

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Repairs of Summer Haven North and Summer Haven South in St. Johns County, Florida (PA-04-FL-4283-PW-00652/00653)**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice to the public of its intent to reimburse applicants for eligible costs to repair or replace facilities damaged by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. This notice applies to the Public Assistance (PA) projects for repair of sections of Old A1A, Summer Haven North and Summer Haven South, in St. Johns County, Florida, implemented under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 *United States Code* §§ 5121-5207.

Under a major disaster declaration, FEMA-DR-4283-FL signed by the President on October 8, 2016, and amended October 17, 2016, October 19, 2016, October 24, 2016, October 25, 2016, October 27, 2016, November 4, 2016, and December 12, 2016, St. Johns County was designated as adversely affected by the disaster and eligible for PA funding.

FEMA is considering providing funds to St. Johns County for eligible costs to assist in providing access to the homes affected by Hurricane Matthew. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FEMA has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Proposed Action. The draft EA describes the Proposed Action and alternatives considered, analyzes the potential environmental impacts of alternatives, and identifies the environmental protection measures that would be implemented and the required permits that would be obtained. Two alternatives were considered in the EA: Alternative 1: repair Summer Haven North with hazard mitigation protection and construct a dune for Summer Haven South, and Alternative 2: the no action alternative. FEMA has determined that Alternative 1 would not have a significant impact on the natural or human environment either by itself or considering cumulative impacts and that it is the only practicable alternative. FEMA requests comments from the public so that issues and concerns of local residents are considered and addressed before implementing the Proposed Action. Hard copies of the draft EA and draft FONSI are available for review at the following locations:

St. Johns County Library  
Southeast Branch  
6670 US 1 South  
St. Augustine, FL 32086  
(904) 827-6900

St. Johns County Administration Building  
500 San Sebastian View  
St. Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 209-0115  
Contact Brian Kelsay to view the hard copy.

The draft EA and draft FONSI are also available on the FEMA and St. Johns County websites:

FEMA website: <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/179985>

County website: <http://www.sjcfl.us/SummerHavenOldA1A>

The Endangered Species Act requires federal agencies to consult with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for effects to federally listed threatened and endangered species. Existing Programmatic Biological Opinions with the USFWS and NMFS were used to minimize impacts to listed species by applying appropriate terms and conditions.

The National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effect of their undertakings on historic properties. FEMA consulted with the State Historic Preservation Office and concurrence was received for a determination of no adverse effect on historic properties.

Presidential Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 require that all federal actions in or affecting the floodplain or wetlands be reviewed for opportunities to relocate and evaluated for social, economic, historical, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Summer Haven North and Summer Haven South are located within the coastal high hazard area, otherwise known as the VE zone, per St. Johns County Flood Insurance Rate Map #12009C0503H dated September 2, 2004.

Repairs to the damaged section of Summer Haven North would provide residents access to their property. FEMA determined that replacing the road in Summer Haven South would be prohibited by 44 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 9.11 as new construction. New construction is defined as replacement of a facility that has been totally destroyed, is prohibited in the VE zone unless it facilitates open space use, or is functionally dependent upon its location in proximity to water to serve its purpose. As an alternative, the applicant proposes to construct a linear dune seaward of Summer Haven South that would protect the route that residents currently use to access their property. The proposed dune would be a functionally dependent use because its intended purpose requires it to be near water to serve its function.

This is the final public notice regarding the above-described action funded by the FEMA PA program. Interested persons may obtain information about these actions or a specific project by writing to FEMA Region 4, 3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, or by emailing [FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov). Comments should be sent in writing with the subject line FL-4283-PW-00652/00653, St. Johns County at the above address within 30 days of the date of this notice.