

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Columbia has received subgrant applications for the City of Columbia 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) Grant Program.

An initial disaster-wide Public Notice was published on November 7, 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 a project-specific final notice for FEMA's funding action located within a Special Flood Hazard Area. FEMA has determined that the only practicable alternative is to fund the proposed work to the sanitary sewer line after considering the alternatives.

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.

Applicant: City of Columbia

Project Title: PA-04-SC-4241-PW-01142

Location of Proposed Work:

Name of Structure: Gills Creek Sanitary Sewer Line

Address of Structure: Columbia, Richland County, South Carolina located behind the Public Storage at 4479 Rosewood Drive, Columbia, SC 29209

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone: This project is for the repairs and realignment of a sanitary sewer line and replace destroyed manholes located in a mapped Zone AE Floodway (1% annual chance flood elevation) including a Shaded Zone X (0.2% annual chance flood elevation). Confirmation of location in an SFHA was made by reference to the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel #45079C0376L dated 12/21/20217. The proposed work conforms to all applicable State of South Carolina and local floodplain regulations. The proposed work will minimize future impacts during a flood event and will have no effect on the local floodplain. The proposed work has the potential to be affected by the location in an SFHA.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The City of Columbia is requesting funds to replace destroyed manholes, replaced a sewer line adjacent to Mill Creek's northern embankment, and install via pipe ramming the creek crossing sewer line under the creek in lieu replacing the sewer line crossing over the creek. The repairs will bring the sewer service in the direct area to full capacity and bypass emergency measures would no longer be required.

Project Alternatives:

Alternative #1 (no action alternative): If no action is taken to repair the sewer line the bypass pumping would be needed for the duration of required sewer services. This would be a great economic burden to the community and the bypass pumping in place may potentially be at greater risk of future severe weather events.

Alternative #2 (repair to pre-disaster design): Repairing the sanitary sewer line, aerial sewer line crossing over the creek, and the manholes back to the previous design is not practicable. If a flood event damaged it before it is not unrealistic to think that it could occur again.

Alternative #3 (relocate outside of the floodplain): Relocating the sanitary sewer line, aerial sewer line crossing, and associated manholes outside the floodplain would require a major overhaul to the sanitary sewer line network. This is not practicable from an economic and sewer functioning standpoint. Additionally, this would cause a social burdensome to public as temporary pumping would be required for an extensive timeframe delaying the full capacity of sewer services to the urbanized area.

Comment Period:

This will serve as the final public notice regarding the above-described action funded by the FEMA PA program. Interested persons may submit comments, questions, or request a map of this specific project by writing to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 4, 3005 Chamblee-Tucker Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, or by emailing FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Comments should be sent in writing with the subject line “Gills Creek Repairs 4241-01142” at the above addresses within 15 days of the date of this notice.

POSTED ON: (*insert posted date*)

End of Notice