

PUBLIC NOTICE

In conjunction with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), the City of Harvey, Illinois, and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) has applied for Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a stormwater management project. The objective of HMA programs is to fund mitigation measures that reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future hazard events or disasters. The MWRD City of Harvey Stormwater Management project seeks to reduce flooding issues caused by the combined sewer systems backing up during heavy rain events. This project will include building new storm sewers to remove stormwater from the combined sewers and store it in a naturalized detention basin.

A hydrologic and hydraulic analysis was conducted to define the project area in the City of Harvey. The study yielded a proposed location for a 23-acre-foot detention basin that includes a total of 31 parcels, of which 16 are vacant lots. Prior to construction of the detention basin, the MWRD intends to acquire and demolish the 15 remaining residential properties in the proposed detention basin area. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires FEMA, as a funding agency, to determine if properties are historic (listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)); to assess effects projects will have on historic properties; and to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to historic properties. A cultural resources survey will be conducted to ensure compliance. Additional information is provided at <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/nepa/environmental-assessment-city-harvey>.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act, EO 11988 and EO 11990, public notice is required of any federal actions that may affect floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898, Environmental Justice for Low Income and Minority Populations, requires public engagement and review of federal actions that may have the potential to disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations. Under the National Historic Preservation Act, the public notice is also required for some projects which have the potential to affect historic properties. All necessary permits and approvals will be obtained prior to construction and completion of the project.

Public participation is encouraged. Those interested are invited to comment within 30 days by e-mail to fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov, by voicemail at 312-408-5549, or by mail to:

Duane Castaldi, Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region 5
536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor
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FEMA will consider the comments received in response to this notice in planning the Environmental compliance review for this project, additional notices or engagement may be required.