

**Public Notice**  
**Westerly Creek Reach 2 Flood Mitigation Project**  
**Aurora, Colorado**

Notification is hereby given to the public that it is the intent of the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide funds to Aurora, Colorado, to improve the conveyance capacity of a 2,700-foot reach of Westerly Creek that extends from 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue downstream to 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (Latitude – 39.44502; Longitude – -104.52474). The City of Aurora has determined that action is required along this reach of Westerly Creek to prevent flooding of Montview Boulevard and residential and commercial structures during floods up to and including the 100-year flood event. Funding would be provided through FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, which provides funds to assist states and communities in implementing measures that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactures homes, and other structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program.

FEMA is required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to consider all reasonable alternatives for achieving the intended purpose of the proposed project. The purpose of the proposed project is to remove the flow restriction (twin box culverts) at Montview Boulevard to prevent flooding of Montview Boulevard and backwater flooding of residential and commercial structures upgradient of Montview Boulevard.

In the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA), the following two alternatives were considered: (1) a No Action Alternative, which considered the consequences of taking no action, and (2) Alternative 2, which includes replacement of the twin 6-foot by 8-foot box culverts with a 60-foot bridge, removal of an existing drop structure, construction of two new drop structures, and lowering, re-alignment and widening the existing stream channel. The Proposed Action would involve construction activities in the floodway and 100-year floodplain, and affect approximately 0.81 acre of wetlands and Water of the U.S. (WOUS).

The President of the United States has issued Executive Orders that require Federal agencies, when considering an action for funding, to focus attention on the environment and human health with respect to Floodplain Management, Executive Order 11988; Protection of Wetlands, Executive Order 11990; and Environmental Justice, Executive Order 12898. Compliance with these Executive Orders, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act, other environmental laws, and NEPA has been documented in the Draft EA. FEMA or the grant Applicant has coordinated with the following agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Division of Emergency Management, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado Historical Society, and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The applicant must obtain all applicable permits and comply with all permit and project conditions.

Based on The EA process and agency comments, there does not appear to be any significant adverse environmental impact on the human or natural environment associated with either action alternative. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared, and if no comments are received, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be signed fifteen (15) days from the date of this notice, and the project will proceed.

Interested parties may submit comments, request additional information, or request a copy of the FONSI by contacting FEMA's Region VIII Office at the Denver Federal Center, P.O. Box 25267, Denver, Colorado, 80225, or by calling 303.235.4798 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time, Monday through Friday. Comments or requests should be submitted in writing to Mr. Richard Myers, FEMA Region VIII Deputy Environmental Officer, by calling 303.235.4926, or by e-mail at [richard.myers@dhs.gov](mailto:richard.myers@dhs.gov).

The Draft Environmental Assessment is on repository for public viewing at the Aurora Municipal Center located at 15151 Alameda Parkway, the Martin Luther King Library located at 9898 E. Colfax Avenue, and the Central Library located at 14949 E. Alameda Avenue. The document can be reviewed between during normal business hours of each of these facilities. The City contact person is Mr. Mark Donelson at (303) 326-8060 or at [mdonelso@aurora.org](mailto:mdonelso@aurora.org). The Draft Environmental Assessment can also be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region8.shtm>.