

U. S. Department of Homeland Security FEMA Region 4 3005 Chamblee Tucker Rd Atlanta, GA 30341

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT LUMBERTON HOUSING AUTHORITY; HILTON HEIGHTS AND MYERS PARK ROBESON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA FEMA-4285-DR-NC

BACKGROUND

On October 10, 2016, President Obama declared major disasters (FEMA-DR-4285-NC) for the State of North Carolina, due to Hurricane Matthew, authorizing the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide federal assistance to designated disaster areas. The FEMA funding project worksheets (PW) ID for the proposed Federal actions are PA-04-NC-4285-PW-01542(1) and PA-04-NC-4285-PW-01543(1).

Hurricane Matthew, a major Category 4 event traveled through North Carolina leaving in its path widespread destruction due to torrential rain, hurricane force winds, and record-breaking flooding through the central and eastern parts of the state. During the event, Lumberton Housing Authority (HUD) sites; Hilton Heights and Myers Park were damaged by rising floodwaters from the Lumber River, high winds, and horizontal rain.

As part of the HUD funding of Community Development Block Grant, undertaken by the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR), both sites are apart of a project to develop 72 residential rental units, intended to replace the low-income housing units known as Hilton Heights and Myers Park, which were flooded during Hurricane Matthew. Flood damages to both sites rendered the units unlivable and residents were relocated. Units at both Hilton Heights and Myers Park are to be demolished utilizing FEMA funding and proceeds from insurance. Hilton Heights maintenance building will be left intact and used for storage.

The proposed site for development of the new residential units is approximately 31 acres of one parcel, which is located along the northern side of Caton Road. This is approximately 500 feet northwest of its intersection with Glen Cowan Road, in Lumberton, Robeson County, North Carolina (34.63247, -79.065994). The parent parcel is further identified by Robeson County Property Identification Number 938201325479. The proposed site is less than 3 miles west-northwest of the original sites. The new site will involve the construction of 72 residential rental units which are intended to provide low-income housing to replace the 72 units at Hilton Heights and Myers Park which were left uninhabitable by the effects of Hurricane Matthew. The project will also involve construction of the associated required stormwater facilities, parking, and onsite utilities.

Finding of No Significant Impact Lumberton Housing Authority; Hilton Heights and Myers Park FEMA-4285-DR-NC PWs 01542(1) and 01543(1)

A public notice is posted on the North Carolina Press Association website at <u>Public Notices North Carolina | North Carolina Press Association (ncnotices.com)</u>, in the Robesonian and Fayetteville Observer, and on FEMA's website.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for viewing at:

https://rebuild.nc.gov/about/plans-policies-reports/environmental-reviews

Or per request to FEMA by emailing <u>FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov</u> or visiting NCORR's website at https://www.rebuild.nc.gov/about/plans-policies-reports/environmental-reviews.

FINDINGS

The permitted action as described in the NCORR EA will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Coordination with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has taken place with FEMA following up with SHPO and interested Tribes, and concurrence of no effect to historic properties was received.

The permitted action is not expected to have significant adverse cumulative impacts on any resource based on the review conducted when added to past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions within the proposed project area.

CONDITIONS

- The applicant shall ensure that all debris is disposed of in a manner consistent with the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) Division of Waste Management, and in accordance with local regulations.
- The two FEMA funding projects will require verification of compliance during the FEMA closeout review process. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize the receipt of federal funding.
- Applicant will monitor ground disturbing activities for any potential archeological resources and will immediately cease construction in that area and notify the State and FEMA if resources are discovered.
- The applicant shall conduct all activities following the Lower-Impact Demolition Stipulations (LIDS).
- If human remains or intact archeological features or deposits (e.g., arrowheads, pottery, glass, metal, etc.) are uncovered, work in the vicinity of the discovery will stop immediately and all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds will be taken. The subrecipient will ensure that archaeological discoveries are secured in place, that access to the sensitive area is restricted, and that all reasonable measures are taken to avoid further disturbance of the discoveries. The subrecipient's contractor will provide immediate notice of such discoveries to the applicant. The subrecipient shall contact the North Carolina State Archaeologist and FEMA within 24 hours of the discovery. Work in the vicinity of the discovery may not resume until FEMA has completed consultation with SHPO, Tribes, and other consulting parties as necessary. In the event that unmarked human remains are encountered during permitted activities; all work shall stop immediately, and the proper authorities notified in accordance with North Carolina Statutes, Section 70-29.
- Any changes to the approved scope of work will require submission to, and evaluation and

Finding of No Significant Impact Lumberton Housing Authority; Hilton Heights and Myers Park FEMA-4285-DR-NC PWs 01542(1) and 01543(1)

approval by, the State and FEMA, prior to initiation of any work.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the NCORR's EA, coordination with the appropriate agencies, comments from the public, adherence to the project conditions set forth in this FONSI, and FEMA's coordination with all Federally recognized Tribes within the project area, FEMA has determined that the proposed project qualifies as a major federal action that will not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment, nor does it have the potential for significant cumulative effects. As a result of this FONSI, and in accordance with FEMA Instruction 108-1-1, an EIS will not be prepared, and the proposed project as described in the attached EA may proceed.

APPROVAL

STEPHANIE Digitally signed by STEPHANIE D EVERFIELD Date: 2022.06.14 08:14:15 -04'00'	
Stephanie D. Everfield	Date
Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region 4	