

## Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that Fort Bend County has determined that the following proposed action under Fort Bend Community Development Block Grant – Entitlement funding and B-21-UC-48-0004 is located in the 100-year floodplain, and Fort Bend County will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The Ferry Street Water and Wastewater Line Replacement Project totals 2,410 linear feet (lf) of work within existing right-of-ways (ROWs) and city owned easements; acquisition is not necessary. All line installation will occur via boring therefore, impact to areas outside of the water and sewage lines will be limited to the start/stop points with impact of LxWxD at these points. Boring also means that residential driveways will not be damaged during the construction process. This project will improve pressure maintenance and enhance delivered water quality, increase fire flow capabilities within the city service area, and replace undersized infrastructure. The purpose of the project is to upsize aging water lines in the City of Richmond to maintain reliable water service and help preserve the health and safety of the community. The project is not considered a critical action. According to FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map, Community Panel 48157C0235L effective on 4/2/2014, 0.1681 acres of the project are located within the 100-year floodplain. The floodplain provides drainage for surrounding areas as well as the opportunity for natural wetlands and habitats to thrive. Maintaining the floodplain is an invaluable service to the community. Natural benefits of the floodplain will not be significantly impacted, and impermeable surface areas will not be increased. The proposed project is located on Ferry Street, Fleming Street, Douglas Street, and Clarke Street in Richmond, Fort Bend County.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by Fort Bend County at the following address on or before **January 12, 2024**, Fort Bend County, 301 Jackson St., Suite 602, Richmond, Fort Bend County, TX 77469 and 281-341-4410, Attention: Honorable KP George, County Judge. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at 301 Jackson St. Suite 602, Richmond, Fort Bend County, TX 77469. Comments may also be submitted via email at [communitydevelopment@fortbendcountytexas.gov](mailto:communitydevelopment@fortbendcountytexas.gov)

**Date: December 26, 2023**