

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Marion has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program funding through the North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) as a sub- recipient.

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 and EO 11990, FEMA is required to consider alternatives, and to provide a public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

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 Marion

Project Title: 87255 App Cert Sewer Line Repair

Location of Proposed Work:

Facility and Address	Latitude	Longitude
Between Johnson’s Camping World & Crane Resistoflex	35.68567	-82.06454

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone: This project is for repairs that were made to the wastewater collection system aerial sanitary sewer line located on the Catawba River between Johnsons Camping World & Crane Resistoflex, just south of the industry. The aerial sanitary sewer line is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area Zone AE & Floodway as mapped on the Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel Number 3710079100J with an effective date of 10/02/2008. The emergency repair work conformed to all applicable State of North Carolina and local floodplain regulations. The completed work took place across a wetland per the United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory. The actions had little to no potential to impact or affect wetland values. There is a potential for the facility to be impacted by similar flooding events due to its location within an AE zone and floodway.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The City of Marion utilized contracted labor to repair the wastewater collection system aerial sanitary sewer line back to its pre-disaster function and capacity, within the existing footprint. The repair work consisted of replacing 80ft. of 8in. ductile iron pipe on existing piers crossing the Catawba River.

Project Alternatives:

Alternative #1 (no action alternative): The 'no action' alternative would ultimately result in a negative impact on the citizens and businesses North of the Catawba River in the City of Marion. The wastewater collection system aerial sanitary sewer line is functionally dependent on crossing the Catawba River in relation to the population it serves and the wastewater treatment plant

Dismissed Alternatives:

- 1) Relocation of the wastewater collection system aerial sanitary sewer line would call for the line to be rerouted too far east or west considering where the river cuts through the land in relation to the wastewater treatment plant.
- 2) Boring a force line underneath the river and installing a pump could potentially cause adverse effects to the floodplain as well as being too costly to construct.
[Both alternatives listed above were dismissed due to inadequate economic and/or geographic feasibility.]
- 3) No other actions were considered because discontinuing sewer service to the company & community was not a viable option.

Repairing the broken sewer line immediately was necessary to avoid a significant environmental health emergency. The sewer line is a component of the City's wastewater collection system, which conveys untreated wastewater to the City's Corpening Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Failure to repair the line immediately would have resulted in a large amount of untreated wastewater being discharged into the Catawba River and a violation of the City's NPDES permit.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to:

FEMA Internal 11988 Reviewer
FEMA Region 4
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia, 30341

Alternatively, comments may be emailed to: FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Please send comments with the subject line [DR-4393-NC-00674 11988 COMMENT].

All comments are due by no later than 15 days of the posted date of this notice.

POSTED ON: July 17, 2019

End of Notice