



Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Wetland

Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands

This is to give notice that the City of Lancaster under Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action is located in the wetland. The project would be funded in part by a grant from the Community Development Block Grant program through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, CDBG grant #4-CI-20-011. The City of Lancaster will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the wetland and the potential impacts on the wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C *Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands*.

The proposed project concerns upgrades to the sewer system in the Williams Estate Neighborhood in the City of Lancaster in Lancaster County, SC. The project area includes portions of Woodlawn Avenue, Old Woodlawn Avenue, Elmwood Avenue, Yancey Street, Williams Estate Drive, and Brooklyn Avenue. Activities include the rehabilitation or replacement of at least 10,600 linear feet of sewer main, at least 11 existing manholes, and other appurtenances using the dig and replace method. It is anticipated that all work will occur in existing public rights of way or sewer easements, on previously-disturbed land with minimal new ground disturbance. No acquisition is anticipated. The project may disturb up to .25 acres of non-tidal marsh wetlands including two wetland areas totaling at least 4500 SF and five stream crossings totaling at least 850 SF. Non-tidal marsh wetlands provide plant and wildlife habitat, mitigate flood damage, and filter excess nutrients from surface runoff. These natural and beneficial values could potentially be adversely affected by the project.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in wetlands 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 wetland, 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 wetlands 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 wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Lancaster at the following address on or before January 18, 2021: City of Lancaster, P. O. Box 1149, 216 South Catawba Street, Lancaster, SC 29721 and 803-283-2489, Attention: Tracy Rabon, City Clerk. A full description of the project may also be reviewed during the hours of 9 AM – 5 PM, Monday – Friday at the same address. Comments may also be submitted via email at cschwartz@catawbacog.org

Date issued: January 3, 2021