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# PUBLIC NOTICES

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## Public Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held at the St. Joseph Catholic Church Hall (temporary town hall) during the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of French Settlement on January 12, 2017 at 6:00 pm to consider Proposed Ordinance No. 3 of 2016, TO AMEND SECTION 10.8 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA, TO SET THE SALARY OF POLICE PERSONNEL. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA: Section 1. Section 10.8 of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of French Settlement, Louisiana is hereby amended to read as follows: Section 10.8 Salary of Police Personnel

(a) Police Personnel Salary

(1) The salary for the Chief of Police

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen  
Village of French Settlement

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### REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, November 23, 2016

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of French Settlement met at 15710 Hwy. 16, French Settlement, Louisiana on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. In special session convened. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Toni Guitrau with the following members present:

Alderman Teresa Miller, Alderman Danette Carrier, Alderman Rhonda Lobell

Also Present: Clerk Megan Bostwick

A prayer was offered by Alderman Miller. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None

Declare an Emergency: A motion was made by Alderman Carrier, seconded by Alderman Miller to Declare an Emergency in order to repair the municipal storage building following the Flood of August 2016.

As there was no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Carrier and seconded by Alderman Miller. A yeas and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier, Lobell

Nays: None

Absent: None

/s/Toni Guitrau, Mayor

/s/Megan Bostwick, Municipal Clerk

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### REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, December 5, 2016

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of French Settlement met at 15710 Hwy. 16, French Settlement, Louisiana on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. In Special Session convened. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Toni Guitrau with the following members present:

Alderman Teresa Miller, Alderman Danette Carrier

Absent: Alderman Rhonda Lobell

Also Present: Clerk Megan Bostwick

A prayer was offered by Mayor Guitrau. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None

Ordinance No. 2 of 2016 - Propose the Budget of 2017: Alderman Carrier proposed Ordinance No. 2 of 2016 to propose the Budget of 2017. A motion was made by Alderman Carrier, seconded by Alderman Miller to propose the Budget of 2017, as presented. A yeas and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier

Nays: None

Absent: Lobell

A Public Hearing will be held on December 14, 2016 at 6 pm.

There was no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Carrier and seconded by Alderman Miller. A yeas and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier

Nays: None

Absent: Lobell

/s/Toni Guitrau, Mayor

/s/Megan Bostwick, Municipal Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
OF THE VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, November 9, 2016

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of French Settlement met at 15710 Hwy. 16, French Settlement, Louisiana on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2016 at 6 p.m. In regular session convened. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Toni Guitrau with the following members present:  
Alderman Teresa Miller, Alderman Danette Carrier  
Absent: Alderman Rhonda Lobell  
Also Present: Clerk Megan Bostwick, Assistant Chief of Police Callender  
A prayer was offered by Alderman Miller. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None

Guest Speakers: FEMA and SBA Representatives reported on the flood-related status of French Settlement and Livingston Parish.

Reading of Minutes and Statement of Finances

The motion to adopt the minutes and statement of finances for the Regular Meeting of October 2016, as presented was made by Alderman Carrier and seconded by Alderman Miller. A yeas and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier  
Nays: None  
Absent: Lobell

Reading of Communications: None

Proposed Ordinance No. 1 of 2016 - Amended Budget of 2016 was read by Alderman Miller. Mayor Guitrau opened the floor to public comments. There being no public comments, the mayor adjourned the Public Hearing and called for a vote of the Board. Alderman Carrier made a motion to accept Proposed Ordinance No. 1 of 2016, as presented. This was seconded by Alderman Miller. A vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier  
Nays: None  
Absent: Lobell

Police Department Report and Emergency Management Report

Report was presented by Assistant Chief of Police Callender. The report mainly focused on the August 2016 flood related activities. Discussed the loss of 2 police units to flood related causes.

August 2016 Flood Updates:

- The Disaster Recovery Center located behind the St. Joseph Catholic Church Hall at 15710 La. Hwy. 16 in French Settlement will close on Tuesday, November 15, 2016.
- Waiting on FEMA to determine the fate of the municipal building. One step closer to receiving the approval for the storage building renovations to be used as a temporary governmental office building "town hall."

Old Business

Grounds Report: None

Road Report: Alderman Carrier reported a pothole at the end of Aydell/Highwater Rd. intersection.

Grant(s) and/or State Appropriation(s) Update: Mayor Guitrau stated that the Village was awarded \$9800 for the LGAP grant. This grant was to purchase two illuminating lights at the dangerous intersection of Hwy 16/42 intersection and a new digital sign. \$9800 will not be enough to purchase all the grant items. Discussed the cost of a sandbagging machine. New Business:

- The Creole Festival and Bridge to Bridge Yard sale are canceled this year due to the flood of August 2016.
- Engagement Letter: A motion was made by Carrier, seconded by Miller to approve the Engagement Letter with Dix, Dupuy & Ruiz, LLC in the amount of \$2500. A vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier  
Nays: None  
Absent: Lobell

As there was no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Carrier and seconded by Alderman Miller. A yeas and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier  
Nays: None  
Absent: Lobell

/s/ Toni Guitrau, Mayor

/s/ Megan Bostwick, Municipal Clerk

Ordinance No. 2 of 2016

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA, CHAPTER 28, SECTION 1, TO PROPOSE THE BUDGET OF 2017

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of French Settlement, Louisiana that the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 28, Section 1 be hereby enacted as follows:

Propose the Budget of 2017

Said Ordinance having been introduced on December 5, 2016, notice of public hearing having been published, said public hearing having been held, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on motion by Alderman Miller, seconded by Alderman Carrier, to adopt Ordinance No. 2 of 2016 as proposed, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: Miller, Carrier, Lobell  
NAYS: none  
ABSENT: none

Whereupon, the presiding officer declared the above Ordinance duly adopted on December 14, 2016.

Date: 12/14/16

/s/ Megan Bostwick, Clerk

/s/ Toni Guitrau, Mayor

Income: \$ 285,605.00

Expenses: \$ 284,158.00

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Walker will hold a public hearing at the regular scheduled on Monday, January 8, 2016 at the Walker City Hall located at 10136 Florida Blvd. at 6:00 PM for the purpose of adopting an Ordinance to rezone property into lots at 30366 Walker North Road.

Project No. 1641

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NEW CLASSROOM BUILDING FOR: NORTH CORBIN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL", Livingston Parish School Board, 32645 North Corbin Road, Walker, Louisiana 70785, as designated on the drawings.

Sealed bids from contractors will be received by Ziler Architects, A Professional Architectural Corporation, at the offices of the Livingston Parish School Board, located at 13909 Florida Blvd., Livingston, Louisiana 70754 (225-686-7044), until January 12, 2016 at 2:00pm CST, for all labor, materials and equipment required to fully complete the project entitled "NEW CLASSROOM BUILDING FOR: NORTH CORBIN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, Livingston Parish School Board, 32645 North Corbin Road, Walker, Louisiana 70785", as designated on the drawings. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the time and place stated.

Bidding documents may be obtained at the office of Ziler Architects, A Professional Architectural Corporation, 101 Calco Boulevard, Lafayette, LA 70503. (337) 269-6326.

Official Bid Documents are also available at Central Bidding. Electronic Bids are accepted at Central Bidding. Central Bidding can be accessed at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Contractors, sub-contractors, and material suppliers licensed under R.S. 37:2151-2163 may secure from the office of the architect, complete sets of Contract Documents as follows:

Bidding and Contract Documents may be obtained from the office of the Architect upon payment of a deposit of TWO HUNDRED AND NO/100 (\$200.00) DOLLARS for each set.

According to Act No. 478, July 9, 1988, Section 1, R.S. 38:2212: Deposits on the first set of documents furnished to bona fide prime bidders will be fully refunded upon return of the documents no later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids. On other sets of documents furnished to bidders, the deposit less actual cost of reproduction will be refunded upon return of the documents no later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids.

General contractors qualify for a full refund on the first set of bidding documents and half refund on all additional sets. No refund will be given to contractors that have requested bidding documents and returned them prior to the bid and/or do not submit a bid. No refund will be given to contractor that has been awarded the project. Subcontractors qualify for half refund. ALL PLANS MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN 10 DAYS, COMPLETE WITH ADDENDA, IN GOOD CONDITION TO QUALIFY FOR REFUND.

A Pre-Bid Conference has been scheduled for December 28, 2016 at 10:00am CST, North Corbin Junior High School, located at 32645 North Corbin Road, Walker, Louisiana 70785.

Contract, if awarded, will be on a single lump sum basis to bidders licensed under the provisions of Contractor's Licensing Law of the State of Louisiana. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days after time and date of opening.

Bids will be evaluated by the Purchaser based on cost, quality adaptability of the particular material to the use intended and delivery time of material. The purchaser reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive informalities, and select the material that best suits his needs, whether the price is the lowest or not.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Project No. 1641

If the Bidder is notified of the acceptance of the bid within thirty (30) calendar days of the opening of bids, he agrees to execute a contract for the work accepted in the form AIA Document A101, within ten (10) days after receipt of written notice from the owner that the instrument is ready for signature, and that he will complete the work within 210 calendar days. Liquidated damages shall be assessed in the amount of \$200.00 per day in accordance with the requirements as stated in the contract.

Contractors or contracting firms submitting bids in the amount of \$50,000.00 or more shall certify that they are licensed contractors under Chapter 24 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 and show their license number on the front of the sealed envelope in which their bid is enclosed. Contractors shall be licensed for the classification of "Building Construction". Bids in the amount of \$50,000.00 or more, not submitted in accordance with this requirement, shall be rejected and shall not be read. Additional information relative to licensing may be obtained from the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Livingston Parish Public Schools

Home Wentzel

Rick Wentzel, Superintendent

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PARTIAL ACTION PLAN NO. 9 FOR UTILIZATION  
OF CDBG FUNDS IN RESPONSE TO HURRICANE ISAAC

The state of Louisiana's Office of Community Development, Disaster Recovery Unit is accepting public comments on a Partial Action Plan that allocates disaster recovery funding to Lafourche and St. Martin parishes for recovery from Hurricane Isaac. Lafourche and St. Martin parishes were impacted by Hurricane Isaac but did not receive direct allocations of Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. However, the parishes have demonstrated a need for cost-share funds for low-to-moderate income households participating in FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Elevation programs.

This Partial Action Plan identifies the two parishes as additional grantees in the Isaac Hazard Mitigation Assistance LMI Cost-Share Program. Partial Action Plan 9 is considered substantial because it adds locations, and therefore also adds new beneficiaries, to the state's Hurricane Isaac Master Plan. Substantial amendments to the plan are required to undergo a public comment period.

The formal public comment period for Partial Action Plan 9 begins today, Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016, and runs until 5 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017. A copy of the plan can be requested by calling 225.219.9600. After accepting public comments, the state will submit the plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for final federal approval.

Members of the public can submit comments several ways:

- Using the online form at [http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ocd-dru/Action\\_Plans.aspx](http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ocd-dru/Action_Plans.aspx);
- Emailing them to [ocd@la.gov](mailto:ocd@la.gov);
- Mailing them to Disaster Recovery Unit, P.O. Box 94095, 70804-9095, Attn: Janice Lovett; or
- Faxing them to the attention of Janice Lovett at 225.219.9605.

The funds are part of \$64,379,084 million in CDBG-DR dollars that HUD allocated to Louisiana for recovery from Hurricane Isaac. The City of New Orleans, Jefferson Parish and St. Tammany Parish all received separate, individual allocations from HUD. Of the \$66.4 million, the state has allocated \$32.7 million to St. John the Baptist Parish and \$16.9 million to Plaquemines Parish for Hurricane Isaac recovery efforts.

Vietnamese: Muốn biết thêm chi tiết về Kế Hoạch Hành Động, xin gọi số (225) 219-9600 hoặc viết về địa chỉ điện thư [janice.lovett@la.gov](mailto:janice.lovett@la.gov).

Spanish: Para más información sobre el plan de acción, llamar al (225) 219-9600 o email [janice.lovett@la.gov](mailto:janice.lovett@la.gov).

DOCUMENT 00005 - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids will be received by the Town of Livingston, at 1289 Del Esle Avenue, Denham Springs, Louisiana 70726 until Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 2:00 pm for the

Town of Livingston  
LA Highway 63 Raw Water Supply Well  
& Chlorination System

At which time bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Bids received after the above time will be returned unopened. Complete bidding documents may be obtained from:

ALVIN FAIRBURN & ASSOCIATES, LLC  
1289 Del Este Avenue, Denham Springs, LA 70726  
PHONE (225)665-1515 FAX (225)665-1523

upon payment of \$75.00 per set. Deposits on the first set of documents furnished to properly licensed bona fide prime bidders will be fully refunded upon return of the documents in good condition no later than ten days after receipt of bids. On sets of documents issued to sub-contractors and others, one-half (1/2) the deposit will be refunded upon return of the documents in good condition no later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids. Plans may be mailed by regular mail upon receipt of \$75.00 plus an additional non-refundable charge of \$25.00 per set of documents.

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference shall be held at: 1289 Del Este Avenue, Denham Springs, LA 70726 on Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 @ 10:00 A.M. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security equal to five percent (5%) of the base bid and any alternatives and subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders. The successful contractor will be required to enter into a contract with the OWNER and to furnish all the materials, perform all of the work, supervise, coordinate, administrate and be responsible for the work of the entire project. No bids may be withdrawn after the closing time for receipt of bids for at least forty-five (45) days. The bond of the low bidder will be held for forty-five (45) days, or until the contract is signed, whichever is shorter.

PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BOND: A performance and payment bond for the work will be required upon execution of the contract, equal to one hundred percent (100%) of said contract written by a company licensed to do business in Louisiana and who is currently on the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service List. The bond shall be countersigned by a person who is under contract and who is licensed as an insurance agent in the State of Louisiana, and who is residing in this state.

The Town of Livingston reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause. In accordance with La. R.S. 38:2212 (A) (1) (b), the provisions and requirements of this section, those stated in the advertisement for bids, and those required on the bid form shall not be considered as informalities and shall not be waived by any public entity.

PLEASE PUBLISH:

Thursday December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016  
Thursday December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Thursday January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #4  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 21, 2016

Mr. Dugas called the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 6:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Mr. Falks and the assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Dugas called the roll with the following members present: Mr. Joseph Blanchard, Mr. Robert Dugas, Mr. Jeff Easley, and Mr. Leslie Falks. Chief James Wascom, Deputy Chief Trey Jackson, Training Officer Keesler Fly, Trey Sanders (Hannis T. Bourgeois, LLP.), and Tasha Killcrease were also present.

Mr. Falks made the motion, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, to adopt the minutes of the October 17, 2016 Regular Board Meeting.

Ayes: Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Dugas, Mr. Easley, Mr. Falks  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Blevins

October 2016 Financial Report was given by Mr. Trey Sanders with Hannis T. Bourgeois, LLP.

There being no old business to discuss, the Board moved on to new business.

Chief Wascom updated the board on the Community Development Loan eligibility of \$714,988.00.

Mr. Robert Dugas read aloud the Local Government Resolution – Collateral Security.

Mr. Falks made the motion, seconded by Mr. Easley, to accept the Government Resolution – Collateral Security.

Ayes: Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Dugas, Mr. Easley, Mr. Falks  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Blevins

Mr. Falks made the motion, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, to authorize Chief Wascom to obtain permission from the Livingston Parish Council to go before the Bond Commission for the Community Development Loan.

Ayes: Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Dugas, Mr. Easley, Mr. Falks  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Blevins

Chief Wascom updated the board members on the January 2017 full-time new hires: Justin Hartley, Keith Garon, and Miriam Howard.

Mr. Easley made the motion, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, to authorize Chief Wascom to hire the above three full-time Firefighter/Operators in January 2017.

Ayes: Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Dugas, Mr. Easley, Mr. Falks  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Blevins

The Chief's report was given by Deputy Chief Trey Jackson - updated the board on call statistics.

Commissioner's Report was given by Mr. Robert Dugas.

Mr. Dugas updated the board on Freeman's Tax property appraisal.

Mr. Blanchard made the motion, seconded by Mr. Falks, to purchase the property where Freeman's Tax is located (9760 Florida Blvd, Walker, LA 70785) for \$560,000. The property is 1.46 acres with a 2,000 sq ft single family dwelling and a 2,284 sq ft office building.

Ayes: Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Blevins, Mr. Dugas, Mr. Easley, Mr. Falks  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Blevins

There being no further business before the board, Mr. Easley made the motion, seconded by Mr. Blanchard to adjourn.

Ayes: Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Dugas, Mr. Easley, Mr. Falks  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mr. Blevins

Robert Dugas, Chairman

UNAMED FLOODING EVENTS OF 2016  
LIVINGSTON PARISH

LA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / DISASTER RECOVERY UNIT  
FLOODPLAINS and WETLANDS  
FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION

This is to give notice that the Louisiana Office of Community Development / Disaster Recovery Unit (OCD/DRU), under the Division of Administration intends to carry out actions which may affect or be affected by the 100-year floodplain and wetlands and seeks to involve the public in the decision making process. OCD/DRU has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is proposing to use disaster recovery funds through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist eligible single-family dwellings and rental units that were damaged by the flooding disasters in 2016. This action will assist homeowners in Livingston Parish. Grant recipients will be based on an application and eligibility process and thus the specific locations of these housing units are not known at this time. OCD/DRU estimates the total number of units with FEMA verified losses in Livingston Parish was approximately 21,000 units of which approximately 15,300 units were within the 100-year floodplain. Using an average lot size of 0.10 acres, the total affected floodplain acreage in Livingston Parish is approximately 1,530 acres, not counting infrastructure to serve these residents. For consideration, the construction activities will consist of either major or minor rehabilitation, reconstruction or buyout/demolition within the original footprint of each damaged structure or developed lot. No taking of greenspace or conversion of existing undeveloped green space is anticipated with these activities. In some cases, elevation of homes may be required.

In accordance with Executive Order 11988, The OCD/DRU has determined that the proposed project activities could affect up to an estimated total of 1,530 acres with a substantial portion of these activities anticipated to be located within the 100 year floodplain. In accordance with Executive Order 11990, the total number of homes and combined acreage of these properties that are proximal to wetlands listed in the National Wetland Inventory will be reviewed on an individual basis after being identified. However, at this time, given the nature of the proposed activities and previous correspondence with state and federal agencies for similar projects, zero acres of wetlands impact are anticipated as a result of this project.

Practical alternatives in locating the proposed action in a floodplain was identified and evaluated. These included the following alternatives:

Alternative 1. Locations outside of and not affecting the 100-year floodplain;

Alternative 2. Alternative methods to serve the identical project objective; or

Alternative 3. Not approving action to occupancy or modify the floodplain.

For each of these alternatives, various factors were considered including natural value, feasibility, technology, hazard reduction, related economic value and other environmental impacts. The evaluation of each alternative is summarized below.

Alternative 1 - The re-location of these properties to areas outside of the floodplain or wetlands of the parish would require abandonment of existing homes that are in an unfinished state of repair as well as the purchase and development of land for the relocation of citizens. In order to be considered for relocation, any such land would need to be: a) outside the 100-year floodplain and wetlands, b) not currently developed for other land uses, and c) not designated for other uses (e.g., prime farmlands, parks, recreational areas).

This alternative was rejected due to a number of factors including the following: a) this would not provide any significant benefit to the floodplain since the areas will remain developed regardless of any action taken, b) this would require displacement of homeowners that may be still living in the homes, c) the lack of existing infrastructure and services in areas outside the floodplain including the unfeasible costs to provide such amenities, and d) the resulting blight that would occur as the homes fell further into disrepair and abandonment. This alternative further does not meet the overall objectives of the proposed action in that it does not result in allowing residents to rebuild their lives, homes and communities.

Alternative 2 - Alternative methods to serve the project objective are limited but could include multi-family housing at specified locations in the general vicinity of the affected communities. The multi-family housing could be located either at a few sites within the floodplain or at sites outside of the floodplain or a combination of both. Such an alternative would conceptually allow for similar populations but with a smaller footprint. However, this alternative was rejected due to many of the same disadvantages as Alternative 1 regarding no real benefit to the floodplain, resulting blight in the neighborhoods as the existing home sites fall further into disrepair, the displacement of the homeowners and failure to meet the goals of the proposed action in helping to rebuild impacted communities to their prior existence by the identification of eligible homeowners.

Alternative 3 - The alternative to not approve any action, essentially a "No Action" alternative, would result in the properties remaining in disrepair. As such, this alternative would not result in a reversion of floodplain back to its natural state. Additionally no beneficial value would be anticipated since homes would be surrounded by other residences. If the homes are not rehabilitated then the homes would fall further into disrepair, lowering property values and preventing homeowners from either returning to their homes or possibly causing those still living in the homes to eventually leave. The "No Action" would thus lead to eventual blight and hindering the ability of the impacted communities to rebuild and regain their identity that existed prior to the storms.

Based on a detailed review, it has been determined that there is no practical alternative to the proposed action being located in a floodplain. This includes careful consideration and

rejection of the alternatives above. The proposed action of repairing/rehabilitating homes will meet the objectives while not hindering the natural values, such as topography habitat and hazards within of the project areas. Social values such as aesthetics, historical and cultural values, land use patterns and environmental justice will be considered by the environmental review procedures of 24 CFR part 58 and mitigation measures will be further identified.

OCD/DRU has re-evaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988, 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.

A number of mitigating measures will be incorporated into the housing programs as part of the rebuilding process. This includes elevation of homes within the floodplain that have substantial damage and adoption of various building codes for rehabilitation of residential structures in the floodplain. These construction measures and contractor standards, outlined in the OCD/DRU's Draft Action Plan, will result in more resilient and sustainable communities.

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

Written comments must be received by Ann Herring of OCD/DRU at the following address on or before January 6, 2017: the State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development - Disaster Recovery Unit, Post Office Box 94095, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095 and (225)219-9620, Attention: Ms. Ann Herring, Environmental Officer. A description of the activity may also be reviewed from between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm at OCD/DRU Office at 617 N. Third St. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Date of publication: December 29, 2016