

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
TEMPORARY GROUP HOUSING SITE
KNOWN AS THE METAIRIE GROUP HOUSING SITE (JE-05)
METAIRIE, JEFFERSON PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed Transportable Temporary Housing Unit (TTHU) group site. This Public Notice will be published on the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), Jefferson Parish Public Library and Jefferson Parish Government websites. The group site may provide suitable temporary housing opportunities for individuals and families displaced under the major disaster declaration for Hurricane Ida (FEMA-4611-DR-LA) (for the incident beginning August 26, 2021) signed by the President on August 29, 2021.

The proposed action includes developing an approximately 5.74-acre site for up to approximately 28 TTHUs plus 1 office to be located in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana in the City of Metairie. Activities may include, where necessary, site clearing, grading, road construction, the placement of concrete pads, utilities (electricity, telephones, water, and sewer), and the transport and installation of manufactured homes to the site. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (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 on the human and natural environment. FEMA has determined that constructing the Metairie Group Site in a floodplain as identified on a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) would result in impacts to and from the floodplain. Per 44 CFR Part 9, FEMA concluded that there is no practicable alternative to constructing a group site in the floodplain in Jefferson Parish.

In order to meet the urgent need of Hurricane Ida survivors to find temporary housing, FEMA has conducted an expedited environmental review process to identify and address environmental issues. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, site selection process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action.

The Draft EA is available for public review through FEMA's website: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/region/6>. Written comments on the Draft EA can be sent via email to dr-4611-fema-ehp-ia@fema.dhs.gov. When responding by email, please reference the project name, "**Temporary Housing – Metairie Group Housing Site (JE-05)**" in the subject field.

The public comment period will be limited to 3 days, from April 9, 2022, and will end on April 11, 2022, at 5pm (Central Standard Time), due to the emergency nature of this action and need to provide temporary housing solutions for survivors of Hurricane Ida. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and no further public noticing will be conducted.

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