

**COMBINED FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED
ACTIVITY IN A 500-YEAR FLOODPLAIN AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT
IMPACT/NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
(FONS/NOIRROF)**

May 27, 2026

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

Pursuant to 24CFR 55.20(g) and 24 CFR Section 58.70, this combined Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 500-Year Floodplain and Finding of No Significant Impact/Notice of Intent to Request the Release of Funds (FONSI/NOIRROF) satisfies three separate procedural requirements for the proposed activity described in this notice.

**FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A
500-YEAR FLOODPLAIN**

This is to give notice that Prince George's County as a Responsible Entity under Part 58 has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded through the HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Grant No. B-26-UC-24-0002 is located within the 500-year floodplain. The Town of Edmonston proposes to use HUD funding to install six additional decorative streetlights along Emerson Street between 51st Avenue and 52nd Place, within a census tract designated as low-to-moderate income. The purpose of the project is to improve safety and provide residents with a well-lit route for daily activities. The new fixtures will match the Town's existing streetlights. The project meets the national objective of benefiting low- and moderate-income residents. The project area is a residential corridor with single-family homes, located between 5100–5200 blocks Emerson Street in Edmonston, Maryland (20781). The Anacostia River lies to the west. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), the site is within Zone X, an area of reduced flood risk due to a levee, and is not within a Special Flood Hazard Area. However, based on the 0.2-percent annual chance flood, the project is located within an FFRMS floodplain.

Prince George's County has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values:

1. Reasons why the action must take place in a floodplain:
 - a. The installation of streetlights qualifies as a public safety and transportation lifeline activity, intended to enhance visibility for emergency responders, improve pedestrian safety, and support traffic control. The lighting is essential to ensure safe passage for children walking to the bus stop along Emerson Street between 51st Avenue and 52nd Place, to deter criminal activity, and to provide residents with a well-lit route for daily travel and recreation.
 - b. The project area is located within a census tract designated as a low-to-moderate income community, and the lighting improvements directly serve this population.
 - c. The proposed project aligns with the national objective of benefiting low- and moderate-income residents, as outlined in the Prince George's County Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan.
 - d. Silt fencing and standard erosion and sediment control practices will be used during the

limited ground disturbance required for installation. The project will fully comply with all applicable Prince George's County and State of Maryland permitting requirements.

2. Alternatives considered and reasons for non-selection:

Two alternatives were evaluated during project development:

- a. Option A – Installation of six streetlights along Emerson Street between 51st Avenue and 52nd Place.
- b. Option B – No-action alternative.

Option A would enhance safety within a high-density, low-to-moderate income residential area. The proposed streetlights are needed to provide safe passage for children traveling to the bus stop at 52nd Avenue and Decatur Street, deter criminal activity, and ensure that pedestrians have a well-lit route for work, recreation, and daily travel. Mitigation measures for this option include complying with all applicable state and county permitting requirements; preparing an erosion and sediment control plan consistent with state and local standards; installing structural controls such as silt fencing and storm drain inlet protection; implementing non-structural best management practices and good-housekeeping procedures; and maintaining all erosion and sediment control measures throughout construction.

Option B, the no-action alternative, is not preferred. It would prevent the installation of streetlights that directly benefit a low-to-moderate income community and support national program objectives. Under this option, existing safety concerns along Emerson Street would remain unaddressed.

3. All mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and values of the floodplain:

- a. Best management practices shall be implemented to prevent pollutant discharge from excavation or soil-disturbing activities. This includes keeping the project area free of debris and ensuring all construction waste is properly disposed of in accordance with applicable state and local regulations. Additional BMPs should be added as conditions warrant.
- b. Flood-resistant materials—including those used for furnishings, electrical components, and poles—should be incorporated to reduce vulnerability to flood damage.
- c. Because the project cannot be relocated, the Town must ensure that all light-pole installations are placed above the Base Flood Elevation and that any structures use elevated foundations.
- d. The Town of Edmonston must obtain all required construction permits and comply with state and local floodplain management and protection procedures.
- e. Utility installations should avoid direct burial within floodplain soils. Elevated conduits or above-ground systems should be used whenever feasible.

Prince George's County has reevaluated the alternatives to installing the streetlights 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, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the public comments 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 and request for public comments about floodplains 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 floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

PUBLICATION DATE: May 27, 2026
GRANTEE NAME: Prince George's County, Maryland
SUBGRANTEE NAME: Town of Edmonston, Maryland
GRANTEE ADDRESS: 9200 Basil Court, Suite 500
Largo, MD 20774
TELEPHONE: (301) 883-6511

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after June 12, 2026, Prince George's County will submit County will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Community Planning and Development Division. The request will be for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project at the Town of Edmonston, Maryland.

The Town of Edmonston proposes to use HUD funding to install six additional decorative streetlights along Emerson Street between 51st Avenue and 52nd Place, within a census tract designated as low-to-moderate income. The purpose of the project is to improve safety and provide residents with a well-lit route for daily activities. The new fixtures will match the Town's existing streetlights. The project meets the national objective of benefiting low- and moderate-income residents. The project area is a residential corridor with single-family homes, located between 5100-5200 Emerson Street in Edmonston, Maryland (20781). The proposed HUD funding is approximately \$184,010. The estimated total project cost is \$184,010.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Prince George's County has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is

contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at Prince George's County, Department of Housing and Community Development, 9200 Basil Court, Suite 306, Largo, MD 20774. The ERR is posted on the HUD Exchange at <https://www.onecpd.info/environmental-review/environmental-review-records>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Prince George's County, Department of Housing and Community Development; Attn: Julius N. Mbotiji, by e-mail to Jnmbotiji@co.pg.md.us. All comments received by June 11, 2026, will be considered by the County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Prince George's County certifies to HUD that Ashley Johnson-Hare, in her capacity as Deputy Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Prince George's County to use HOME funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and Prince George's County's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of Prince George's County; (b) Prince George's County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) a grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs, or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Mr. Michael D. Rose, Director, Community Planning and Development Division, HUD at michael.d.rose@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD at that email address to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Ashley Johnson-Hare, Deputy Director
Prince George's County
Department of Housing and Community Development