

**Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed
Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain and
Riverine Wetland**

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that Sarasota County Resilient SRQ under 24 CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under Infrastructure & Public Facilities Program HUD grant B-23-UN-12-0004 is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain and riverine wetland, and Resilient SRQ will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the floodplain and wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain and wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690 and Executive Order 11990, 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 location is situated on approximately one (1) acre at 27.0566 North, -82.1929 West across MacCaughey Waterway in a residential area of the City of North Port, Sarasota County. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the freeboard value approach. The Zone AE 100-year floodplain (base flood elevation 12-feet) was determined using FEMA Flood Map Panel 12115C0387G dated March 27, 2024, and riverine wetlands were identified using the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory Mapper.

Water Control Structure (WCS) 121 manages the major drainage route for all water coming into the City of North Port. The structure was unable to handle the sheer amount of water generated by Hurricane Ian. The proposed project would remove the current structure and replace it with a new structure that is equipped to handle future flood events. The proposed project would provide the necessary flood control measures to mitigate damage upstream and downstream of the structure. The structure lies within a drainage canal that connects to Cocoplum Waterway a 13.1-mile stream within the Myakka River Watershed.

The proposed new WCS 121 would be constructed approximately 25-feet north of the existing structure and would be approximately 130-feet in width and approximately 32-feet in length, completely spanning the waterway and occupying approximately 0.1-acre. The floodplain and wetland within the footprint of the original structure would be restored to its natural function. The main function of the new structure is flood control for the City of North Port. As such, alterations to the floodplain flow have been anticipated and are necessary to maintain the floodplain capacity both upstream and downstream of the structure. The structure would be constructed using the latest design standards and resilient building materials.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and wetlands 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 and wetland, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate project impacts on the floodplain and wetland. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and wetlands 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 floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by Resilient SRQ at the following address on or before November 21, 2024: Resilient SRQ, 301 N. Cattlemen Rd. Suite 200 Sarasota, FL 34232 Attention Jonathan R. Lewis, ICMA-CM, County Administrator, or by phone by calling 311 or 941-861-5309 or TTY: 7-1-1 or 1-800-955-8771 during the hours of 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Comments may also be submitted via email at shyatt@scgov.net.

Date: November 6, 2024