

## **Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Floodplain or Wetland**

August 25, 2025

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) under 24 CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under CDBG-DR: Resilient Communities Program P-21-NJ-34-LDZ1 is located in the floodplain and wetland, and DCA will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the floodplain/wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain/wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990 and in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The proposed project location is at 40 Bergen Street in the Borough of Carteret in Middlesex County, New Jersey. The Borough of Carteret is proposing to construct a new bioretention basin and stormwater pump station facility on Borough-owned property (Block 7804, Lot 1) to minimize flooding along Bergen Street, particularly during major storm events. The proposed 172,048 cubic foot bioretention facility would catch, clean, and temporarily store stormwater runoff from Bergen Street and the area around it. Stored stormwater would be attenuated through an outlet control structure and directed to the pump station where the column pumps would pressurize the water through the force main with outfall at the existing gabion baskets area and drain to the Arthur Kill waterway. The proposed project would also include the replacement of stormwater utilities under Bergen Street and associated road restoration. Additionally, the existing drainage channel would be cleaned of sediment build up to allow for positive drainage at the existing outfall and open passage to the Arthur Kill. The overall goal of the proposed project is to reduce flooding along Bergen Street.

The entire proposed project area is located within the 100-year and 500-year floodplain (approximately 4.7 acres). A portion of the proposed project area is within delineated wetlands (approximately 0.1 acres). These wetlands are located with the existing drainage ditch and would be disturbed as a result of the cleanout of sediment build up in the drainage ditch. The majority of the proposed project area is located in developed/disturbed land with little existing natural floodplain function.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplain/wetland 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 floodplain/wetland, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate project impacts on the [floodplain/wetland]. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplain/wetland 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 floodplain/wetland, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by DCA at the following address on or before September 10, 2025: New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, 101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 800, Trenton, NJ 08625-

0800, Attention: Samuel R. Viavattine, Deputy Commissioner. Comments may also be submitted via email at [DRM.EPHComments@dca.nj.gov](mailto:DRM.EPHComments@dca.nj.gov).

Samuel R. Viavattine, Deputy Commissioner  
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs