

## **Public Notice: Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in an FFRMS Floodplain**

To: All interested Agencies, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, FEMA- Texas Division of Emergency Management, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Houston as required under 24 CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Mitigation (MIT) program Grant Number 22-082-006-D574 is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain. As such, the City of Houston will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the FFRMS floodplain and the potential impacts on the FFRMS floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 as amended by Executive Order 13690, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The proposed Project is located on 144.00 acres (ac) and consists of two areas: the Braeburn Glen neighborhood (130.29 ac) extending from Interstate Highway 69 (I-69) to South Gessner Road, including a portion of Braeburn Glen Boulevard extending across Brays Bayou (29.682161, -95.531078); and a proposed detention pond area (13.71 ac) located at 9100 Fondren Road, southwest of the intersection of Fondren Road and Wanda Lane (29.677546, -95.509378) in Houston, Harris County, Texas. Proposed Project activities within the Braeburn Glen neighborhood include upgrading the existing storm sewer system along public roadways; no residential structures would be impacted by the proposed activities. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 0.2 Percent Annual Chance Flood Approach. Climate Informed Science Approach (CISA) data is not available since the Federal Flood Standard Support Tool (FFSST) is no longer available as of May 7, 2025.

The proposed action includes infrastructure improvements to upsize the storm sewer system within the Braeburn Glen neighborhood in order to convey a greater volume of stormwater during storm events. To mitigate for increased flows to Brays Bayou during storm events from the upgraded storm sewer system, the proposed Project includes the construction of a downstream stormwater detention basin with a storage capacity of 57.49 acre-feet. The proposed action includes an impact area of 144.00 ac, within which there are approximately 11 ac within the Regulatory Floodway and approximately 133 ac within the 100-year Floodplain (panel numbers 48201C0845M, effective May 2, 2019, and 48201C0835L, effective June 18, 2007). Within the Braeburn Glen neighborhood portion of the Project Area (130.29 ac), 8.19 ac are located within the Regulatory Floodway, and 122.10 ac are located within the 100-year floodplain. Proposed activities within the floodway include the installation of upsized storm sewer outfalls above the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM) of Brays Bayou. Within the detention pond area of the Project Area (13.71 ac), 2.93 ac are located within the Regulatory Floodway, and 10.78 ac are located within the 100-year floodplain. Proposed activities within the floodway include the construction of an overflow structure and 24-inch reinforced concrete pipe outfall and the placement of stabilizing riprap above the OHWM of Brays Bayou. A wetland delineation of the impact area was conducted on September 10, 2024, and determined that one perennial stream (Brays Bayou), one ephemeral drainage ditch, and one dry-bottom stormwater detention basin are located within the impact area. No wetlands were observed within the impact area; as such, no wetlands would be impacted by proposed Project activities. One riverine feature is mapped by the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) within the impact area, which is consistent with the footprint of Brays Bayou. The proposed Project has been designed to avoid all impacts to Brays Bayou, as well as the ditch and the detention basin that were observed during the wetland delineation. No aquatic features would be impacted by the proposed Project. The impacted floodplain provides the following natural and beneficial functions: floodwater conveyance and storage, wildlife habitat, and groundwater recharge. The floodplain

does provide recreational, educational, scientific, cultural, or historical value. The proposed action is needed to provide flood risk reduction for the Braeburn Glen neighborhood within the Brays Bayou watershed and would remove 30 structures from the 500-year flood event and 36 structures from the 100-year flood event.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplain 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. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate project impacts on the floodplain. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comments about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts 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 the floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Houston at the following address on or before December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, **City of Houston Housing & Community Development Dept.**, 2100 Travis St, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Houston, TX 77002. Attention: HCD Environmental Team. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the address listed above or upon request to [hcdenvironmental@houstontx.gov](mailto:hcdenvironmental@houstontx.gov). Appointments for office visits to view the project description/environmental review in person are recommended to avoid any potential for delays. Comments or questions may also be submitted via email at the same address or (832) 394-6319.

Date: Friday December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025.