FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITIES IN 100-YEAR/500-YEAR FLOODPLAINS AND/OR WETLANDS

TO: ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS:

This is to give notice that Fayette County, PA has conducted evaluations as required by Executive Order 11988 and/or 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 FY2019-2020 CDBG Programs (Contract Numbers: C000073806, 76575, and TBD). Proposed project(s) are located at Redstone Park in Redstone Township and throughout Fayette County, PA for any future similar projects.

The proposed action involves recreation improvements including the reconstruction of an existing walking trail that is deteriorated and causes hazardous driving conditions for park visitors. The total number of linear feet involved in a Special Flood Hazard Area (Zone AE) floodplain is approximately 2,580LF. Fayette County also reviewed future similar actions involving recreation improvements whereas the existing recreation facilities or a portion of facilities is located in a predicted floodplain and/or wetland area throughout Fayette County, including the entitlement townships of Bullskin, Dunbar, Georges, German, Luzerne, Menallen, North Union, Redstone, and South Union Townships for their effect on passage of floodwaters, alternatives to floodplain development, and for consistency with federal, state, and local policies and regulations on floodplain management. The total number of linear feet and type of floodplain/wetland area for future projects is yet to be determined.

Fayette County, PA has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: relocation and/or revision of the activity and no action were considered; however, it was determined that neither of these options would provide the same benefit as the activity/ies involve improvements of existing facilities.

Fayette County, PA has re-evaluated the alternatives to undertaking this activity in floodplains and/or wetlands and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988 and/or 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 floodplains and/or 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. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and/or wetlands 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 floodplains/wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by Fayette County, PA at the following address on or before **September 27**, **2023**: Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, PA - 86 West Main Street, Uniontown PA 15401 and (724) 437-1547, ATTN: Andrew P. French, Executive Director. A full description of the project may also be reviewed on weekdays 9:00am-4:00pm at the address above. This location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Every effort will be made to provide the needed materials to all residents, including LEP persons, as needed. Comments may also be submitted by email to <u>bgirod@racfpa.org</u>.

