

EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 500-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

Prince George's County, in accordance with 24 CFR Part 58, is providing public notice that the proposed project described below—funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Grant No. B-26-UC-24-0002—is located within the 500-year floodplain. As required by Executive Order 11988 and HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 (Subpart C), the County will evaluate practicable alternatives to siting the project in the floodplain and assess potential impacts on floodplain functions. 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 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.

Natural floodplain functions include providing flood storage and conveyance, reducing flood velocities and sedimentation, filtering nutrients and pollutants, processing organic material, moderating temperature fluctuations, and supporting aquatic and riparian habitat. Because the project involves ground disturbance and may increase paved surface area, it has the potential to affect these natural functions. Completion of HUD's 8-Step Process is required to determine whether a practicable alternative exists. The proposed project is located between 5100-5200 Emerson Street, Edmonston, Maryland 20781, Prince George's County.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in the floodplain area 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. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. 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 Prince George's County at the following address on or before May 18, 2026: Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development, 9200 Basil Court, Suite 306, Largo, MD 20774, and (301) 883-6511, Attention:

Julius N. Mbotiji, Senior Environmental Review Officer. A PDF of the full description of the project may be requested via e-mail to Jnmbotiji@co.pg.md.us. Comments may also be submitted via e-mail to the same address.

By Authority of:
Ashley Johnson-Hare, Deputy Director
Prince George's County
Department of Housing and Community Development
9200 Basil Court, Suite 500
Largo, Maryland 20774

Date: May 1, 2026