

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that **City of El Paso, under Part 58**, has determined that the following proposed action under **CDBG Entitlement Grant** and **Grant B-20-MC-480015** is located in the **100-year floodplain**, and **City of El Paso** will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the **floodplain** and the potential impacts on the **floodplain** from the proposed action, as required by **Executive Order 11988**, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. **The Playa Drain Walking Trail Improvements from Knights Dr. to Yarbrough Dr., El Paso, Texas 79915** currently consists of undeveloped land. The proposal calls for construction of an urban trail (paved surface) with landscaping for an approximate 4,000 ft. (.75 miles) segment. Scope includes paved surface trail/header curb, post and cable fence, irrigation system, landscape, monument columns, benches, picnic tables, drinking fountain, traffic safety striping and traffic access control (bollards). The public will enjoy benefits from increased opportunities for expanded healthy active lifestyles (walking, jogging, biking) and more direct neighborhood access along the trail corridor. Improvements to the site will promote health, recreation, and high quality of life for the community. The activity will not cause a rise in the base flood elevation, which will not create damaging or potentially damaging increase in flood heights or velocity or be a threat to public health and safety. The proposed project(s) is located from **Knights Dr. to Yarbrough Dr. in El Paso, County of El Paso, Texas.**

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in **floodplains** 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 impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment 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 **floodplains**, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the **City of El Paso** at the following address on or before **October 15, 2020**, a **minimum 15-calendar day comment period will begin the day after the publication, September 29, 2020 and end on the 16th day after the publication, October 15, 2020.** **City of El Paso, 801 Texas Ave., 3rd Fl., El Paso, Texas 79901 and (915) 212-0138, Attention: Abraham Gutierrez, Administrative Services Manager.** A full description of the project may also be reviewed on the City of El Paso, Department of Community and Human Development Website: <https://www.elpasotexas.gov/community-and-human-development>. Comments may also be submitted to dchdcompliance@elpasotexas.gov.

Date: September 29, 2020