

**EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED
ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN
MONMOUTH COUNTY**

June 26, 2014

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups & Individuals

This is to give notice that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on behalf of the Responsible Entity, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDEP), has determined that the following proposed actions under the Neighborhood and Community Revitalization Program (NCR) that provides funds for projects that contribute to economic revitalization throughout New Jersey, are located in the 100-year floodplain. NJDEP will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the actions in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

Proposed actions:

NCR38953: The proposed project will involve streetscape improvements including new crosswalks, ADA compliant intersections, street trees, street lights, and street furniture along: Bay Avenue from South Street to Valley Avenue and from Washington Avenue to Central Avenue; along Waterwitch Avenue from Bay Avenue to Shore Drive; and along Shore Drive near Waterwitch Avenue in the Borough of Highlands in Monmouth County. NCR38953 is located entirely within the Special Flood Hazard Area Zones "AE (EL 11)" and "AE (EL 12)" Zone floodplains, as shown on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panel 88 of 457, Map Number 34025C0088G, revised January 31, 2014.

NCR39451: The proposed project will involve the construction of granite block curb, wide decorative paver sidewalk, and pedestrian crosswalk; the installation of pedestrian lighting and traffic signs; and additional necessary site work and electrical work related to the above improvements along East Main Street from Lake Drive northwest to the county bridge in the Borough of Oceanport in Monmouth County. NCR39451 is located entirely within the Special Flood Hazard Area Zone "AE (EL 8)" Zone floodplain, as shown on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panel 184 of 457, Map Number 34025C0184G, revised January 31, 2014.

NCR39452: The proposed project will provide construction of improved parking, street trees, pedestrian-scale street lights, street furniture, bicycle lanes, and the reconstruction of crosswalks on Ocean Avenue from Osborne Place to Rumson Bridge in the Borough of Sea Bright in Monmouth County. NCR39452 is located entirely within the Special Flood Hazard Area Zones "AE (EL 7)" and "AE (EL 8)" Zone floodplains, as shown on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panel 201 of 457, Map Number 34025C0201G, revised January 31, 2014.

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 education tool. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks 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 NJDCA on or before July 12, 2014. NJDCA encourages electronic submittal of comments at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/>. In the alternative, comments may be submitted on paper to: Stacy Bonnaffons, Assistant Commissioner, Sandy Recovery Division, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, 101 South Broad Street, PO Box 800, Trenton, NJ 08625-0800 by July 12, 2014. The Notice can be viewed at NJDCA during the hours of 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Further information can be found on the Department's web site at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/>.

Bob Martin, Commissioner, NJDEP