

FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Draft Finding of No Significant Impact For The Housing Authority of New Orleans' Lafitte Senior Housing Development Project City of New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed reconstruction of the Lafitte Senior Housing Project by the Housing Authority of New Orleans. An Environmental Assessment was prepared on behalf of the Housing Authority of New Orleans and submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for a larger development which includes the subject project on August 17, 2007. Any federal agency may adopt another federal or state agency's EA, and is encouraged to do so when such adoption would save time and money (40 CFR §1500.4(n), §1500.5(h), and §1506.3), providing the original document satisfies the agency's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. FEMA has adopted HUD's EA.

The Housing Authority of New Orleans has submitted an application for FEMA Public Assistance funding being administered in response to FEMA-1603-DR-LA, Hurricane Katrina, which was signed as a Presidential Disaster Declaration on August 29, 2005. The Housing Authority of New Orleans proposes to construct the Lafitte Senior Housing development, a 100-apartment unit, 91,722-square foot, 3-story senior living facility on a 27.2-acre site near the New Orleans central business district bounded by Lafitte Street, Orleans Avenue, N. Claiborne Avenue, and N. Rochablave Street. The new development will replace on the same site the former Lafitte conventional public housing development damaged by Hurricane Katrina in September, 2005 and demolished by the Authority in November, 2009.

In accordance with NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*) and associated environmental statutes, a Draft FONSI was prepared to evaluate the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The Draft FONSI is FEMA's finding that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment.

The public comment period will be open for 15 days, from 19 August, 2011 to 6 September, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. Written comments on the proposal may be mailed to:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Environmental / Historic Preservation
Lafitte Senior Housing Project
1 Seine Court
New Orleans, LA 70114

Or emailed to: FEMA-NOMA@dhs.gov or faxed to FEMA's Louisiana Recovery Office in New Orleans at (504) 762-2323; and verbal comments will be accepted at 504 762-2361 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. This Public Notice and FEMA's Draft FONSI can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm. HUD's EA and FEMA's Draft FONSI will also be available for public review at [REDACTED]. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft FONSI will become final and this Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice.