

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Emporia, Kansas, (Sub-Applicant) has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program funding through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM/Applicant), Kansas Adjutant General's Department.

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 Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas

Project Title: City of Emporia Wastewater Treatment Plant Repairs and Mitigation, PA-07-KS-4449P-PW254, GM150379

Location of Proposed Work: City of Emporia Wastewater Treatment Plant, 1 Gavin Road, Emporia, Kansas 66801 (GPS: 38.38350, -96.17106)

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:

This project will repair damage caused by flooding in 2019 by replacing damaged pumps and components, and repairing the damaged UV disinfection system. Further the project will elevate the UV system in the Wastewater Treatment Plant to mitigate against future flood damage.

All work is in flood Zone AE, Special Flood Hazard Areas, otherwise known as the area of 1 percent annual chance of flooding, per FEMA flood insurance rate map (FIRM) for City of Emporia, panel 20111C0245D, dated February 20, 2008. The proposed work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant is adjacent to a seasonally-flooded riverine wetland system per the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory (NWI). The work proposed is confined to the interior to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and will neither affect nor be affected by wetland values.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

City of Emporia, Kansas proposes to use FEMA Public Assistance funds to repair flood damaged pumps and other components including the Ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant. City will also incorporate mitigation measures by elevating the electrical components of the UV System to minimize the potential for damage from future flooding events.

Project Alternatives:

Preferred Alternative (Repair Wastewater Treatment Plant damaged features and add mitigation to increase resilience in future flooding events): This is the option being pursued

by City of Emporia in this funding request. Repairs to pumps and electrical components will restore the Wastewater Treatment Plant for continuing use. Mitigation measures will raise the electrical components of the UV system providing additional resilience to the plant during future flooding events. Repairing and upgrading the wastewater treatment plant will allow the city to continue providing sanitary sewer services and make the system more resilient to flooding events in the future.

Other Alternative #1 (No Action): The no-action alternative would leave the community with damaged components and a minimally functioning wastewater treatment system that would overflow with excessive rain or flooding.

Other Alternative #2 (repair Wastewater Treatment Plant to original condition): This alternative, repair of the Wastewater Treatment Plant’s pumps and electrical components to their pre-disaster condition, will make the facility functional but would not protect the components of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Similar damage is likely to occur after excessive rains and future flooding events.

Comment Period:

This will serve as the final public notice regarding the above-described action funded by the FEMA PA program. All comments received can be submitted via email to FEMA at Kate.stojavljevic@fema.dhs.gov. Please use the subject line: “KS-4449P-PW254, City of Emporia Wastewater Treatment Plant, Floodplain Comments.”

Interested persons may also submit comments and questions in writing, or request a map of this specific project, by writing to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 7, 11224 Holmes Road; Kansas City, MO 64131. Written comments should be sent with the subject line KS-4449P-PW254, City of Emporia Wastewater Treatment Plant, 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.

POSTED ON: _____

End of Notice