

# **FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice to the public of its intent to reimburse the Puerto Rico Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTOP), an eligible applicant, for eligible costs to replace PR-770 (km 5.5) a facility that was damaged by Hurricane Maria (4339-DR-PR). FEMA also intends to provide funds to DTOP to implement mitigation measures to reduce future risk to life and property as a result of natural disasters. This notice applies to the Public Assistance (PA) program implemented under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act).

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11990, FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide a public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority and low-income populations.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

**Applicant:** Puerto Rico Department of Transportation and Public Works

**Project Title:** PA-02-PR-4339-PW-01513, 85171 - MDTP087 PR-770

**Location of Proposed Work:** PR-770 Km 5.5, Cañabón Ward, Barranquitas (18.22804, -66.34160). Project is located in a wetland as per the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory.

**Proposed Work:** DTOP is requesting funds to remove the damaged corrugated metal pipe and replace it with reinforced concrete pipe, replace the damaged headwall and wingwall, replace the concrete culvert apron, restore the embankment and reconstruct the damaged road.

**Project Alternatives:** FEMA has determined that the only practicable alternative is to maintain this facility at its original location within the wetland. Other alternatives were considered, including no action, but deemed not feasible as alternative actions will result in negative impacts on adjacent infrastructure, property, residents, and the community. Such negative impacts include, but are not limited to, longer commuting times and extended deterioration to the damaged facility.

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies; and other interested parties to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing or email and addressed to Jonathan Hoyes, Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator (FDRC). All comments are due within 15 days of this notice. Interested persons may submit comments or obtain more detailed information about the proposed action by writing to:

Federal Emergency Management Agency  
c/o Jonathan Hoyes  
4339-DR-PR Joint Recovery Office  
50 Carr. 165 Sector de Buchanan Parque Industrial Amelia  
Guaynabo, PR 00968

or by email at [FEMAR2COMMENT@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMAR2COMMENT@fema.dhs.gov) with the subject line "PA-02-PR-4339-PW-01513".

**POSTED ON:** July 11, 2019

**End of Notice**