

Early Notice/Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

Legal Notice

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This is to give notice that the City of Salem has determined that the following proposed actions (Neighborhood Improvement, Economic Development and Housing Programs) under Community Development Block Grant may be located in the 100-year floodplain, and the City of Salem will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the actions in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed actions, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management. The proposed activities are located city-wide in Salem, MA, Essex County, in areas that overlap both the Special Flood Hazard Areas and the census block groups considered low- to moderate-income areas and may be conducted from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018 (3 year period). Neighborhood Improvement activities may entail tree planting, street repaving, installation of sidewalks, curbscuts and crosswalks, removal of architectural barriers, purchase/installation of equipment, lighting and/or landscape materials, pedestrian circulation improvements, safety improvements and minor repairs to structures. Economic Development activities entail small business financial assistance to improve storefronts and/or provide health, safety and/or handicapped access improvements to commercial properties. Housing activities entail health, safety and/or handicapped access improvements to residential properties. As specific project addresses are identified, individual environmental reviews, including floodplain evaluations, will be conducted to ensure that they fall under this programmatic review.

The purpose of this notice is for people who may be affected by the activities or have an interest in the protection of the natural environment to be given an opportunity to comment on concerns, alternatives, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts, and to provide a public educational tool about floodplains in order to reduce the risks and impacts. Written comments must be received by the City of Salem on or before July 30, 2015 to:

Tom Devine, Conservation Agent, City of Salem, Department of Planning & Community Development (DPCD), 120 Washington St., 3rd Floor, Salem, MA 01970 or tdevine@salem.com. A full description of the project, including maps of the Special Flood Hazard and Low- to Moderate-Income Areas, may also be reviewed from 8am-4pm MTW, 8am-7pm Th, or 8am-noon F at the DPCD, 978-619-5685.

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