

# Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Wetland

To: All interested Agencies including U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Illinois Department of Transportation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, City of Aurora, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that City of Aurora Community Development Division, as Responsible Entity conducting an Environmental Review for Fox Valley Habitat for Humanity, has determined that the following proposed action under Economic Development Initiative/Community Project Funding (EDI/CPF) is located in a wetland, and City of Aurora Community Development Division will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the wetland and the potential impacts on the wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The main purpose of the EDI/CPF funding is to construct infrastructure including water and sewer lines, streets, sidewalks, and stormwater mitigation. The entire project consists of the development of the Green Freedom Housing Development to construct 17 affordable single-family homes. During construction activity, the natural and beneficial values of the existing wetland would be potentially impacted by this project. Approximately 0.09 acres of wetland would be affected. The EDI/CPF funding is proposed to be \$1,250,000 out of a total project cost of \$5,500,000. The EDI/CPF funding was requested for Fox Valley Habitat for Humanity by Congressman Bill Foster of the 11th Congressional District, was approved by the House Appropriations Committee, and was earmarked through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The public had previously been informed of the project during the early planning process. The project is located at 1921 Jericho Road, Aurora, IL, 60506. To date, no impacts have been identified that will negatively impact the natural and beneficial values of the wetland identified on the property.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in 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. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the wetlands, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about 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 wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by City of Aurora Community Development Division at the following address on or before June 26, 2023, by 5:00pm: City of Aurora Community Development Division, 44 E. Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60507 and by phone (630) 256-3320, Attention: Christopher Ragona, Community Development Manager. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at City of Aurora Community Development Division at 44 E. Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60507. Comments may also be submitted via email at [grubbsa@aurora.il.us](mailto:grubbsa@aurora.il.us), or by fax to 630-256-3329.

Date: June 11, 2023