

PUBLIC NOTICE
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Scoping
North Shore Levee Project, Cities of Hoquiam and Aberdeen, Washington

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to fund the North Shore Levee project (Project) in the cities of Hoquiam and Aberdeen. Funding would be provided under both the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Programs. The BRIC funds were made available in 2022 as authorized under Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) 5133, as amended by the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018. The PDM funds were made available through Congressionally directed spending in the 2023 Appropriations Act (Public Law No. 117-328).

FEMA intends to conduct an environmental planning and historic preservation review for the Project, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA); Executive Order (EO) 11988, Floodplain Management; EO 11990, Wetlands Protection; EO 12898, Environmental Justice; and EO 14008, Climate Change.

The purpose of the proposed Project is to reduce flood damage in the cities of Hoquiam and Aberdeen. The proposed Project would construct approximately 4.2 miles of earthen levees, concrete floodwalls, and raised roads along the east side of the Hoquiam River, the north side of the Chehalis River, and the west side of the Wishkah River to reduce riverine and coastal flooding. The design of this project is about a year behind the proposed North Shore Levee-West Project on the west side of the Hoquiam River, in the city of Hoquiam, and the two projects would serve different areas.

FEMA will be accepting comments about the proposed Project, alternative approaches to reducing flood-related risks and vulnerabilities, and environmental issues from the public; local, state, and federal agencies; Tribes; and other interested parties. FEMA will use these comments to define the scope of the NEPA analysis and inform its decision-making. FEMA will accept comments on the Project until December 21, 2023. Please provide comments in writing and send to the FEMA contact listed below.

FEMA is hosting a public open house scheduled for November 14, 2023, from 4pm to 6pm at The Rotary Log Pavilion, 1401 Sargent Blvd, Aberdeen, WA 98520. Please visit the Project website for more information about the project and other opportunities to participate (<https://www.ezview.wa.gov/?alias=1775&pageid=34768>). Information about the project will also be available in a virtual meeting room at <https://gather.cdmsmith.com/v/KNj9mLd5jxB> during the scoping comment period.

Future opportunities to comment on the environmental review process are expected in summer 2024.

FEMA Responsible Official:	City Contact:	
Science Kilner Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region 10 130 - 228th St SW Bothell, WA 98021-9796 fema-r10-ehp-comments@fema.dhs.gov	Brian Shay City Administrator City of Hoquiam BShay@cityofhoquiam.com 360-538-3983	Nick Bird City Engineer City of Aberdeen nbird@aberdeenwa.gov 360-537-3218

The meeting room is accessible to people with disabilities. A Spanish speaker will be present at the meeting to assist with translation if needed. If you need to request an accommodation (sign language interpreters, Braille, CART/captioning, etc.), please make your request by November 3, 2023. Last minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fill. Send an e-mail to Nick Bird at nbird@aberdeenwa.gov or call 360-537-3218.