

FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Draft Finding of No Significant Impact For The Archdiocese of New Orleans' St. Bernard III Multi-family Housing Project City of Mandeville, St. Tammany 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 St. Bernard III Multi-family Affordable Housing Project by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. An Environmental Assessment was prepared on behalf of the Archdiocese of New Orleans and submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on August 29, 2011. 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 Archdiocese 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. Hurricane Katrina caused extensive flooding and associated damage to the Archdiocese of New Orleans' 45,757-square foot, 66-unit St. Bernard III Apartment Housing Project located at 244 Archbishop Hannan Boulevard in Meraux, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana. The applicant proposes to re-locate the apartments to a new 66-unit building at Roquette Lodge, 4300 Highway 22 in Mandeville, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. The alternatives considered include 1) No Action 2) Reconstruction at the original location and 3) Reconstruction at the alternate location.

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 for 30 days, from 6 December, 2011 to 20 December, 2011. Written comments on the proposal may be mailed to:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Environmental / Historic Preservation
St. Bernard III Multi-family 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 St. Tammany Parish Library, 3505 Highway 190, Mandeville, Louisiana. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft FONSI will become final and this Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice.