JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL PUBLIC NOTICE February 17, 2023

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 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Funds will be provided in accordance with Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

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:

Washington County

Project Title:

HMGP 4486-(229) Washington County, Chipley Residential Properties, Acquisitions

Location of Proposed Work:

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

Little Wages Rd Shenandoah Blvd Rolling Pines Rd Childress Ln Radcliff Cir Woodymarion Dr Riddle Ct Faint Trl Pine Ridge Dr

Proposed Work and Purpose:

Washington County proposes to mitigate twenty-three (23) residential properties located in Chipley, Florida 32428. The scope of work for this project is to acquire and demolish the subject properties to prevent any reoccurring flood losses. Site stabilization shall follow demolition including the removal of residual building elements, debris, and accessory structures. Existing septic tanks shall be capped and rendered inoperable, where applicable, and all utilities shall be disconnected and abandoned. The properties will be converted to green space and deed restricted in perpetuity, in accordance with FEMA program requirements pursuant to 44 CFR 206.434 (e). The project shall provide protection against a 100-year storm event. Activities will be completed in strict compliance with Federal, State and Local Rules and regulations.

Project Alternatives:

The alternatives to the project that have been and will be considered are 1) the no-action alternative and 2) the elevation of the structures. These alternatives to the proposed project are not viable because under: Alternative 1) if no action is taken, the 23 residential structures are exposed to repetitive damages from flooding events and residents and first responders are also at risk of environmental hazards; Alternative 2) access to the properties would remain an issue if no other measures are taken to prevent flooding in this area. New construction would likely be required due to the previous damages to these structures. This alternative would only provide protection to property, but residents and first responders will still be exposed to flood hazards.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies; and other interested parties in order 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 persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

Karen Shaw, Grants Coordinator Washington County (850) 638-6200 kshaw@washingtonfl.com

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