

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Franklin County has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program funding through the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM) as a sub- recipient.

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, and to provide a 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 and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

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.

Sub-Applicant: Franklin County

Project Title: DR-4399 SGI Lighthouse Park and Fishing Pier

Location of Proposed Work:

Facility	Address	Latitude	Longitude	Date of Construction
SGI Lighthouse park	2 Gulf Beach Drive, Parks and Recreation Department, St. George Island, FL 32328	29.66241	-84.86208	1999
SGI Island Fishing Pier	Franklin Blvd, Parks and Recreation Department, St. George Island, FL 32328	29.67260	-84.86855	2013

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:

This project is for the replacement of the SGI lighthouse park beach walkway and shower back to pre-disaster conditions within the existing footprint. In addition, the project is for repairing the SGI Island fishing pier by utilizing mitigation. All work is located in a VE- Coastal High Hazard Zone (1% annual chance flood elevation with velocity hazard, wave action). Location in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) was determined by Franklin County Insurance Rate Map, Panel Number: 12037C0565F, dated 02/05/2014. The proposed work conforms to all applicable State of Florida and local floodplain regulations. There is a potential for the facilities to be impacted by future flooding events due to its location within SFHA.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

Franklin County replaced the SGI lighthouse park beach walkway and shower area back to pre-disaster conditions. Also, in effort to reduce or minimize the potential for similar damage, the applicant proposes to mitigate by replacing the concrete ADA ramp with an ADA compliant ramp of wood stringers and thruflow decking. The replacement of the SGI lighthouse park beach walkway and shower area and the proposal to mitigate the fishing pier serves their intended purpose serving recreational and beneficial values to the community

Project Alternatives:

Alternative #1 (No action): The 'no action' alternative would ultimately result in a negative impact on the community in Franklin County. If the SGI lighthouse park was not replaced and the SGI Island fishing pier is not replaced, adverse economic, social, and recreational impacts may occur.

Alternative #2: The replacement of the SGI lighthouse park back to pre-disaster conditions and repairing the fishing pier utilizing mitigation in its current location is the only practicable choice as they serve the recreational and economic values to the community, cost effective, and will not result in additional impacts on the natural values of the floodplain.

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 Franklin County. All comments are due within 15 days of this notice. Franklin County 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: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency – Region IV - EHP, 3003 Chamblee Tucker Rd – Office #255, Atlanta, GA 30341-4112 or by email at FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Please include in the subject line of the email “DR-4399-FL EHAD.” Comments should be sent in writing at the above address within 15 days of the date of this notice. Please remove after 15 days after posting.

POSTED ON: (_____)

End of Notice