

# Public Notice

Rutherford County Government has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 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:** Backup Power for EMA, OIT, Health Department and PAWS

**Location of Proposed Work:** The area affected by this project consists of multiple public structures in the following locations:

Department Name	Address
EMA – EOC	1220 West College Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37129
EMA-Fire-EMS-OIT	20 North Public Square, Murfreesboro, TN 37130
Rutherford County Health Department	100 W Burton Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37130
PAWS of Rutherford County	285 John Rice Blvd, Murfreesboro, TN 37129

**Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:** This project is for the purchase of Starlink satellite internet devices. The Starlink hardware connects will be installed at the following:

1. Rutherford County Emergency Management Agency which is located in flood zone AE. Confirmation of the property location was identified by referencing the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel 47149C0260J dated 05/09/2023.
2. Office of Information Technology building which is located in flood zone X. Confirmation of the property location was identified by referencing the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel 47149C0260J dated 05/09/2023.
3. Rutherford County Health Department which is located in flood zone X. Confirmation of the property location was identified by referencing the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel 47149C0260J dated 05/09/2023.
4. PAWS which is located in flood zone X. Confirmation of the property location was identified by referencing the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel 47149C0255J dated 05/09/2023.

**Proposed Work and Purpose:** Rutherford County Government requests funds to purchase and install switches and one large mobile generator for the Rutherford County Emergency Management

Agency, Health Department, PAWS, and Office of Information and Technology. This project aims to ensure Rutherford County's Continuity of Government in the event critical facilities are damaged during a disaster.

**Project Alternatives:**

**Alternative #1** (no action alternative): If no action is taken, the proposed installation of a mobile generator and switches at EMA, OIT, Health Department, and PAWS would not occur. These facilities will be without a reliable source of backup power during utility outages caused by severe weather events or natural disasters. This would cause a disruption for essential services such as animal care and emergency coordination.

**Alternative #2** The County could alleviate the problem by installing a fixed generator for each location. Although this alternative will ensure services are not interrupted, it does not allow for rapid deployment in more rural areas or areas in significant need in the event of a disaster. The installation for this alternative will also be more complex, such as ensuring there is adequate space, environmental reviews are completed and installing concrete pads for the generators.

**Alternative #3** The most feasible action is to purchase and install switches and mobile generator for use at the Rutherford County EMA, OIT, Health Department, and PAWS facilities. This action would provide necessary electricity for the facilities during a power outage.

**COMMENT Period:** Comments are solicited from any individual, group, or agency in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to the Public Safety Director. All comments are due within 15 days of this notice. The comments will be forwarded to applicable regulatory agencies as needed.

Interested persons may submit comments or obtain more detailed information about the proposed project by contacting:

**Point of Contact:**

Chris Clark, Public Safety Director  
Safety Director Phone: 615-898-7764  
Email: [chrisclark@rutherfordcountyttn.gov](mailto:chrisclark@rutherfordcountyttn.gov)  
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