

## **PUBLIC NOTICE: Notice of Proposed Activity in 100-Year Floodplain and Wetland**

This is to give notice that the City of New Orleans proposes to consider a redevelopment project on property located within the FEMA-designated 100-year floodplain. The proposed project is construction of a new Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC).

This notice is required by Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order 11988 for Floodplain Management, and by Section 2(b) of Executive Order 11990 for the Protection of Wetlands, and is implemented by HUD Regulations found at 24 C.F.R. § 55.20(b) for a HUD action that is within and/or affects a floodplain or wetland.

The proposed project will be considered in conjunction with development of a FEMA-sponsored Louisiana State University Academic Medical Center (LSU AMC). According to the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), the proposed VAMC site is entirely within the 100-year floodplain, covering approximately 30 acres. The proposed Tulane/Gravier site is located in downtown New Orleans, bounded by Canal Street to the northeast, Claiborne Avenue to the southeast, Tulane Avenue to the southwest, and South Rocheblave Street to the northwest. The approximate acreage includes streets and associated rights-of-way.

Alternative sites for the VAMC include the Lindy Boggs and Ochsner sites that lie all or in a portion of the 100-year floodplain. The Lindy Boggs site encompasses 39.8 acres, bordered by North Carrollton Avenue to the northwest, Jefferson Davis Parkway to the southeast, Bienville Street to the southwest, and Toulouse Street to the northeast. The Ochsner Site includes a 28-acre parcel located in Jefferson Parish approximately 3.5 miles west of the downtown New Orleans area, adjacent to the Ochsner Medical Center Main Campus on Jefferson Highway.

This notice with a request for comment was made available to all interested federal, state, and local public agencies, organizations, and individuals known to be interested in this proposed action by posting at [www.valsumedcenters.com](http://www.valsumedcenters.com).

A full description of this project is available 24-hours a day at [www.valsumedcenters.com](http://www.valsumedcenters.com). Additional information may be obtained from 9:00am - 4:00pm (Monday-Thursday) by contacting: Brenda Breaux, Chief Deputy City Attorney, at 504-658-4380.

Written comments from agencies and the public must be received by the City of New Orleans at the following address on or before November 21, 2008: City of New Orleans, 1340 Poydras Street, 11th Floor, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70112, Attention: Brenda Breaux, Chief Deputy City Attorney.

[Date Issued]