

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF MONTROSE ACQUISITION AND DEMOLITION MONTROSE, SOUTH DAKOTA HMGP-DR-4807-41R AND HMGP-DR-4807-0042R

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) proposes to provide federal financial assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to the City of Montrose, (sub-applicant) in South Dakota, to acquire and demolish two residential properties and create green space (proposed action). Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and FEMA's implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 9, FEMA hereby provides interested parties with a notice of its final decision and an explanation of the alternatives that were considered.

The overall purpose of the proposed action is to acquire and demolish two residential properties located at 211 East Clark Street (43.702538, -97.181579) and 212 South 1st Avenue (43.699068, -97.183264) in Montrose, South Dakota. 211 East Clark Street was constructed in 1900 and 212 South 1st Avenue was constructed in 1895. Project activities will include a demolition of each residential structure and conversion of the land to open green space. All hazardous material will be removed and disposed of at a licensed hazardous waste facility in compliance with SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) regulations. All work, including project staging, will be confined to the previously disturbed road and/or existing utility right-of-way.

Both project areas are depicted on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Number 46087C0183E, effective 03/11/2025. The FIRM shows the proposed action lies within Zone AE, the regulatory floodway. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory Map shows the project is not located within mapped wetlands.

Maps of the project area and its location within the floodplain and in wetlands are available for public inspection. Parties interested in receiving a copy of either map should contact the FEMA Region VIII Environmental Officer using contact information provided in this notice.

Two alternatives to the proposed action were considered: Alternative 1: No Action; and Alternative 2: Encouraging homeowners to move out of floodplain with their own funding. Alternative 1 would result in no action being taken to mitigate flood hazards. This Alternative is not recommended because the risk of flood hazards, including damage to property and people, would remain. Alternative 2 includes encouraging the homeowners to move out of the floodplain and demolish their own homes. While the homeowners could move out of their homes, it is more plausible they would sell their home to another homeowner instead of demolishing the structure. The new homeowner would inhabit the structure leaving the home in the floodplain. Therefore, Alternative 2 is not feasible. FEMA has determined that the proposed project is the only practicable alternative available; therefore, the proposed action must be taken at this location.

The proposed action would have no significant adverse impact on the floodplain or wetlands and would restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains and wetlands which would benefit the area by minimizing the impact of floods on human health, safety, or welfare. City of Montrose declared that the proposed action conforms to local floodplain standards, and would be responsible for the management, construction, and maintenance of the proposed action.

Additional information about FEMA's proposed action may be requested by contacting the FEMA Region VIII Environmental Officer at fema-r8ehp@fema.dhs.gov or by mail sent to the Denver Federal Center, P.O. Box 25267, Denver, Colorado, 80225, subject line: City of Montrose EHP. All requests should be received no later than 15 days after publication of this notice. No action will be taken before this date.