

Hazard Mitigation Grants

Joint Federal, State, Local Public Notice

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) have received an application for Federal grant funding through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Funding for this grant was made available after the 4394 Presidential declaration was made from Hurricane Florence 2018. Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements, and conditions.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990 FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains and wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority or low-income populations.

Applicant: Beaufort County

Project Title: Outdoor Warning Siren

Project Description:

Beaufort County is looking to bid and procure a warning system project that would include a master controller that would receive notification from NOAA to automatically activate the warning system located at the Sheriff's Office Emergency Management Division (2001 Duke St Beaufort, SC, 2nd floor). The purchase and installation of the 15 sirens would be strategically placed throughout the county to reach the most area covered. Placement of these sirens have been selected for fire departments, schools, beaches and other outdoor recreation. The sirens would be automatically tied to the NOAA warning system and activated automatically by radio signal originating from the master controller.

Project Location:

The Outdoor Warning Sirens would be deployed in the most exposed positions (where the most people are likely to be at risk). The following are the proposed locations for the sirens:

1. Whale Branch High School – 169 Detour Rd Seabrook, SC 29940
2. Lady's Island St Helena Fire Station #21- 725 Sams Point Rd Ladys Island, SC 29907
3. Beaufort Academy – 240 Sams Point Rd Beaufort, SC 29907
4. Lady's Island St Helena Fire Station #20 – 146 Ladys Island Dr Beaufort, SC 29907
5. Port Royal Fire Station – 700 Paris Ave Port Royal, SC 29935
6. Lady's Island St Helena Fire Station #22 – 1617 Sea Island Pkwy St Helena, SC 29920
7. Fripp Island Fire Department – 289 Tarpon Blvd St Helena, SC 29920
8. Edgar Glenn Boat Ramp – 305 Okatie Hwy Okatie, SC 29909
9. SC DMV – 15 Sheridan Park Circle Bluffton, SC 29910

10. River Ridge Academy- 3050 River Ridge Dr Bluffton, SC 29910
11. Bluffton Township Fire District #37 – 568 Old Palmetto Bluff Rd Bluffton, SC 29910
12. Compass Rose Park – 4 St Augustine Pl Hilton Head, SC 29928
13. Hwy 462 – 1231 Okatie Hwy Okatie, SC 29910
14. Shell Point Fire Station #893 – 606 Parris Island Gtwy Beaufort, SC 29906
15. Daufuskie Fire Station – 400 Haig Point Rd Daufuskie Island, SC 29915

Alternatives Considered:

Alternatives for this project have been considered and rejected. An alternative to the project would be to have hand held radios to alert officials from NOAA or the NWS. Designated personnel could then alert the public by bull horn or mass text notification but this may not be the most timely option for immediate hazardous weather and will require personnel to be redirected from their original job tasks.

Comments Period:

Beaufort County will be responsible for facilitating and monitoring the proposed project. Interested persons may direct any comments or questions to Pamela Cobb with Disaster Recovery at 843-255-2721 or email at pcobb@bcgov.net. These are due within 15 days of this notice.

Locations of warning siren sites

