

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that City of New Orleans (CNO) under 24 CFR Part 58 has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The proposed project location is an approximate 0.28-acre portion of the existing Sampson Playground, addressed at 3211 Tresure Street in New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. The approximate center coordinates of the project area are 29° 59' 23.00" N / 90° 02' 07.23" W. The project's proposed action includes improvements to the existing Sampson Playground, specifically around the existing pool. Improvements will include the construction of a pool entry building, restroom renovations, and upgrades to access including sidewalks. The existing pool structure and proposed construction area is located in the southeastern corner of the intersection between Benefit Street and Johnny Jackson Jr Boulevard. The entire 0.28-acre project area is located within the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE). No wetland habitat was identified within the project boundaries.

CNO has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain: alternative locations were considered and dismissed due to ownership and/or other negative environmental impacts. Minimal impacts will occur within the floodplain and will be mitigated through best management practices during construction activities and compliance with local floodplain guidance.

CNO has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988 and 24 CFR 55, are available for public inspection, review 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 floodplain 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 and request for public comment about floodplain can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts 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 floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by CNO at the following address on or before June 3, 2026; City of New Orleans – Office of Community Development, 1340 Poydras Street – Suite 917, New Orleans, LA 70112 Attn: Craig Foundas – Director of Environmental Compliance. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at 1340 Poydras Street – Suite 917, New Orleans, LA 70112. Comments may also be submitted via email at jjury@leaaf.com.

Date: May 26, 2026