

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300
Kansas City, Missouri, 64114-3372



FEMA

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS FIVE SEASONS USHERS FERRY HISTORIC VILLAGE
LODGE 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 construct a multi-use lodge at the Ushers Ferry Historic Village 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' preference is to construct a new multi-use lodge near the entrance of Ushers Ferry Historic Village. FEMA's Public Assistance Program has policies whereby eligible applicants may choose to use eligible, though reduced, recovery funds for alternate or improved projects in lieu of repairing original facilities. It is under these policies that the City has identified the preferred option with funding from 16 structures at Ushers Ferry Historic Village which were damaged or destroyed. Other options considered in the DEA are "no action" where no FEMA funds are provided for the repair of the damaged facilities to pre-disaster conditions or construction of the new Lodge.

The public comment period will be from May 23 to June 22, 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.