

## **FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **CHRISTENSEN ROAD AT LOWER MAGMA CHANNEL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA LPDM-PJ-09-AZ-2022-001**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) proposes to provide federal financial assistance under the Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation (LPDM) Program to Pinal County in Arizona, to mitigate flood hazards by elevating Christensen Road and installing four box culverts to accommodate 100-year flood flows. Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) 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 purpose of the proposed action is to reduce flood hazards. The proposed action consists of the following: 1) constructing a temporary construction access road west of the existing Christensen Road crossing of the Lower Magma Channel; 2) replacing the existing low-flow crossing of Christensen Road with four reinforced concrete box culverts and elevating Christensen Road across the channel; 3) removing the temporary construction access road and restoring the channel slopes to previous conditions.

The project area is depicted on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Map Number 04021C0850E, effective date December 4, 2007. The proposed action lies within Zone A, an area that has a 1-percent probability of flooding every year.

A map of the project area and its location within the floodplain is available for public inspection. Parties interested in receiving a copy of the map should contact the FEMA Region 9 Environmental Officer using contact information provided in this notice.

Two alternatives to the proposed action were considered: Alternative 1, no action alternative, and Alternative 2, alternate roadway construction. Under Alternative 1, no project would be undertaken. Therefore, Alternative 1 is not recommended because it would not reduce the risk of flooding of Christensen Road and nearby residents would continue to have no access to their property during high-water flows restricting residents from evacuating during an emergency. Alternative 2 included the purchase of easements and right-of-way through private property to construct an alternate roadway. Alternative 2 is not recommended due to high cost associated with the purchase of easements and right-of-way and would have greater environmental impacts compared to the proposed action. FEMA has determined that the proposed project is the only practicable alternative available; therefore, the proposed action must be in the floodplain. The proposed action would have no significant adverse impact on the floodplain and would benefit the area by reducing the risk of flooding and flood damage. Therefore, measures to minimize impacts on the floodplain are not necessary. Pinal County has 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 writing the FEMA Region 9 Environmental Officer at FEMA, 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, California 94607, or [fema-rix-ehp-documents@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-rix-ehp-documents@fema.dhs.gov). All requests should be received no later than 15 days after publication of this notice. No action will be taken before this date.