JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL PUBLIC NOTICE

November 6, 2019

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:

City of Bonita Springs

Project Title:

HMGP-4337-457 City of Bonita Springs, Pine Lake Preserve, Drainage

Location of Proposed Work:

Pine Lake Preserve is in Bonita Springs, Florida 34135. Specifically, the project is located between Bonita Grande Dr and Kent Rd, bounded by E Terry St and Bonita Beach Rd SE.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

Pine Lake Preserve Drainage Improvement is a hydrological restoration project that will re-hydrate critical wetland habitat and reestablish hydraulic connectivity between the Imperial River and the undisturbed CREW wetlands, which lie to the east of the preserve in the Corkscrew Swamp. The project will redirect flows from a storm water ditch on the northern boundary of the property along East Terry Street, south onto the property, via the construction of berms and overland flow-ways. The water will be routed through two existing ponds and then into a dry Imperial River tributary. Additionally, water from the Kehl Canal will be redirected into the dry tributary. This project will improve water quality, restore wetland habitat, and reduce flooding potential to existing and surrounding neighborhoods. The purpose of the hydrologic enhancement is to re-establish intermittent historic hydrologic continuity to the Imperial River and adjacent wetlands to recapture runoff and provide hydration to these areas deprived by intense development in recent decades as well as create littoral areas in the borrow relict pits located on site.

Project Alternatives:

The alternatives to the project that have been and will be considered are 1) the no action alternative and 2) relocation, acquisition/demolition, elevation of structures in the surrounding area. These alternatives to the proposed project are not viable because under Alternative 1) repetitive flooding is not alleviated and the needs of the community would not be served; and Alternative 2) does not retain fabric of the community and is cost prohibitive, and therefore not practicable.

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 Recovery and 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:

Elly Soto McKuen, Senior Project Manager (239) 949-6246

City of Bonita Springs Elly.McKuen@CityofBonitaSprings.org

Naomi Iglesias-Miranda, State Environmental Specialist (850) 815-4580

Florida Division of Emergency Management Naomi.Iglesias@em.myflorida.com