FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 100- AND 500-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

Location of Posting:	City of Pinehurst – City Hall
Date of Posting:	March 6, 2026 through March 19, 2026
Address:	City of Pinehurst 2497 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Orange, Texas 77630 (409) 886-3873

To: All interested Agencies [include all Federal, State, and Local], Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Pinehurst has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order(s) 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and/or Executive Order 11990, 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 GLO CDBG-DR Contract No. 25-147-005-F359. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the freeboard value approach, along with a FEMA FIRM. Construction will consist of the removal and replacement of fire hydrants including valves and valve boxes, fittings, disconnecting and reconnecting to existing water lines, post construction testing, disinfection, excavation and backfill and complete associated appurtenances. Project will also include all associated administration and engineering services.

The proposed water improvements are located in the City of Pinehurst. Approximately 0.406 acres of the project is in the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE) and 500-year floodplain (Zone X) per FEMA FIRM 48361C0160D, effective 12/16/2021, however, none of the project will occur in a wetland.

The City of Pinehurst 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: (i) Reasons why the action must take place in a floodplain: These water improvements will restore the potable water system to its pre-disaster condition and maintain safe and reliable fire protection service throughout the City. (ii) Alternatives considered: Constructing these improvements outside the floodplain were considered; but projects would not be economically feasible. No action; but that would allow the water system to not be restored to pre-disaster condition and continue to allow unsafe and unreliable fire protection service throughout the City, or proceed with the improvements as proposed in a FEMA documented special flood hazard area. (iii) Mitigation measures: 1) All proposed repairs/improvements must be performed within the existing footprint only and not widened, whereby no new or additional impacts to waters of the U.S., or other waters, are incurred. 2) Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) best management practices (BMP's) must be incorporated to ensure that water quality standards are maintained. BMP's that should be implemented during and after construction activities may include, but are not limited to, the following: a) installation of hay bales and/or silt fencing along portions of the project route to minimize soil erosion if deemed necessary; b) Routine visual inspections of the project route after rainfall events; and 3) Seed the appropriate areas of the project route with perennial grasses following the completion of construction activities to reduce erosion.

The City of Pinehurst has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and/or Executive Order 11990, 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 the floodplain 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. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate project impacts on the floodplain. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comments about floodplain 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 floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Pinehurst at the following address on or before March 19, 2026: City of Pinehurst, 2497 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Orange, Texas 77630, Attention: The Honorable Sarah McClendon, Mayor. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday, at the address above. Comments may also be submitted via email at mayor@cityofpinehursttx.gov.