

# **FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE**

Hamilton County has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) funding through the Tennessee Emergency Management (TEMA) as a sub-recipient.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990, FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide a public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

**Applicant:** Hamilton County

**Project Title:** FMA-PJ-04-TN-2019-003 Hamilton County, Acquisition and Demolition

**Location of Proposed Work:** Within the Boundaries of Hamilton County. The property is located in the following area.

1. One (1) single family residential property in Lakeshore Manor, Unincorporated Hamilton County on Northwind Drive

**Name of Structure:** One (1) Single Family Residential Property

A map showing the location of the property is available by contacting Gregory Helms; (423) 209-6917 / [gregoryh@hamiltontn.gov](mailto:gregoryh@hamiltontn.gov)

**Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:** This project is for the acquisition and demolition of one (1) property located in a mapped unshaded Zone X. Confirmation of location not in SFHA was made by reference to the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel 47065C0356G dated 2/03/2016. The proposed work conforms to all applicable State of Tennessee and local floodplain regulations. The proposed work will not take place within existing bodies of water and will not have an effect on the local floodplain. The proposed work has no potential to be affected by the location in an SFHA. The action will be mitigated by removing the residential structure from an area for repetitive flooding. The residential structure is functionally dependent (cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located near water) and facilitates open space use.

**Proposed Work and Purpose:**

Hamilton County is proposing the acquisition and demolition of one residential structure. The ground disturbance of the demolition will conform to the footprint of the residential structure. The structure will be removed from the floodplain to minimize the impact of floods on human health and safety.

**Project Alternatives:**

**Alternative #1:** The most feasible action is to acquire, demolish and return the one (1) property to open space, by doing so it would lessen the loss of life and property in this area. This action would not put our public safety officers at risk in future flooding events.

**Alternative #2:** Elevation would prevent the structure from being damaged by flooding. However, the costs associated with elevation of the existing structure would be a minimum of \$50,000.00. This is a conservative estimate and does not take into account that this structure has suffered damage to such an extent that elevation is not even feasible. Therefore, elevation is not viewed as a practical alternative to acquisition and demolition and restricting the use of the land. The owners would still be in danger if flood waters prevented them from leaving their home in a safe and timely manner, which would necessitate the effort and expense of rescue. There are also environmental problems associated with flooding, such as sewers backing up, hazardous materials floating from upstream, etc.

**Alternative #3:** (no action alternative): Taking no action would result in this home remaining in an area that is highly prone to flooding. Repetitive flood losses could still occur, placing a burden on the property owner, as well as local government resources. If this structure remains, it would be a hindrance to our Department's and County efforts to progressively mitigate the highest potential flood loss areas in the county. It would also fail to give any financial relief and assistance to the property owner whose home has suffered massive property damage.

**Comment Period:**

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to Hamilton County. All comments are due within 30 days of this notice. Hamilton County will forward comments to applicable regulatory agencies as needed.

Interested persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

Gregory Helms

3404 Amnicola Highway

Chattanooga, TN 37406

423-209-6917, gregoryh@hamiltontn.gov

**POSTED ON:** August 21, 2020

**End of Notice**