

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain and Wetland

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that Broward County Board of County Commissioners (Broward County) under 24 CFR Part 58 has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order(s) 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under Project Grant No. B-23-CP-FL-0385. The proposed project location is at North Andrews Ave Bridge (#860156) over South Fork Middle River in Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida and is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain. The project will rehabilitate the existing bridge by repairing deteriorated structural components, installing guardrails, and applying a waterproofing membrane to improve safety, durability, and long-term service life without expanding the bridge or changing its capacity. The total area of the project is 0.38 acres, entirely located within the Zone AE floodplain. The bridge crosses the South Fork Middle River, which is identified as a marine and estuarine deepwater wetland in the National Wetlands Inventory. Temporary construction activities may cause short-term, minor impacts to water quality and aquatic habitat. These effects will be minimized through standard erosion and sediment controls, best management practices, and compliance with all required permits and environmental regulations.

Broward County has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain: (1) The No Build alternative was considered but ultimately rejected because it would result in continued deterioration of the bridge structure and would not solve the structural issues. This could lead to increased safety risks for the public and potential closure, which would disrupt traffic and its function as a critical daily corridor for the public. (2) Another alternative was considered which would include relocation or realignment of the bridge. However, due to the bridge's fixed location over the South Fork Middle River and the urbanized nature of the surrounding area, there is no feasible way to relocate or realign the bridge to avoid the floodplain without significant adverse community and environmental impacts. (3) Alternative minimal-impact construction approaches were evaluated and will be employed where feasible, such as limiting ground disturbance where possible.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented during construction to minimize erosion, sedimentation, and stormwater into the surrounding environment. The project will not result in any net fill or increase in base flood elevations within the floodplain. A Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) or Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) is inapplicable to this project at this time, as no changes to the floodplain delineations are proposed. All work will comply with applicable local and state floodplain management and wetland regulations, standards, and procedures.

Broward County has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain/wetland and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain/wetland development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, and/or Executive Order 11990, and 24 CFR 55, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in a floodplain/wetland 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. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about the floodplain/wetland 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 a floodplain/wetland, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the Broward County at the following address on or before September 2, 2026:

Broward County
Attn: Anh Ton, P.E., HBMD Director
1600 Blount Road
Pompano Beach, FL 33069

Comments may also be submitted via email at aton@broward.org or phone: (954) 357-6059.

A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the address above and at the following web address: Broward.org/streets.

Date: August 25, 2026