

**FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN
FEMA-4285-DR-NC**

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice that it has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 in accordance with FEMA regulations at 44 CFR §§ 9.7, 9.9 and 9.13 to determine the effect of placing FEMA-provided manufactured housing units (MHUs) on commercial and private sites, which may be located in or affect a floodplain if it is determined by FEMA that there are no practicable alternatives to doing so.

Under major disaster declaration FEMA-4285-DR-NC signed by the President on October 10, 2016, as amended, FEMA is authorized to provide direct temporary housing assistance under the Individual and Households Program (IHP) for the Counties of Bladen, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Pitt and Sampson. FEMA intends to provide direct temporary housing assistance to disaster survivors/applicants in these six counties by placing FEMA-provided MHUs on commercial and private sites.

FEMA has evaluated the alternatives to placing FEMA-provided MHUs in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to doing so. FEMA has considered the following significant factors in making this determination:

- a) The speedy provision of temporary housing (in other words, how quickly can a MHU be provided and ready for occupancy?);
- b) The potential flood risk to the occupants of the temporary MHUs (in other words, how severe is the threat of flooding during the projected occupancy period);
- c) The cost effectiveness (in other words, are the life-cycle costs of the alternatives more or less expensive than a MHU?);
- d) The social and neighborhood patterns (in other words, which solution presents the least disruption to the community?);
- e) The timely availability of other housing resources (in other words, the speed with which an alternative can be provided compared to the timeliness with which a MHU can be provided?); and
- f) The potential harm to the floodplain (in other words, which alternatives have the least impact on the floodplain?).

FEMA has considered the following temporary housing alternatives:

- a) Providing transitional sheltering assistance in the form of direct payments to hotels and motels;
- b) Providing financial assistance to displaced survivors for renting existing temporary housing units;
- c) Providing housing to displaced survivors in the form of existing multi-family rental or commercial properties outside of the floodplain; and
- d) Placing MHUs on commercial or private sites located outside of the floodplain.

Any FEMA-provided MHU that will be placed in a floodplain will be anchored and elevated to the level necessary to comply with all requirements established by the jurisdiction. Placement of MHUs in a floodplain will comply with all applicable floodplain management standards. In cases where the best information available to FEMA indicates that more stringent elevation levels, those beyond the locally mandated elevation requirements, are prudent, these elevation levels will be used. FEMA's placement of the MHUs will be done in a manner intended to minimize harm to or within the floodplain and the potential adverse impacts of doing so.

At the same time that the Revocable License for a MHU is signed and in no event later than the time of occupancy, FEMA will provide health and safety, evacuation, right-of-entry, and personal property information/advisories to any individuals/households that will be housed in a MHU in a floodplain.

The placement of MHUs in the floodplain will have no significant impact on the floodplain for the following reasons:

- a) The placement of the MHUs is temporary and following the removal of the MHUs, the sites will be restored to as near as practicable to the pre-placement condition of such sites in order to preserve existing conditions;
- b) The placement of the MHUs will involve only minimal ground-disturbing activities; and
- c) FEMA will implement and monitor the placement of the MHUs to ensure that there is full compliance with all applicable Federal, State and local requirements.

Maps of the affected areas are available for public inspection upon request made to the FEMA official at the location set forth below.

Written comments must be received within three (3) calendar days of the date of this notice at the address set forth below or via email. Interested persons may obtain further information about these actions by contacting FEMA in writing at the address set forth below or via email.

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Joint Field Office
2224 E NC Highway 54
Durham, North Carolina 27713-2208
Attention: Chelsea Klein
Chelsea.Klein@fema.dhs.gov
(919) 316-7000