

Public Notice

The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, in conjunction with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, has applied for Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for LPDM-PJ-05-IL-2022-002 North Chicago Storm Sewer Project. Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 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.

Historically, flooding along the Skokie Highway (US-41) and at the Strawberry Condominiums and Navy housing has resulted in impacts on people, property, infrastructure, transportation, and the local economy throughout the area. The purpose of this project is to reduce flood risk in the vicinity of the project area. The project would improve stormwater conveyance and increase flood storage capacity at several locations along US-41 south of Buckley Road (IL-137) in North Chicago, Illinois. The Proposed Action would include removing and replacing undersized storm sewers, installing a new 60-inch relief storm sewer, removing existing culverts, installing a box culvert, construction of a water quality channel, and modifying approximately 3,860 feet of the Skokie River channel to create a widened two-stage channel. Implementation of the Proposed Action would disturb up to approximately 14 acres.

The western portion of the project area is entirely within an area of minimal flood hazard (Zone X) as depicted on Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) number 17097C0167K, effective September 18, 2013. According to FIRM number 17097C0186K, effective September 18, 2013, the eastern portion of the project area is within regulatory floodway (Zone AE – Regulatory Floodway) of the Skokie River as well as 100-year floodplain (Zone AE), which is an area that has a 1-percent probability of flooding every year and where predicted floodwater elevations have been established. In addition, the project is within areas that have been identified as wetlands through a waters of the United States/wetland assessment of the project area, which was conducted on July 29 and August 5, 2022, in accordance with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regional wetland delineation procedures.

Implementation of the project is expected to decrease flood elevations at the Strawberry Condominiums, along US-41, and at Navy housing near the project area. The project would include restoration of the Skokie channel with wetland and upland native seed mixes. A map of the area and additional information regarding the project is available upon request.

The public is invited to participate in the process by providing comments on potential alternatives or impacts of the proposed work in floodplains and wetlands. Comments should be sent within 15 days to fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov or by mail to:

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