



FEMA

Notice of Availability and Public Meeting on Draft Environmental Assessment

North Shore Levee West Project
City of Hoquiam, Grays Harbor County, Washington
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant Program
EMS-2020-BR-102-0002

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to fund the City of Hoquiam for the North Shore Levee West project (Project or Proposed Action). Funding would be provided through the State of Washington Emergency Management Division. The proposed action would construct 5.5 miles of new levee, floodwalls, and raised road around the western side of Hoquiam. Funding would be provided through the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program, Fiscal Year 2020, as authorized by the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018.

FEMA has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the proposed action pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and FEMA's implementing instruction. The Draft EA evaluates alternatives for compliance with applicable environmental laws, and Executive Orders (EO) 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), 11988 (Floodplain Management), and 12898 (Environmental Justice). The alternatives evaluated in the Draft EA are: (1) No Action alternative, which describes future conditions if FEMA would not fund the proposed project and (2) the Proposed Action to construct a levee system to reduce riverine and coastal flooding and flood damage throughout west Hoquiam. The scope, design, and schedule of this project is separate from the proposed [North Shore Levee Project](#) on the east side of the Hoquiam River, in the cities of Hoquiam and Aberdeen.

The Draft EA is available to the public for review on FEMA's website at: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/nepa/environmental-assessment-north-shore-0>. The Draft EA is also available on the project website at <https://www.ezview.wa.gov/?alias=1997&pageid=37701>.



A hard copy of this EA is available for review at:

- The Hoquiam Library, 420 - 7th Street, Hoquiam, and

- The Building Department, on the second floor of the Hoquiam City Hall, 609 - 8th Street, Hoquiam, Washington.

Pursuant to EO 11988 (Floodplain Management), EO 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and FEMA's implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 9, FEMA hereby provides interested parties with a notice of its intent to carry out an action affecting floodplains and wetlands.

An open house and presentation on the proposed project and potential impacts will be held at **5:30 pm on Monday, December 16, 2024**, at City Hall, 609 – 8th Street, Hoquiam, Washington. FEMA will make a brief presentation on the proposed project and then staff will be available to answer questions about the project in an open house setting. Comments may be submitted at the meeting in writing or by speaking to a court reporter.

Written comments may also be submitted until **January 22, 2025**, as noted below.

FEMA will take into consideration any substantive comments received during the public review period to inform the final decision regarding grant approval and project implementation. If no significant issues are identified during the comment period, FEMA will finalize the draft EA, prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and fund the project. The FONSI will be posted to the same website above. Unless substantive comments on the Draft EA are received, FEMA will not publish another public notice for this project.

The deadline for submitting written comments on the Draft EA is **January 22, 2025**. Comments should be mailed to:

Science Kilner, Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA Region X,
130 228th Street SW, Bothell, WA 98021

or submitted via e mail to FEMA-R10-EHP-Comments@fema.dhs.gov. Please include "Hoquiam" in your subject line.

FEMA works to ensure that information is accessible for all interested parties. If you are having issues with accessing any information presented in the document, please contact us by email at the above email address.