

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF PATERSON

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that under 24 CFR Part 58, the City of Paterson has determined that the following proposed action under Community Development Block Grant B-24-MC-34-0115 is located in Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain (FFRMS) and the City of Paterson will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The proposed project location is 163-167 Pennsylvania Avenue in the City of Paterson, in Passaic County, State of New Jersey. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the freeboard value approach. The proposed project includes the construction of a new state-of-the-art communication Center at 163-167 Pennsylvania Avenue. The facility will include dispatch stations, offices, a fitness center, rest areas for dispatch employees, an emergency situation room, conference rooms, a television study, storage areas, UPS and server rooms, training rooms, vehicle storage, and bathrooms. This facility will improve access to emergency services and increase the quality of life and safety of area residents. The project is located in a riverine FFRMS floodplain, which corresponds to an elevation of 105.5 feet.

The proposed project includes renovating the structure at the project site to accommodate a central emergency dispatch center, OEM procurement center, job training site, OEM offices for the purposes of public good, communication and a disaster mitigation and collection point. Currently, the city's dispatch centers for emergency services is outdated and cannot maintain interoperability between emergency services to a high level. The new facility will also allow for the procurement center to be centrally located instead of spread out across the city. The project will not extend the current footprint.

Type of Floodplain: FFRMS Riverine

Wetlands: None present

The estimated funding amount is \$6,819,419

CDBG: \$1,119,419

American Rescue Plan: \$4,000,000

NJ State Transitional Aid: \$1,700,000

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplain 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 project impacts on the floodplain. Second, an adequate

public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplain 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 floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Interested persons are encouraged to provide comments in writing to the attention of Director Barbara Blake-McLennon, at City of Paterson, Department of Community Development located at 125 Ellison Street, 2nd Floor Paterson, NJ 07505, by phone at (973) 321-1212 or via email at bmclennon@patersonnj.gov All comments received by 3:00 p.m. on February 8, 2025 will be considered. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 10am to 3pm at the address above.

By order of:
André Sayegh, Mayor

Publication date: January 22, 2025