

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the
Bayou Din Detention Project
HMGP-DR-1780-TX, Project #20
Jefferson County, Texas

Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 has applied to FEMA for assistance with the construction of a detention basin totaling approximately 41 acres to relieve flooding conditions in the upper Bayou Din watershed. Total ground disturbance in the entire project area will be approximately 60 acres. The improvements aim to reduce future flood risk to 47 existing structures in the Cheek Community along Lawhon Road near Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas.

A draft Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to assess the potential impacts of the proposed action and alternatives on the human and natural environment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and the implementing regulations of FEMA (44 CFR Parts 9 and 10). This project is located within the 100-year flood plain and an assessment has been made on the effects of the proposed action on the flood plain.

The draft EA evaluates alternatives that provide for compliance with applicable environmental laws. The alternatives evaluated include (1) no action; (2) channelization; (3) buy-out of 47 flood prone properties; and (4) the proposed action described above.

The draft EA is available for review and comment between May 24, 2012, and June 22, 2012, at the Beaumont Public Library located at 801 Pearl Street; at the Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 Offices located at 6550 Walden Road in Beaumont, Texas; and at the offices of Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., located at 1507 South IH 35, Austin, Texas. Electronic copies can be accessed on the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm> or by request from Dorothy Weir, Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region 6 at dorothy.weir@fema.dhs.gov.

Written comments regarding this proposed project can be mailed to Dorothy Weir, Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region 6, 909 N. Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209. Electronic comments can also be submitted to dorothy.weir@fema.dhs.gov. Comments should be received no later than 5 p.m. on June 22, 2012. If no substantive comments are received, the draft EA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

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