JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL PUBLIC NOTICE 3/25/2025

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and Florida Division of Emergency Management have received the following application for Federal grant funding. Final notice is hereby given of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) consideration to provide funding in the form of a Flood Mitigation Assistance Program Grant.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990 FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority or low-income populations.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

Applicant:

St. Johns County

Project Title:

EMA-2023-FM-004-0017 – St. Johns County FMA 2023- Elevations

Location of Proposed Work:

The area affected by this project consists of homes in the following locations:

- Fountain of Youth Blvd.
- N Roscoe Blvd.
- Murillo Ave.
- 14th St.
- Flamingo St.
- 4th St.
- 3rd St.
- Windandtide Rd.
- 5th St.
- Ave D
- Charles St.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

Eleven property owners (one on each of the above listed streets) have elected to elevate their homes with the assistance of the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program. Elevation of these properties will commence if grant funding is approved and awarded. Properties will be elevated 2 feet above the Base Flood Elevation or prior flood of record. Lifting of the properties will be conducted to reduce overall flood loss and flood. Owners will provide the local cost share of the project funding. Property owners will maintain NFIP flood insurance and maintain flood insurance on the property in perpetuity.

Project Alternatives:

In deciding on this course of action, St. Johns County examined several alternative project types and determined elevating the structures to be the best option. The following alternatives to mitigate these properties were considered:

1. Acquisition/Relocation was considered as an alternative but was not deemed the most feasible method as this activity would result in considerable maintenance costs and loss of tax base.

2. No action. If no action is taken to mitigate at-risk properties, the structures will continue to flood and there would be no benefit realized by the homeowner, the City, or the National Flood Insurance Program, making this not a viable option.

3. Elevation is considered a viable alternative type because of the degree of risk reduction versus project cost. The project eliminates most of the flood risk to the homes, allows homeowners to remain in their neighborhoods and preserves the tax base for the community while significantly reducing the various other negative effects of repetitive flooding.

4. Reconstruction is considered a viable alternative type when elevation is considered infeasible because of the degree of risk reduction versus project cost.

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Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies; and other interested parties to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to the Florida Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Mitigation, 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100. These are due within 30 days of this notice. The State will forward comments to applicable regulatory agencies as needed. Interested people may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

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