

**Department of Homeland Security-Federal Emergency Management Agency**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment for the  
Resilient Fort Point Channel Infrastructure Project  
City of Boston, Massachusetts**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) proposes to provide federal funding to the City of Boston for the Resilient Fort Point Channel Infrastructure Project. Funding would be provided through the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant program as authorized by Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. Under the Proposed Action, approximately 2,300 feet of mixed berm and floodwall mitigation features along a portion of the southeast edge of Fort Point Channel would be constructed. The Proposed Action also includes three deployable interim flood walls and backflow mitigation improvements around the 100 Acre Master Plan area. The Proposed Action would reduce flooding from both the primary flood pathway along the Fort Point Channel (mixed berm and floodwall feature) and minor flood pathways (interim flood measures) into the 100 Acre Master Plan area.

The Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and both DHS and FEMA's implementing Instructions. The Draft EA also assesses the project's compliance with other applicable environmental laws, including the National Historic Preservation Act; the Endangered Species Act; and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management), 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and 12898 (Environmental Justice).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to reduce flood hazards within the 100 Acre Master Plan area. The project area is in a special flood hazard area (Zone AE) subject to inundation by the one percent annual chance flood. The project area is along the lowest elevations on Fort Point Channel, and water from the channel frequently overtops the existing shoreline during high tides and storm surge causing repetitive flooding, which is expected to increase in frequency and severity as a result of climate change and future sea level rise.

The Draft EA is available for public comment and can be viewed and downloaded [http://www.bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/fort-point-district-planning-\(100-acres\)](http://www.bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/fort-point-district-planning-(100-acres)) and on the FEMA website at <https://www.fema.gov/es/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/region/1>. A hard copy of the Draft EA is available for review at: Boston Planning & Development Agency, One City Hall, Ninth Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02201.

If no significant issues are identified during the 30-day comment period, FEMA will finalize the Draft EA and it will serve as an attachment to an Environmental Notification Form which the City will use to request initiation of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act regulatory review process. The EA will not be finalized, and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will not be signed until the state regulatory review process is complete. The FONSI will be posted to the FEMA website above. Unless substantive comments on the Draft EA are received, FEMA will not publish another public notice for this project.

The deadline for submitting written comments on the Draft EA is 30 days from the date of this notice. Written comments about the proposed project and potential impacts are encouraged and can be submitted to:

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