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

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals:

This is to give notice that the City of Waelder Responsible Entity under Part 58 has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and/or 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. This activity is funded under the COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS NON-RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT HARVEY ROUND 1 FUNDING GLO Contract No. 20-065-112-C309 is located in the 100-year floodplain/wetland, and the City of Waelderwill be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain/wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain/wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 and/or 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The purpose of the proposed drainage activities is to conduct drainage and sewer infrastructure improvements to facilitate proper stormwater conveyance, reduce the impact of future flooding, and facilitate the proper functioning of critical wastewater-system components to reduce the impact of sewage contamination and backflow in emergency situations. Approximately 6.18 acres of 100 hundred year flood plain will be impacted by the proposed improvements primarily along existing right-of-way consisting of drainage ditches, valley drains, drainage piping, and improvements at the sewer plant consisting of a sewer plant generator and 6 LS transfer switches to be located above the 100-hundred-year flood level. The proposed project(s) impact the entire community of Waelder, City Hall is located at 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, Texas 78959 in Gonzales County.

The City of Waelder has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: There are no practicable alternatives to relocating the proposed improvements because the improvements at the sewer plant are needed to advert an environmental disaster in the event of a major power loss. The proposed improvements will be elevated above the 100-year flood level. The drainage improvements are taking place along existing road right-of-way and will utilize the existing road drainage patterns to convey the drainage into the existing drainage basins, to minimize adverse impacts, and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values of the existing drainage system. There are no identifiable LOMA’s applicable to these project activities.The City of Waelder will adhere to the local flood protection ordinance and comply with all state and local floodplain/wetland protection procedures.

The City of Waelder has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain/wetland and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988 and/or 11990, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains/wetlands 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 and request for public comment about floodplains/wetlands 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 floodplains/wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Waelder at the following address City Hall located at 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, Texas 78959 on or before October 18, 2021. The City of Waeldercan be contacted by phone directly at 830-788-7331 or by contacting the City Secretary by email at melindac@gvtc.com to the Attention: Roy Tovar, Mayor, Certifying Officer**.** A full description of the project may be reviewed at the City web site at cityofwaelder.org. The project activities and location can also be reviewed at City Hall, from the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday at the Waelder **City** Hall, 300 US-90, West, Waelder, Texas 78959**.** Comments may also be submitted by mail or email at **melindac@gvtc.com****.**

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