

**Early Notice and Public Review of Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain  
Beach Street & First Avenue Road Reconstruction  
City of West Haven, CT**

Publication Date: April 14, 2016

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals:

This is to give notice that the State of Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH) has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 (as amended by Executive Order 13690) and/or 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management for the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) State of Connecticut Disaster Recovery Program activities under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383) to determine the potential effect that its activity in the floodplain will have on the human environment.

For the first phase, the project cost for the Beach Street and First Avenue Road Reconstruction funding is \$3,450,000, and is subsidized with \$2,850,000, from two awards from the CDBG-DR Program funded by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), matched with \$550,000 from the City of West Haven and \$50,000 from the Community Development Administration for engineering costs.

The first phase of the Beach Street and First Avenue Road Reconstruction will address flooding along the roadway of First Avenue, which prohibits vehicle access during tidal surges and excessive rainfall. The roadway access includes the entrance into the wastewater treatment plant that services all of West Haven and some areas of Orange, CT. This has and does create a safety and evacuation problem. The requested funds will be used to raise the roadway from below the treatment plant to Monahan Place. Two other phases are seeking additional funds to complete the reconstruction: the second phase would start below the treatment plant going south to Third Avenue Extension; the third phase going from Third Avenue Extension to Morse Avenue.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains 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. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks 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 floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the State of Connecticut Department of Housing (CT-DOH) on or before May 1, 2016. DOH encourages electronic submittal of comments to [CTHousingPlans@ct.gov](mailto:CTHousingPlans@ct.gov). In the alternative, comments may be submitted on paper to: Hermia Delaire, Program Manager, Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery, CT Department of Housing, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106. By May 1, 2016, where a full description of the project may also be reviewed during the hours of 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Evonne M. Klein, Commissioner, DOH