

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has received subgrant applications for the East Richland County Public Service District (ERCPSD) to make repairs and improvements to a section of a sanitary sewer line in Richland County due to damages from the 2015 Severe Storms and Flooding (DR-4241-SC). Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 and 44 CFR Part 9.12, final notice is hereby given of FEMA's intent to provide funding for projects under the Public Assistance (PA) Program.

An initial disaster-wide Public Notice was published November 7, 2015 for the Severe Storms and Flooding. Comments and other information received were fully evaluated by FEMA along with evaluation of social, economic, environmental, and safety considerations. This notice serves as an individual final notice for FEMA's funding action located within the floodplain. FEMA has determined that the only practicable alternative is to locate the sanitary sewer line within the floodplain because the gravity flow line is functionally dependent upon its location within 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. This action complies with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements.

Locations of the Proposed Work:

Rabon Road, Columbia (Richland County), South Carolina at 34.09294, -80.93019

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The purpose is to bring the sanitary sewer line back to functional status without the need of temporary by-pass pumping. This project will be an improvement over the previous line by being placed outside a floodway (in the path of moving water) due in part to the inability to replace the damaged section of the sewer line because of the flooding has left the Little Jackson Creek bed deeper and wider than before. East Richland County Public Service District purposes to move the line out of and above the altered Little Jackson Creek bed on the northern side where it will connect to the existing manhole features.

Project Alternatives:

The alternative that has been considered is the no action alternative. This alternative is not feasible and impracticable as the sanitary sewer line is considered a critical facility and leaving it as is will require running the by-pass pump continuously. With the no action alternative, continued negative impacts will be to surrounding residential and commercial properties. The other alternative was to repair the sanitary sewer line to pre-disaster design and location. This alternative is not feasible as the Little Jackson Creek bed has undergone morphological changes due to the flooding event. Alternate locations were not considered as the sanitary sewer line is functionally dependent upon its location within the floodplain and would require extensive resources to do so.

Comments:

This will serve as the final public notice regarding the above-described actions funded by the FEMA PA Program. Those interested may obtain information about specific projects or a map of the affected area by writing to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 4, 3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, calling 770-220-5432, or by emailing FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Comments should be sent in writing with the subject line SC-4241-PW-01103 at the above address within 15 days of the date of this notice.