Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain 725 N Blake Street

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) has determined that the following proposed action under Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain, and LHC 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 and/or Executive Order 11990, 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 project location was determined to not impact wetlands, as the project activities are restricted to the existing project site.

The project is located at 725 North Blake Street in Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. Specifically, 0.19-acre property is legally identified as "COM NE COR BLK 10 NIX ADD S 58 1/2 FT W 86 FT ETC @290908-1330-10 0003 0000-723 N BLAKE ST- COM AT A PT ON THE W/S OF BLAKE ST AND 58 1/2 FT S OF THE NE COR OF BLK 10 OF NIX ADD, TH S ON W/S OF BLAKE ST 33 FT TH W 89 FT ETC". The coordinates of the center of the site are 30.24687 N / -93.19893 W. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using a 0.2 percent flood approach. The project includes reconstruction of a single-family residence in approximately the same footprint as the existing structure. A maximum of 0.09 acres of FFRMS floodplain will be potentially impacted.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in the 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 the 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 the floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by LHC at the following address on or before October 16th, 2024: Louisiana Housing Corporation, 4000 S Sherwood Forest Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, Attention: Amber Lavergne, Environmental Impact Specialist. Comments may also be submitted via email to alavergne@lhc.la.gov. A full description of the project may be reviewed from 8:00 to 5:00 PM at 4000 S Sherwood Forest Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70816 and https://www.lhc.la.gov/public-comments-and-notices.

Date: October 1, 2024