

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT, NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF GRANT FUNDS,
AND FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A WETLANDS
WILDWOOD TOWNHOMES**

Date of Publication: May 20, 2025

Responsible Entity (RE): Louisiana Housing Corporation ("LHC")
Address: 2415 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808
Contact: Kevin J. Delahoussaye, LHC Executive Director
(225) 763-8700

This notice shall satisfy three separate but related procedural notification requirements for activities to be undertaken by LHC, as well as satisfy three comment periods between LHC and HUD.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS. On or about **June 06, 2025** the LHC will submit a request to HUD for the release of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds under the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-43) and the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-180) for major disasters occurring in 2020 and 2021, detailed in Federal Register Docket No. FR-6303-N-01, FR-6326-N-01, and FR-6368-N-01, for the following project:

2023 Piggyback Resilience Initiative – Mixed-Income (PRIME-3)

New construction of a multi-family complex with fifty-five (55) units of affordable housing located at 43098 Happywoods Rd, Hammond, Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana 70403. The total amount of funding requested is **\$8,700,000.00** in **CDBG-DR funds**.

PROJECT ISSUES: Wetlands Protection – The wetlands include 1.21 acres of which 0.36 acres will be preserved and 0.85 acres will be disturbed with fill, concrete and culvert installation.

MITIGATION: The project will work under a USACE Nationwide Permit and mitigation as required by USACE will be done.

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Wetland

This is to give notice that Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) under 24 CFR Part 58 and HUD under 24 CFR Part 50 has determined that the following proposed action under CDBG-DR PRIME 3 is located in a wetland, and LHC will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in a wetland and the potential impacts on the wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The project is located at 43098 Happywoods, Hammond, Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana. Wildwood Townhomes is the new construction of 55 rental housing units on an approximately 7.76-acre tract of land. The wetlands include 1.21 acres of which 0.36 acres will be preserved and 0.85 acres will be disturbed with fill, concrete and culvert installation.

LHC has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values:

Alternatives:

- A. Locate the Project Outside of the wetland.
- B. Alternative Methods that Serve the Identical Project Objective
- C. No Action
- D. Practicability of Alternative Sites

LHC has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the wetland and has determined it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11990 are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the Public Comment Section of this notice for receipt of comments.

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

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: LHC has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at LHC, 2415 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 763-8700 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination, or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to this office by mail to the LHC Environmental Department or by email to Dr. Sue Chin at schin@lhc.la.gov. All comments received by **June 04, 2025** will be considered by this office prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS: LHC certifies to HUD that Kevin J. Delahoussaye, in his capacity as LHC's Executive Director, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows LHC to use HUD Program Funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS. HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and LHC's certification received for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the

certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of LHC approved by HUD; (b) LHC has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the project have committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR part 58, sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to:

Tennille Parker

Director Disaster Recovery & Special Issues, Office of Community Planning and Development

Department of Housing and Urban Development

451 Seventh Street SW, Room 7-272

Washington DC 20410

Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Kevin J. Delahoussaye, LHC Executive Director

Louisiana Housing Corporation