

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has received a subgrant application for the City of Columbia in regard to repairing damaged sewer pipe located in Richland County South Carolina due to 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 on November 14, 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 repair the creek bed within the floodplain; including the floodway, due to being 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:

Smith Branch Creek adjacent to Sunset Dr & Summerlea Dr; GPS: (34.03026, -81.050951), (34.03039, -81.051065), (34.030542, -81.049535), and (34.030131, -81.050315)

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The City of Columbia will install a 36" collector pipe along the bank of Smith Branch creek and will install 4 new manholes to allow the new pipeline to cross the creek further downstream. This will reroute the current sewer pipeline system and avoid the area around the box culverts which is prone to scouring during flooding events. The current damaged sewer lines and manhole will be capped and abandoned.

Project Alternatives:

The alternative that has been considered is the no action alternative and back to pre-disaster conditions. The no action alternative is not feasible as the current sewer pipe is damaged and the current repair is serving as a temporary fix. Going back to pre-disaster conditions will repair the pipe but will continue to expose it to flood water scouring, as shown from repairs from the past.

Comments:

This will serve as the final public notice regarding the above-described actions funded by the FEMA PA Program. Persons 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 [PA-04-SC-4241-PW-01137(0)] at the above address within 15 days of the date of this notice.