Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain Tammany Hills

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 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 Department of Housing and Urban Developed (HUD) HOME NOAH. The proposed project locations are as follows: 70424 5th Street, 70299 9th Street, 70497 F Street, and 70344 I Street, Covington, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. Only the lot located at 70497 F Street was determined to be located in a FFRMS floodplain. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 0.2 percent flood approach. The lot will be developed with a raised 3bedroom and 2-bathroom, single-family residence encompassing approximately 1,645 square feet. The lot will also include the installation of a potable water well and septic system. Ground disturbance activities will include clearing and grading, preparation for sub-surface utilities including installation of a potable water and septic system installation, and foundation installation. The foundation pad will be constructed at approximately 4-6 feet below ground surface (bgs), water wells will be drilled to approximately 290 feet total depth, and the septic tank systems will be installed to approximately 6 feet bgs. The entire lot, 0.17 acre (7,405 square feet), is located in the FFRMS riverine floodplain. At this time, the lot functions to provide limited storm water storage during rain events. The lot, while vacant with commonly occurring plant species, does not provide recreational opportunities and does not support unique or critical habitat. The proposed residential structure and associated drive and walk-ways will cover approximately 2,245 square feet. The remaining portion of the site (5,160 square feet) will remain as impervious surface.

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

Written comments must be received at the following address on or before **March 27**, **2025**: Louisiana Housing Corporation, 2415 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, 225-763-8700, Attention: Amber Lavergne, Environmental Impact Specialist. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8am to 4:30pm at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted via email at ALavergne@lhc.la.gov.

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