

**Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management  
Standard Designated Floodplain  
1807 and 1809 Ruth Street**

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order(s) 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 Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recover (CDBG- DR) funds.

The project is located at 1807 and 1809 Ruth Street in Monroe, Ouachita Parish. The project consists of new construction of two duplex with two units each approximately 31 by 60 feet and includes all necessary earthwork required. The project is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain, but is not located in a Special Flood Hazard Area. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using a freeboard value approach (FVA). This project is located in the riverine FFRMS floodplain. A 2-foot freeboard is applicable per the FVA; this corresponds to a FFRMS flood elevation of 72.4 feet NAVD88. No historic preservation or wetlands were found near the site. The new construction will not exceed the dimensions of the previous structure at the project site.

The LHC considered potential alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain. The applicant already owned the project property. Alternative sites outside the floodplain would require additional acquisition and may require additional permitting. The project will not exceed the dimensions of the previous structure, and the new structures will be raised to the required elevation. These structures will comply with all local and parish building ordinances, thus minimizing flood impacts to human health.

The LHC has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, are available for public inspection, review, and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

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. 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 a floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the LHC at the following address on or before **March 28, 2025**: Louisiana Housing Corporation, 2415 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 and 225-763-8700, Attention: Amber Lavergne, Environmental Impact Specialist. Comments may also be submitted via email at

[alavergne@lhc.la.gov](mailto:alavergne@lhc.la.gov). A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8am – 4pm at 2415 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 and [www.lhc.la.gov](http://www.lhc.la.gov).

Date: **March 20, 2025**