

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

To: All Interested Agencies (FEMA, U.S. EPA Region 6, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Harris County Flood Control District, and City of Houston Floodplain Administrator, Texas General Land Office, Texas Water Development Board, Texas Floodplain Management Association), Groups and Individuals (Super Neighborhood)

This is to give notice that the **City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD), Responsible Entity** under 24 CFR Part 58 and Part 55, has determined that the following proposed action under the **Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program, grant number B-17-DM-48-0001**, is located within the 100-year and 500-year floodplain. HCDD will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating this federally funded action in the floodplain, and to the potential impacts from the proposed action, as required by Executive Orders 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C - Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management. The 8-Step Decision Making Process includes public notices and the examination of practicable alternatives to building in the floodplain.

The Campanile on Briar Hollow project will include the new construction of a 79-unit multifamily complex on an undeveloped 1.14-acre property located on the southeast corner of Briar Hollow Lane and Post Oak Boulevard in Houston, Harris County, Texas. The complex will consist of one five-story multi-family structure developed over a one-story parking garage. According to a Wetland Determination report completed for the property, there are no wetlands present on the property; however, there is a stream running southwest-northeast along the easternmost boundary of the property. Based on the stream's location within the floodplain and its connection to historically navigable waters, Buffalo Bayou, any work within the streambed is likely subject to permitting under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Current project plans do not include construction or development within or immediately adjacent to these potential jurisdictional Waters of the United States. Should project plans change, consultation with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) must take place according to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The subject property is partially located within the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE – 1% annual chance flood hazard area) as well as the 500-year floodplain (Zone X – 0.2% annual chance flood hazard area). Estimated floodplain impacts include: approximately 0.79 acres of the 100-year floodplain and approximately 0.07 acres of the 500-year floodplain. The rest of the area, approximately 0.28 acres, is outside the floodplain area (Zone X unshaded). No wetland features are located on site, including the areas within the 100-year and 500-year floodplain. Natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain include floodwater storage and attenuation. There is minimal potential for historic or cultural resources at the subject property due to a lack of historic sites in the vicinity, and confirmation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has ruled out any likelihood of such conditions. No suitable habitat for federal or state-listed endangered or threatened species is present on the property.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains 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 impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important

public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains 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 floodplains and/or wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by HCDD at the following address on or before **December 3, 2020**: City of Houston, Housing & Community Development Department, 2100 Travis, 9th Floor, Houston, Harris County, Texas, 77002 or by email to hcdenvironmental@houstontx.gov. Attention: HCDD Environmental Team. Upon request, a full description of the project may also be reviewed electronically, or at the address provided above from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Comments may also be submitted via phone at (832) 394-6018 or (832) 394-6183, or via email at hcdenvironmental@houstontx.gov, and cc matthew.jenkins@houstontx.gov, julia.thorp@houstontx.gov, and ebony.mcdaniel@houstontx.gov.

City of Houston: Sylvester Turner, Mayor

HCDD: Tom McCasland, Director

November 18, 2020