



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

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Mobile under Part 58 has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and/or 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 44 CFR Part 9 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 the City of Mobile Greenway Initiative: Three Mile Creek Greenway Trail under RESTORE Act Direct Component Project Federal Award 1RDCGR010131-01-00, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Subaward Grant #M1A13-MGWI. The proposed project(s) is located around 2100 Lake Drive in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama. The Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council, acting through its administrative agent, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) has approved Direct Component funds for Phase I of the Mobile Greenway Initiative: Three Mile Creek Greenway Trail. The Scope of Work builds on an ongoing, multi-segment, City of Mobile greenway/trail construction project along the bank of Three Mile Creek. Generally, construction activities will include all activities necessary to complete a trail segment, including actual trail construction, sitework, bridge / pedestrian crossings, lighting, landscaping, and trail amenities (water fountains, benches, signage). Once construction of these funded sections is completed, the City of Mobile project will have a continuous 3-mile Greenway Trail connecting several existing parks adjacent the creek. The Mobile Greenway Initiative is a series of projects intended to accomplish the following goals: 1) reconnect City of Mobile citizens and neighborhoods through cycling and pedestrian-oriented transportation options; 2) enhance environmental awareness and appreciation for urban waterways such as Three Mile Creek; 3) build a healthier community through improved access to passive recreational opportunities; 4) initiate a sustainable, place based economy in under-served areas; and 5) through "greenway" acquisitions, develop a more resilient environment for both citizens and wildlife. This phase of the Greenway project will cover a total of five acres of floodplains that is consistent with the original Open Space Re-Use Plan. That 1983 plan was developed in conjunction with the US Army Corps of Engineers for the City of Mobile in response to the repetitive flood damage sustained and the subsequent flood control work along Three Mile Creek.

The City of Mobile has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: In order to minimize the risk of future floodplain damage and to comply with EO 11988 and the NFIP, limited development will occur on flood prone properties outside of the floodway. Any improvements provided will be constructed in a manner that the facilities are designed to be inundated periodically and will not contribute to any rise in the floodway. As referenced in the Department of the Army No Permit Required letter of memorandum dated 16 March 2020, File Number SAM-2019-01043-AMR, Three Mile Creek Greenway Project, the proposed trail route and the information submitted for the proposed foot-path bridge that would cross an ephemeral stream demonstrates that a DA permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act or

Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act will not be required.

The City of Mobile 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 and/or 11990, 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. This activity will have no significant impact on the environment for the following reasons:

All work will be completed outside of the floodway and the placement of a span bridge from top of bank to top of bank will be above the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM). Additionally, all proposed improvements within the floodplain will be studied, designed, and constructed in accordance with flood proofing guidelines and achieve a no-rise in comparison to current modeling.

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 City of Mobile at the following address on or before 20 May 2021:

MOBILE GREENWAY INITIATIVE
Attn: Matthew Jollit, Project Manager
Programs and Project Management
City of Mobile
P.O. Box 1827
Mobile, Alabama 36633-1827

Comments may be submitted via phone call during the hours of 9:00AM to 5:00PM by contacting Matt Jollit at (251) 208-5897 or via email at 3MCTrail@cityofmobile.org.

Date: 5 MAY 2021

*Wetland Protection (executive Order 11990_ - Section 2(b) of the Executive Order, implemented by 24 CFR 55.20(b), requires similar notification when construction is proposed in designated wetland areas.