

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CITY COMPLEX,  
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, BAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice to the public of its intent to reimburse eligible applicants for eligible costs to repair or replace facilities damaged by **Hurricane Michael** occurring during the incident period of **October 7, 2018, to October 19, 2018**. This notice applies to the Public Assistance (PA) project for the City of Springfield proposed City Complex relocation project at the intersection of East 11th Street and Transmitter Road located in Springfield, Bay County, Florida, implemented under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207. Under a major disaster declaration, **FEMA-DR-4399-FL**, signed by President Trump on **October 11, 2018**, Bay County was designated as adversely affected by the disaster and eligible for PA funding.

This public notice concerns activities pertaining to the City of Springfield proposed City Complex relocation project. The proposed construction activities would occur on a 16-acre partially cleared parcel of land at the intersection of East 11 Street and Transmitter Road one mile north of the previous location of City Hall/Police Station (30.169968, -85.607939 to 30.167776, -85.607941 to 30.167726, -85.612093 to 30.170516, -85.612093 to 30.170518, -85.609273 to 30.169787, -85.609273).

The proposed project is to construct a new city complex that will consist of four buildings that will house City Hall (6,632 SF), Police Department (5,935 SF), Fire Department (11,191 SF), and Public Works Department (15,565 SF). The west side of the tract would be used for construction of two phases of stormwater ponds to service the proposed City Complex and the surrounding area during and after construction. In addition, the complex would include parking areas, exterior site lighting, sidewalks, work area, vehicle impound lot, and a stormwater management system.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500 to 1508), FEMA's Instruction 108-1-1 for implementing NEPA, the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and 44 CFR Part 9, FEMA has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA). An alternatives analysis was performed, which included the evaluation of the proposed action, repair to pre-disaster conditions, and the no action alternative. Further detailed descriptions of all alternatives may be reviewed in the EA conducted by FEMA or by contacting FEMA-R4EHP-FLORIDA@fema.dhs.gov for a copy. The draft EA is available for public comment and can be viewed on FEMA's and the City of Springfield's websites at the following locations:

**FEMA WEBSITE LOCATION:**

[https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_ehp-pa-dr-4399-00860-fl-springfieldcitycomplex-dea-20240320.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_ehp-pa-dr-4399-00860-fl-springfieldcitycomplex-dea-20240320.pdf)

**CITY OF SPRINGFIELD WEBSITE LOCATION:**

<https://www.springfieldfl.net/community/page/springfield-future-now-alert-bay-and-public-notice-website-click-here>

A hardcopy of the EA is available for review at the front entry counter at Springfield City Hall, located at 408 School Ave., Springfield, FL, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires federal agencies to ensure that actions they authorize, fund, or carry out are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat of such species. Based on a search of the USFWS's IPaC database and the results of an ecological site assessment that was conducted on the tract, all ESA-listed species included in the IPaC-generated list were removed from consideration of potential effects due to lack of suitable habitat at the proposed site. FEMA determined there is no effect to any ESA-listed species.

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires federal agencies to take into account the effect of their undertakings on historic properties. FEMA consulted with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and received concurrence for a determination of No Historic Properties Affected. Tribal consultation letters were submitted to ten federally recognized tribes with vested interest in Bay County, Florida. None of the tribes express any objections to the proposed project.

Presidential Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 require that all federal actions in or affecting the floodplain or wetlands be reviewed for opportunities to relocate and evaluated for social, economic, historical, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. The proposed development would be constructed partially within a special flood hazard area, per Bay County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) #12005C0361H, dated June 02, 2009. The proposed City Complex will be constructed on high ground adjacent to the special flood hazard area and wetland. Construction within the special flood hazard area is restricted to the construction of two stormwater ponds that will prevent flooding of the City Complex and surrounding area while also preventing untreated stormwater runoff from draining directly into the wetland. In addition, the ponds will ensure post development runoff rates do not exceed the pre-development runoff rates due to increased hardscapes from the construction of the City Complex. The project will maintain the function of the floodplain in this location as a viable drainage area during flooding events.

Presidential Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations, directs federal agencies to address and avoid disproportionate environmental and human health impacts from federal actions on minority and low-income populations. Based on EPA's EJ mapper only low-income population are present at the project site. The City of Springfield has provided its citizens opportunity for input into the decisions to relocate the municipal facilities although public comments have been minimal. Municipal services would benefit all populations by providing a centralized location for the City of Springfield municipal functions and critical facilities for faster response times during an emergency event. In addition, the city would have sufficient space within the City Complex structures to operate and store necessary files for easy access. Although the City Complex would move many of the services one mile further to the north, access would not be challenging due to the location of the City Complex along two major routes through town. 15th Street is included in a public bus route with a bus stop at the proposed location. Adequate parking will also be available for citizens to access the facility. FEMA has determined the construction of the City Complex would not have a disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects on low-income populations.

This notice serves as the final public notice regarding the above-described action proposed for funded by the FEMA PA and Hazard Mitigation programs. Interested persons may obtain information about these actions by writing to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 4, 3005 Chamblee Tucker Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, or by emailing [FEMA-R4EHP-FLORIDA@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-R4EHP-FLORIDA@fema.dhs.gov). Comments should be sent in writing with the subject line, "PA 4339-00860, City of Springfield City Complex" at the above address within 30 days of the date of this notice.