

Date: August 2, 2024

**Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed  
Activity in a 100-Year and 500 -Year (FFRMS) Floodplain and Wetland**

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that **HUD under part 50** has determined that the following proposed action under the **Economic Development Initiative – Community Project Funding (CPF)** (HUD grant number B- B-22-CP-GA-0278 & B-24-CP-GA-0688) is located in the 100-year floodplain and wetlands and **HUD will** be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the **floodplain and wetlands** and the potential impacts on the **floodplain and wetlands** from the proposed action, as required by **Executive Order 11988 and 11900**, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

Project Name: Paces Mill Unit Rehabilitation

Project Location: Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area – 3444 Cobb Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30339

Project Description: The proposed project will utilize HUD grant funding to assist with the rehabilitation of the Paces Mill Unit Recreation Area. The proposed project includes multiple activities to rehabilitate the Paces Mill Unit. This includes upgrading the infrastructure, design, and appearance. These upgrades will address current deficiencies and create an environment that is safe, accessible, and enjoyable. The project activities include improvements to:

- Parking and Roads
- Vendor Pickup Area/South Boat Ramp
- Visitor Contact Station
- Meadow with Native Endemic Prairie Plant Species
- New Natural Surface Trail
- Southern Elevated River Overlook
- Hard-Surface Multiuse Trails
- River Amphitheater Seating Area and River Access
- Northern Elevated River Overlook
- Picnic Area
- Shade Structure/Gathering Area
- North Boat Ramp
- Bike Share
- Dumpster Pad
- Signage
- Utilities
- Site Grading and Storm Drainage

General description and project detail information can be access electronically at <https://cumberlandcid.org/crnra-paces-mill/>

The Proposed Action Area is located within portions of the 100-year floodplain and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Zones AE and A. A 100-year floodplain or 100-year flood describes an area or event subject to a 1% probability of a certain size flood occurring in any given year - also used to define

the FFRMS Floodplain elevation per 24 CFR 55.2(b)(2)), as identified on FEMA FIRM panel 13067C0227H (effective 3/4/2013)

Floodplain Details: Paces mill is 14 acres along a river and includes a significant portion of floodplains. For this review, the entirety of the property is considered a floodplain. This will allow for a more thorough review of potential alternatives. Floodplains are hydrologically important, environmentally sensitive, and ecologically productive areas that perform many natural functions. They contain both cultural and natural resources that are of great value to society. Flooding occurs naturally along every river and coastal areas. Flood waters can carry nutrient-rich sediments which contribute to a fertile environment for vegetation. Floodplains are beneficial for wildlife by creating a variety of habitats for fish and other animals.

Wetland Details: The project site does not include any wetlands, aside from the river. The total area impacted by the above activities is less than 0.1 acres. The preliminary wetland delineation identified 1 isolated wetland comprising 1.64 acre Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland habitat. And a 2737.69 acres Riverine habitat classified as a R2UBH south of the project site area.

The geographic center of the project area is located at latitude 33.87, longitude -84.45 Cobb Parkway, Georgia.

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

HUD must receive written comments by email on or before August 17, 2024. The email address for comments is: [Geciet.P.Mitchell@hud.gov](mailto:Geciet.P.Mitchell@hud.gov). HUD's approving official is Adrian Fields, Director, Atlanta CPD Field Office.