

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

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To: All interested Agencies: Department of Local Government, Thrive Community Coalition, Fahe, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Department of Local Government **under 24 CFR Part 58** has conducted an evaluation as required by **Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690** in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management, to determine the potential affect that its activity in the floodplain and wetland will have on the human environment for **Community Development Block Grant-Recovery Housing Project** under **CDBG 24R-003**. The proposed project(s) is located near **Rockcastle Road, Inez, Kentucky**.

The proposed project includes the acquisition of an approximately 253-acre property and aims to rehabilitate the existing single-family residence and develop up to 2 additional homes to provide safe, affordable housing for up to 14 individuals in Substance Use Disorder (SUD) recovery. Project activities will include the acquisition of property, rehabilitation, planning and design, infrastructure development, residential housing construction, and grant administration. According to the FEMA Flood Hazard Boundary Map, approximately 4.61 acres of the project area will intersect with the 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Floodplain, Panel 21159C0043F, effective 09/16/2015 for Martin County Unincorporated Areas (210166).

The Department for Local Government has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values:

- **Alternative:** Relocate the project outside the FFRMS. **Evaluation:** After a thorough review of all viable land options within the county, DLG has determined this site to be the most suitable available site for new housing, based on considerations including: the site's proximity to downtown Inez, the secured purchase option and land availability, infrastructure access, environmental impact, and support of community needs.
- **Alternative:** Locate the project partially within the FFRMS with modifications. **Evaluation:** 4.61 acres of the total 253.89-acre property are located in the 100-year floodplain. To assure the safety and resilience of future residents, no homes will be constructed in the floodplain. Portions of the access road leading to the planned entrance to the proposed neighborhood are in the 100-year floodplain. Local emergency management officials will be consulted to determine an evacuation plan for individuals residing in the proposed project location if a flooding event were to occur. Additionally, parking spaces for future residents are being proposed to be placed in the 100-year floodplain. All work that occurs in the floodplain will be completed in accordance with Best Management Practices outlined by the Environmental Protection

Agency regarding flood mitigation standards, drainage improvements, erosion and runoff control, and other flood-resistant construction practices. These guidelines allow homes to be added to the low housing stock, and provide safe, affordable housing for individuals in Martin County, while ensuring minimal disruption to the floodplain.

- Mitigation: The Department of Local Government will take several measures to minimize the potential impacts to and from the FFRMS floodplain. The project site plan has been modified to ensure none of the homes will be built in the floodplain.
 - To Preserve Lives: Martin County utilized an emergency broadcast system and early warning system in case of extreme weather events. In addition to the warning system, an evacuation plan will be developed for evacuating residents. Residents will be briefed on the location of the flood hazard area adjacent to the site as well as emergency shelter locations that are available in the project area.
 - To Preserve Property: All homes are planned to be built outside of the floodplain.
 - To Preserve Natural Values and Minimizing Impacts: Best Management Practices will be used to minimize erosion and will include the use of silt fences, reseeding and ground stabilization, as well as weekly site inspections to ensure effective sediment control during any activities in the floodplain. Therefore, based on all these mitigating measures, the proposed new construction project will have minimal effects on the FEMA floodplain and adjacent water resources

The Department of Local Government has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of **Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690**, are available for public inspection, reviewing, and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

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 educational tool. The dissemination of information 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 the Department for Local Government at the following address on or before **March 16, 2026**: Department for Local Government, 100 Airport Road, 3rd Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601 Attention: Jennifer Peters and 502-892-3469. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9am to 4pm at 100 Airport Road, 3rd Floor, Frankfort,

KY 40601. Comments may also be submitted via email to Jennifer Peters at jennifer.peters@ky.gov.