

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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FEMA

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL FACILITY ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
FEMA-1763-DR-IA

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to fund the City of Cedar Rapids' request to relocate the Animal Care and Control Facility in Cedar Rapids, Iowa under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5121-5207, 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 Linn County, Iowa, as a result of the devastating flood that impacted the City of Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa, beginning on June 11th, 2008.

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 potential impacts of the actions considered on the human and natural environment. The DEA summarizes the purpose and need, project evaluation process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the considered options.

The City of Cedar Rapids' preferred option is to relocate the flood damaged Animal Control Facility to the Kirkwood Community College Campus located adjacent to Washington Hall and the Mansfield Swine Education Center. Other relocation sites considered include a vacant parcel at the corner of Jacolyn Drive and 16th Avenue SW, and a vacant site on the Kirkwood Campus between the Animal Health Technology Building and the Transportation and Safety Training Building. Restoration of the facility at its original location with elevation to the 100-year floodplain level plus two feet was considered and dismissed early in the recovery process. The "no action alternative" where no FEMA funds are provided for the project and repair and restoration of the damaged facilities to pre-disaster conditions was considered in the DEA.

The public comment period will be from May 7 to June 6, 2012. Written comments on the DEA can be faxed to FEMA's Iowa Closeout Center at (515) 223-7216, emailed to Fema-ICC-EHP@fema.dhs.gov, or mailed to Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Branch, 7755 Office Plaza Drive North, Suite 145, Building G, West Des Moines IA 50266.

The DEA can be viewed at the Cedar Rapids City Hall; at the Cedar Rapids Public Library at 221 3rd Street SE, downtown; or 2600 Edgewood Road SW at Westdale Mall; or downloaded from FEMA's website at: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region7.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.