

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR
Temporary Group Manufactured Housing Unit Site
Known as the South Choctaw Drive Group Site
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed temporary group manufactured housing unit site. The site may provide suitable temporary housing opportunities for individuals and families displaced due to severe storms and flooding. A Major Disaster Declaration was signed by the President on August 14, 2016, for severe storms and flooding (FEMA-4277-DR-LA).

A 55-acre site for up to approximately 150 manufactured housing units (MHU) is being considered located along South Choctaw Drive about 0.4 mile east of the junction of North Flannery Road and South Choctaw Drive in the City of Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. Activities may include, where necessary, site clearing, grading, road construction, the placement of utilities (electricity, telephones, water, and sewer), and the transport and installation of manufactured homes to the site. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500 – 1508), FEMA's Instruction 108-1-1 for implementing NEPA, the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and 44 CFR Part 9, a draft EA was written to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environment. In order to meet the urgent need of flood survivors to find temporary housing, FEMA has conducted an expedited environmental review process to identify and address environmental issues. The draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, site selection process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action.

Due to the emergency nature of this action, the public comment period will be brief; the three-day comment period will end on November 4, 2016. Written comments on the draft EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) can be faxed to FEMA's Joint Field Office in Baton Rouge at (225) 382-1560; or sent via email to FEMA-R6-EHP@fema.dhs.gov. When responding by email, please reference the project name, "**Temporary Housing – South Choctaw Drive Group Site**" in the subject field. Verbal comments will be accepted at (225) 382-1500 and TTY for hearing or speech-impaired at (866) 863-9057; between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The draft EA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <https://www.fema.gov/library>. The draft EA is also available for public review at the Main Library of the East Baton Rouge Public Library, located at 7711 Goodwood Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806. The Main Library facility hours are Monday to Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. If no substantive comments are received, the draft EA and FONSI will become final and no further public noticing will be conducted.

All other questions regarding disaster assistance or the availability of emergency housing should be directed to FEMA's Tele-Registration line at 1-800-621-3362.