

Public Notice

Rutherford County Government is seeking to apply for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant Program (BRIC) funding through the Tennessee Emergency Management (TEMA) as a sub-recipient.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990, FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts on minority and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements, and conditions.

Applicant: Rutherford County Government
Project Title: Limited Engineering Study for Old Nashville Hwy/Florence Road Area

Location of Proposed Work: The area stretches from I-24 on the western edge to Florence Road and then to property owned by the Corps of Engineers along J. Percy Priest Lake.

A map showing the location of all properties is available by contacting Greg Brooks.

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone: Portions of the area to be studied are in flood zone X (unshaded) and moves into AE Floodway (1% annual chance flood elevation) in the northeastern portion of the area to be studied. Confirmation of the property locations was identified by referencing the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel 47149C0140H dated 01/05/2007.

Proposed Work and Purpose: Rutherford County proposes to have a study performed to obtain engineered recommendations for alleviating flooding issues in a 9.3-acre area subject to frequent flooding. The study outcome could include upgrading detention/retention areas, upsizing pipes, and culverts under US41, Jernigan Lane, and Florence Road.

Project Alternatives:

Alternative #1 (no action alternative): Without an engineered study, no action will be taken to change the drainage in the area, and the flooding will continue.

Alternative #2 The County could alleviate the problem without an engineered design. However, this might cause unnecessary work, expending county tax dollars, and not relieve the flooding issues. If work is done to alleviate flooding issues and the downstream water has been mitigated, CSX may open the second culvert under the railroad tracks; if the work is not adequate, it could cause additional flooding on US 41. Possible projects could include the acquisition of drainage easements on the northeast side of US 41 (8-10 parcels) leading to the Corps of Engineers property at Stones River. The easements would allow for installing a large ditch and upgraded culverts under Jernigan Lane and Florence Road. The County would not work in the ROW of US 41 or upsize the culvert underneath it because it is not County-owned property. Estimated costs are \$500,000 acquisition for permanent drainage easements, \$1.5 Million for construction, labor, and pipes/culverts.

Alternative #3 The most feasible action is to conduct the Engineering Study, review the findings, and apply for future grants to help fund the necessary projects to alleviate the flooding issues. In addition, it would allow the County to identify projects and work with TDOT and CSX to make any necessary upgrades to their property.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with the proposed projects and wishing to comment on this project may submit written comments to the Rutherford County Road Superintendent, contact information below. All comments received by January 31, 2022 will be reviewed by Rutherford County and forwarded to the State and FEMA.

POINT-OF-CONTACT:

Mr. Greg Brooks, Road Superintendent

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