

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Wetland

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals on 5/19/2026: This is to give notice that has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the Community Development Block Grant Program administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and ERR #(). The City of La Feria has received a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture - Office of Rural Affairs for Administrative and Engineering fees and services, and a Street Improvements project.

The City proposes to reconstruct approximately three thousand seven hundred linear feet (3,700 LF) street including limestone base and HMAC, additionally install seven thousand four hundred linear feet (7,400 LF) of curb and gutter including inlets and all associated appurtenances. This portion of the project will be located along South Parker Road from the drainage canal North of Hope Drive and continue South to Duran Street, in La Feria, Cameron County, Texas.

Additionally, the City proposes to install two hundred forty linear feet (240 LF) of 19 to 24-inch storm sewer line and all associated appurtenances. This portion of the project will be located along South Parker Road from the drainage canal North of Hope Drive and continue South to Duran Street, in La Feria, Cameron County, Texas. Please see the attached maps for location details.

According to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), approximately 0.25 acres of the project is located within a wetland, designated wetland code R2UBHx. The proposed project involves reconstruction of street, installation of curb and gutter including inlets and all associated appurtenances within the identified wetland area.

The natural and beneficial functions and values of the wetland potentially affected by the proposed activity include fish and wildlife habitats, natural water quality improvement, flood storage, opportunities for recreation and aesthetic appreciation, and natural products for our use at little or no cost. 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 wetland: locations outside and not affecting the wetland, alternative methods to serve the identical project objective, and a determination not to approve any action proposing the occupancy or modification of a wetland. The practicability of alternatives considered the natural, social, and economic values of each alternative.

The alternatives considered were not chosen because they would fail to address deteriorated streets, would be economically prohibitive, and would allow health, safety, and environmental violations to persist. has reevaluated the alternatives and has determined that there is no practicable alternative to locating the proposed project in the wetland. The proposed project must be located within the wetland due to the necessity of aligning with existing infrastructure and to meet critical service requirements for the surrounding community. The best action is to proceed with the project as planned utilizing the following mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and values of the wetland: The implementation of erosion and sediment control measures will be used wherever possible, such as the installation of silt fences, sediment barriers, or erosion control blankets, using sediment basins to capture runoff before it enters wetlands, or stabilizing exposed soils immediately after construction with vegetation or mulch.

- The implementation of pollution prevention measures will be taken when possible, such as having spill prevention and control plans with spill kits on-site, storing and handling hazardous materials away from the wetlands, inspecting construction equipment for leaks and malfunctions before project work commences, and using biodegradable hydraulic fluids in equipment when working near wetlands is possible.
- Preventative construction techniques, such as ensuring that heavy machinery is inspected regularly for potential oil leaks, malfunctioning parts, or other mechanical issues, will be used to reduce the availability of construction-related pollutants that might contaminate runoff.
- Staging and operating heavy machinery within the wetland or riparian area will be avoided.
- Restrict the use of heavy machinery during certain times of the year when wetlands are most vulnerable (e.g., during the rainy season or breeding seasons for wildlife). Conduct heavy construction activities during dry periods to minimize soil disturbance and water contamination.

- The Responsible Entity (RE) and consulting engineer are working with USACE to determine what permits, if any, are necessary. All necessary permits will be acquired prior to construction.
- All state and local wetland protection procedures will be followed.
- If a USACE permit is required, the project will remain in compliance with all the General / Regional Conditions of the applicable permit.
- The consulting engineer shall take into consideration additional specifications to minimize damage to identified wetlands and restore the native plant species.

The Responsible Entity (RE) and consulting engineer are working with USACE to determine what permits, if any, are necessary. All necessary permits will be acquired prior to construction. Heavy machinery use will be carefully managed by avoiding operations in wetlands, scheduling activities during dry periods, using low ground-pressure equipment, and designating access routes to minimize disturbance and protect sensitive wetland areas. Pollution prevention measures, such as spill prevention plans, proper storage of hazardous materials, equipment inspections, and using biodegradable hydraulic fluids, will be implemented to minimize the risk of contaminating wetlands with construction-related pollutants. All state and local wetland protection procedures will be followed. Environmental files that document compliance with Executive Order 11990 are available for public inspection, review, and copying upon request during regular business hours at the City Hall. There are three primary purposes for this notice: (1) People who may be affected by activities in wetlands 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; (2) An adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas; and (3) As a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk. Written comments must be received on or before 5/27/2026 by at 115 E Commercial Ave, La Feria, TX 78559. Attention: Frank Rios, City Manager. A full description of the project may also be reviewed during regular business hours at the same address. Comments may also be submitted via email to frios@cityoflaferia.com CC: jacqueline.six@grantworks.net.