

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Allen County Board of Commissioners has conducted an evaluation of the following proposed action as required by Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection.

Project Name: Village of Lafayette Water Line Extension.

Source of Federal Funds: Community Development Block Grant Residential Public Infrastructure Funds, Ohio Public Works Commission, USDA Rural Development and Allen County Revolving Loan Fund.

Location: Village of Lafayette and Allen County.

Project Description: The overall project involves the extension of water service from the Allen Water District's existing 12-inch water supply in Westminster to the Villages of Harrod and Lafayette, also known as the East Regional Water Line Project. A 12-inch line main will extend east on Kartina Road, south on Cardinal Drive, east on Faulkner Road, north on Johnston Road and west on Harrod Road into the Village of Harrod. From Harrod the 12-inch water line main will extend northwest along Napoleon Road into the Village of Lafayette. Within Lafayette, the distribution system will consist of approximately 14,211 linear feet (LF) of 8-inch PVC waterline; 3,624 LF of 12-inch PVC waterline; 36 fire hydrants, 77 gate valves, residential connections, etc. The project also includes a 200,000 gallon water standpipe proposed to be constructed south of the Village of Lafayette, along Napoleon Road and north of SR 309.

Total number of acres of floodplain involved is 0.15 acres.

The Allen County Board of Commissioners has considered alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values. The action must be taken in the 100-year floodplain to ensure the availability and distribution of public water to all residents within the Village of Lafayette. Five alternatives were considered for the project including 1) State Route 309 Alignment 2) Westminster North and Clum Road Alignment and 3) Westminster East and Harrod Road Alignment. Also considered, were two alternatives that do not include receiving municipal water from the Lima City PWS including 4) Lafayette Road and Village of Ada Water Treatment Plant (WTP) , and 5) Construction of an AWD Water Treatment Plant in Eastern Allen County.

However, all five alternatives would require work in the 100-year floodplain in the Village of Lafayette. The chosen alternative pipeline alignment was the more cost effective option than the other alternatives due to less 12-inch pipe installation, shorter HDD distances, no new water treatment system construction, and no new booster pump station required. Under a no-action alternative, the Village of Lafayette would continue to have no reliable source of fire protection for their homes and commercial buildings. Groundwater quality issues, which include arsenic, iron, total coliform bacteria and total dissolved solids, would remain the same and each home and business would continue to operate and maintain their own chemical treatment system. Impacts to the floodplain will be very minimal as no fill will be placed inside the 100-year floodplain, water line construction will be below ground and all surfaces will be restored to grade, and equal or better condition following construction. The Little Hog Creek will be horizontally directionally bored under to minimize impacts as well. Prior to work in the 100-year floodplain, a floodplain development permit will be obtained from the local floodplain administrator and conditions of the

permit implemented during construction. Seeding of the floodplain impacted area will occur immediately following construction and involve the use of native, non-invasive species.

The Allen County Board of Commissioners has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Project information and environmental records that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), may be obtained by contacting the Allen County Board of Commissioners by U.S. mail at 204 Main Street, Suite 301, Lima, Ohio 45801 or by email at commissioners@allencountyohio.com. Project information and environmental records will be provided electronically via email.

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments for consideration to the Allen County Board of Commissioners by U.S. mail or email at the addresses above before January 8, 2021 which is at least 7 days after the publication of this notice.

Date: 12/29/2020