

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain

To: All interested Federal, State and Local Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that The Defiance County Commissioners under 24 CFR Part 58 have conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order(s) 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and/or Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the Community Development Block Grant Allocation Program, B-X-24-1AS-2. The proposed project(s) is located in Evansport, Ohio and is located in the [Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using 0.2 percent flood approach. The proposed activity includes a sanitary sewer rehabilitation in Evansport. The existing sanitary sewer system is too small and causes Combined Sewer Overflows in the collection system which is a health hazard. Proposed improvements to the Evansport sanitary sewer system are specifically oriented to reduce the amount of inflow and infiltration of clean water into the sewer system, including lining of two sections of sanitary sewer and any of the 28 manholes that are found to be allowing I&I to enter the system. Also 10 sewer pipe point repairs and 5 sewer lateral connection repairs are proposed according to the initial 2022 field study. The scope of work includes rehabbing up to 28 manhole structures & covers, installation of 700 LF of CIPP sewer lining for 8" pipe, several sanitary sewer point repairs of the 8" pipe, and asphalt pavement replacement for point and manhole repair locations.

The Defiance County Commissioners have considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain/wetland. The first alternative considered was to locate the proposed project in an area outside of the FFRMS floodplain on the existing project site. This is not feasible as the project location already has a sanitary sewer system that is in non-compliance with the EPA. The second alternative was to relocate all residents within the project area and abandon the existing infrastructure. This alternative is not feasible due to the sheer scale of relocation needed for the community of Evansport. The final alternative considered was no action. This alternative was deemed not feasible as this would not provide the necessary improvements needed so that the sanitary sewer system can become compliant with EPA CSO and I&I regulations. To ensure compliance with floodplain regulations & to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain, all required special permits will be acquired by the contractor. The local permitting authority will be contacted prior to construction start.

The Defiance County Commissioners have reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and/or Executive Order 11990, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

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. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplain 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 floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the Maumee Valley Planning Organization, on behalf of the Defiance County Commissioners at the following address on or before Friday, December 4th, 2024: Maumee Valley Planning Organization, 1300 E Second Street, Suite 200, Defiance, OH 43512, 419-784-3882, Attention: Abby White, Community Development Planner. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8am-4:30pm at the same address as listed above. Comments may also be submitted via email at mvpo@mvpo.org

Date: **December 13th, 2024**