

FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS
NEW CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAZANT ROYAL HOUSING COMPLEX
ORLEANS PARISH, LOUISIANA

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the draft EA is to assess the effects on the human and natural environment from the proposed Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) New Construction of the Mazant Royal Housing Complex under the major disaster declaration (FEMA-1603-DR, as amended) signed by President George Bush on August 29, 2005.

FEMA has determined that the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and HANO are eligible to receive FEMA Public Assistance (PA) funding. GOHSEP and HANO have submitted a combined request for FEMA funding, referred to as the Housing Authority of New Orleans, New Construction of the Mazant Royal Housing Complex. FEMA is administering this assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. Section 406 of the Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's PA Program to repair, restore, and replace state and local government and certain private not-for-profit facilities damaged as a result of the declared event.

The need to leverage a multitude of financial resources to expand quality affordable opportunities to the maximum number of households is critical for HANO and the City of New Orleans. This Alternative meets the objectives of the Housing Authority and the City of New Orleans to address the overwhelming need for affordable housing in New Orleans by providing high quality, safe and decent affordable housing to its residents in areas that provide access to the necessary tools to achieve economic sustainability.

In accordance with NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500-1508), FEMA's Instruction 108-1-1 for implementing NEPA, the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and 44 CFR Part 9, a Draft EA was written to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed action and alternatives on the human and natural environment. The draft EA evaluates Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative), Alternative 2, the Preferred Action Alternative New Construction of 136 Units at the Mazant Royal Site, and Alternative 3 Construction of the New Housing Development at an Alternate Site. The draft FONSI is FEMA's finding that the Preferred Action Alternative would not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment.

This public notice will run in the journal of record for the State of Louisiana, *The Advocate*, for five (5) days on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 through Sunday, November 13, 2022, and will run in *The Times-Picayune/The New Orleans Advocate* in Orleans Parish for five (5) days from Wednesday, November 9, 2022 through Sunday, November 13, 2022.

The draft EA and draft FONSI are available for review at the following locations during business hours:

- New Orleans Main Library, 219 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112
- Alvar Library, 913 Alvar Street, New Orleans, LA 70117.

The draft EA and draft FONSI can also be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/resource-document-library>.

A 30-day comment period will begin on Sunday, November 13, 2022, and conclude on Monday, December 12, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Written comments may be mailed to: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY-FEMA

EHP - "Housing Authority of New Orleans New Construction of the Mazant Royal Housing Complex", 1500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Comments may also be emailed to fema-liro-ehp-pa@fema.dhs.gov. If no substantive comments are received, the draft EA and associated draft FONSI will become final.

All other questions regarding disaster assistance should be directed to FEMA's Helpline at 1-800-621-3362 or visit the website at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.