

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Norfolk, Nebraska (Sub-Applicant), has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA/Applicant).

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, Floodplain Management, and EO 11990, Wetlands Protection, FEMA is required to consider alternatives, and to provide a public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. The public is invited to participate in the review. The public may identify alternatives for restoring the facility and may participate in analyzing the impact of the alternatives on the facility and the floodplain.

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.

Sub-Applicant: City of Norfolk, Nebraska

Project Title: Norfolk Water Pollution Control Plant Flood Improvements, HMGP-NE-4616-0010

Location of Proposed Work: Norfolk Water Pollution Control Plant, 610 E Monroe Ave., Norfolk, Nebraska 68701 (GPS: 42.006450, -97.398453). See map of project area below.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

City of Norfolk proposes to use FEMA funds to install flood control measures at its Water Pollution Control plant to build resilience against future flood events by:

- Building a berm around the Water Pollution Control Plant to hold floodwaters away from inundating the facility,
- Elevating the entrance road to the facility to ensure access to critical infrastructure,
- Grading ground elevation to direct stormwater to on-site detention and passive stormwater piping and outlet structures,
- Installing a lift station with three Archimedes screw pumps to discharge stormwater that collects within the facility.

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:

Proposed work at the Norfolk Water Pollution Control Plant is in flood Zone AE, a Special Flood Hazard Area and a Shaded Zone X, 500-year floodplain, per FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the City of Norfolk, panel 31119C0095D, dated February 4, 2005. The proposed flood control project will provide increased resilience to the wastewater treatment plant and will not add to the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands.

Project Alternatives:

Preferred Alternative (Install flood control measures to make the wastewater treatment plant more resilient to future flooding): This is the option being pursued by the City of Norfolk in this funding request. The City of Norfolk proposes to protect the Water Pollution

Control Plant from future flooding by building a berm around the facility to hold back floodwaters, raising the entrance road to ensure facility access during times of flooding, grading the ground to encourage water to drain away from the wastewater treatment facilities, and installing 3 pumps and a lift station to discharge stormwater away from the facility.

Other Alternative #1 (No Action): The no-action alternative would result in the continued risk of floodwater encroachment upon the wastewater facility, including hindering access to the facility, and causing a potential for effluent overflow.

Other Alternative #2 (Repair drainage channel to original condition): This alternative would be to shut down the discharge of effluent when the river levels are high. This alternative requires that treated effluent would be stored on-site until river conditions allow for discharge. Space for on-site storage is currently limited and this course of action would only be useful for a limited period of time.

Comment Period:

This will serve as the final public notice regarding the above-described action funded by the FEMA HMGP program. All comments received can be submitted via email to FEMA at Teri.Toye@fema.dhs.gov. Please use the subject line: “NE-4616-0010, Norfolk Water Pollution Control Plant Flood Control Improvements Project, Floodplain Comments.” A map of the project location is included.

Interested persons may also submit comments and questions in writing, by contacting the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 7, 11224 Holmes Road; Kansas City, MO 64131. Written comments should be sent with the subject line NE-4616-0010, Norfolk Water Pollution Control Plant Flood Control Improvements Project, Floodplain Comments, to the above address within 15 days of the date of posting.

All comments are due by no later than 15 days of the posted date of this notice.

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Final Public Notice: Norfolk Water Pollution Control Plant Flood Improvements
Location GPS Coordinates: (GPS: 42.006450 -97.398453)**

