iowa River. The Animal Center serves as a vital resource for abandoned and abused animals that is required for the residents of the region, and therefore action is needed to restore these essential public services to the population of the City of Iowa City and surrounding Johnson County communities.

Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) was written to evaluate the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The DEA summarizes the purpose and need, site selection process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action. The public comment period will be from June 14 to July 14, 2011. Written comments on the DEA can be faxed to FEMA's Iowa Closeout Center at (515) 223-7216 or emailed to Fema-ICC-EHP@dhs.gov.

The DEA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/index.shtm> If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice.