

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

****Joint Invitation from the Cities of Aberdeen and Hoquiam: Attend the FEMA National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Scoping Meeting on November 14, 2023****

ABERDEEN and HOQUIAM, WA — The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Cities of Aberdeen and Hoquiam are hosting an open house to solicit comments about the potential impacts of the North Shore Levee Project as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping.

This critical gathering will be held:

****Date:**** November 14, 2023

****Time:**** 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

****Location:**** The Rotary Log Pavilion, 1401 Sargent Blvd, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Funding for the North Shore Levee project will be sourced from both the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Programs. The goal of this project is to significantly reduce flood damage in the cities of Hoquiam and Aberdeen. Measures include the construction of approximately 4.2 miles of earthen levees, concrete floodwalls, and raised roads along specific river routes to counter riverine and coastal flooding.

****Why Attend?***

This public open house is an excellent opportunity to comment on the latest design and options and to provide comments/opinions on the potential impacts. FEMA aims to use this feedback to define the alternatives and scope of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and guide their decision-making process.

For those unable to attend in person, information about the project will be available in a virtual meeting room during the scoping comment period at <https://gather.cdmsmith.com/v/KNj9mLd5jxB>

Further details can also be found on the official project website:

<https://www.ezview.wa.gov/?alias=1775&pageid=34768>

**** Comment Period****

FEMA will accept comments on the Project until December 21, 2023. Please provide comments in writing and send them to FEMA at

Science Kilner,

Regional Environmental Officer

FEMA Region 10

130- 228th St SW

Bothell, WA 98021-9796 or at fema-r10-ehp-comments@fema.dhs.gov.

Please continue to visit this Project website for more information about the project and other opportunities to participate. Future opportunities to comment on the environmental review process are expected in fall 2024.

****Contacts****

For FEMA-related queries:

- Science Kilner
Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region 10
Email: fema-r10-ehp-comments@fema.dhs.gov

City of Hoquiam:

- Brian Shay
City Administrator
Email: BShay@cityofhoquiam.com
Phone: 360-538-3983

City of Aberdeen:

- Nick Bird
City Engineer
Email: nbird@aberdeenwa.gov
Phone: 360-537-3218

The Rotary Log Pavilion is accessible to people with disabilities. For accommodations such as sign language interpreters, Braille, CART/captioning, etc., please send your requests to Nick Bird at nbird@aberdeenwa.gov or call 360-537-3218 by November 3, 2023. While last-minute requests are accepted, they may not always be fulfilled.

Spanish-speaking staff will be available at the Open House to translate as needed. A Spanish version of the Fact Sheet can be found on the Project website in the Library.

Personal que habla español estará disponible en la Jornada de Puertas Abiertas para traducir según sea necesario. Una versión en español de la Hoja Informativa se puede encontrar en el sitio web del Proyecto en la pestaña de la biblioteca.

The cities of Aberdeen and Hoquiam highly encourage the community's active participation and look forward to engaging in productive discussions about the future safety and resilience of our cities.

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