

PUBLIC NOTICE
Federal Emergency Management Agency
In accordance with 44 CFR §9.8 for Executive Orders 11988 & 11990
Proposed Building Elevations
Atlantic and Cumberland Counties, New Jersey

Notification is hereby given to the public of the intent of the Department of Homeland Security-Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS-FEMA) to provide federal funding to Ventnor City, New Jersey as subrecipient for the proposed elevation of 46 residential structures (17 primary and 29 alternate) through the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Program. The purpose of the FMA Grant Program is to reduce or eliminate claims under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). While the subrecipient for the proposed project is the municipality of Ventnor City in Atlantic County, funding will apply to home elevations throughout both Atlantic and Cumberland Counties in New Jersey. This notification is given in accordance with Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order (EO) 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), Federal Coastal Zone Management Act, and 44 CFR Part 9, regulations for implementing EO 11988-11990.

The proposed scope of work consists of elevating flood prone homes in compliance with the City's Flood Protection Ordinance, NFIP Standards in 44 CFR Part 60, and in the American Society of Civil Engineers Flood Resistant Design & Construction standards (ASCE 24-14) or the latest edition. In accordance with those standards, the residential structures will be elevated to the base flood elevation (BFE), as indicated by best available flood map data, plus at least one (1) foot of freeboard to the lowest structural member, as required for Coastal Flood Zones.

This action would take place within the 100-year floodplain, with one property located in the 500-year floodplain; additionally, seven properties are directly adjacent to wetlands. Alternatives considered include: 1) taking no action 2) acquiring and demolishing the homes or, 3) the proposed alternative, which is elevating at their current locations. FEMA has determined that elevating the structures is the most practicable alternative to ensure that the homes and their occupants are out of harm's way. FEMA has also determined that investment of funds to reduce flood risk is in the public interest. Potential impacts to water quality or aquatic habitat are anticipated to be temporary during construction, and minimized through best management practices and conservation measures incorporated from resource agency recommendations and required regulatory permits.

Comments about this project, potential alternatives, and floodplain impacts may be submitted in writing within 15 days of the date of this publication to: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency – Region II – Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation, Mitigation Division, One World Trade Center, Suite 53, New York, NY 10007 or via email to FEMAR2COMMENT@fema.dhs.gov. If substantive comments are received, FEMA will evaluate and address the comments as part of the environmental documentation for this project.