



December 28, 2017

Public Notice of the Intent of Pasco County to Seek FEMA Funding

Project: FEMA-4280-13-R

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and Florida Division of Emergency Management have received the following application for Federal grant funding. Final notice is hereby given of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) consideration to provide funding in the form of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Funds will be provided in accordance with Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990 FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority or low-income populations.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

Applicant:

Pasco County Florida

Project Title:

Forest Hills Drainage Project

Location of Proposed Work:

The Forest Hills neighborhood is located in southwestern Pasco County and is part of the Anclote River Watershed. The area has experienced chronic flooding during severe storm events. The neighborhood extends from Forest Hills into Country Estates and is bounded by US Hwy 19 to the West, Grand Boulevard to the East, extending northerly approx. 0.25 miles past Mile Stretch Drive and extending southerly to the Pinellas County line along Phoenix Avenue.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

Project No. 1 was a prerequisite for the implementation of Project No. 2. It consisted of the improvements to the outfall pipe and is located downstream of all other proposed improvements. Project No. 1 addressed the flooding conditions in the lower parts of the basin around Lake NWO190.

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The second project implements proposed improvements that address the local flooding conditions around the lower lake (Lake NWO190) and the upper lake (Lake NWO105). In addition, the project will provide lateral storm sewer drainage along Phoenix Avenue that will be tied to the existing outfall project.

Improvements included in this project are to upsize existing stormwater drainage pipes from Landau St. Claiborne St., and Koala Dr. to the lower lake (Lake NWO190). The existing 18-inch HDPE pipe that connects Landau St. to the pond is smaller than the upstream pipe segment that is 24-inch RCP. This system connects the drainage from Claiborne and Landau St., to the lake. The project proposes to replace both pipes with 36-inch RCPs to address flooding conditions along Landau and Claiborne St. To address the flooding on the North side of the lake along Koala Dr., the project also proposes to replace the existing twin 18-inch HDPE drainage pipes from Koala to the lake with a 30-inch pipe on the West side and a 36-inch pipe on the East side of Koala Dr.

Project No. 2 will provide flood control, levels of service protection for structures located along Phoenix Ave. and Landau St., and provide roadway accessibility along the aforementioned two roads (in addition to Koala Dr. and Claiborne St). It will reduce the flood stage elevations in the lake while maintaining its Normal Water Level (NWL) elevation. The existing conditions NWL and stage elevations have been revised due to additional surveying information received from the field.

Project Alternatives:

The alternatives to the project that have been and will be considered are 1) the no action alternative and only completing outfall project number 1, which will address the flooding issues, but only in the lower parts of the basin.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to the Florida Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Recovery and Mitigation, 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100. These are due within 30 days of this notice. The State will forward comments to applicable regulatory agencies as needed. Interested persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

Pasco County

Laura Black, Assistant Director of Emergency Management
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Florida Division of Emergency Management

Teresa Sanders, State Environmental Specialist
850.815.8521 / Teresa.Sanders@em.myflorida.com

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