

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR  
CHANGE OF LOCATION OF THE STALLINGS CENTER AND  
POOL FACILITY, ORLEANS PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed relocation and reconstruction of the Hurricane Katrina damaged Stallings Center and Pool formerly located at the corner of North Rampart Street and Lesseps Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. The proposed Community Center would replace the functions and capacity eligible for repair at the original facility in a new location adjacent to the previous site in the City of New Orleans located at 4300 St. Claude Avenue, New Orleans, LA at Latitude 29.96460, Longitude - 90.03235. City of New Orleans seeks federal grant funds for this action eligible for repairs under a Presidential Disaster Declaration, signed on August 29, 2005 (FEMA-1603-DR-LA).

This proposed action would include developing an approximately 2.6-acre site (termed "Proposed Stallings Center and Pool Reconstruction Site") adjacent to and on the south side of St. Claude Avenue approximately 290 feet west of its intersection with Poland Avenue, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. This would include constructing an approximately 15,484 square foot building, to mainly service the current needs in this community and the surrounding areas. Activities would include, where necessary, site clearing, grading, driveway construction, and placement of appurtenant utilities (electricity, telephones, water, and sewer) for the site. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a Draft EA has been prepared to evaluate the action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The Draft EA 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 15 days – August 16, 2011 through August 30, 2011. Written comments on the Draft EA or related matters can be faxed to FEMA's Louisiana Recovery Office at (504) 762-2323; or mailed to FEMA Louisiana Recovery Office, 1 Seine Court, New Orleans, Louisiana 70114. The Draft EA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm>. A public notice will be published for 5 days in the local newspaper, *The Times-Picayune* announcing the availability of the Draft EA for public review at the Orleans Parish Main Library at 219 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112, (hours are 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Mon. - Thurs., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fri. & Sat.).

Based on FEMA's findings to date, no significant adverse environmental effects are anticipated. However, if FEMA receives new information that results in a change from no adverse effects then FEMA would revise the findings and issue a second public notice allowing time for additional comments. However, if there are no changes, this Draft EA will become the Final EA.

If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.