

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 500-year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies Groups and Individuals

This is to provide a second notice that San Bernardino County, under CFR 24 Part 58, has determined that the following proposed action under the San Bernardino County Community Development and Housing Department (County File #3014), in partnership with the Office of Homeless Services (OHS), and is in the 500-year floodplain, and San Bernardino County will be attempt to identify and evaluate practicable alternatives to the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The proposed project is the conversion of the existing Rodeway Inn & Suites Colton-Riverside into interim housing and a recuperative care facility. The proposed project is located at 1311 South Santo Antonio Drive in Colton, in San Bernardino County, California. The project site currently functions as a motel with 70 rooms, a laundry facility, a manager's unit, an office, and a pool with a deck. Proposed improvements will occur within the existing motel footprint. The proposed project involves creating a total of 130 beds, with 30 interim beds and 100 short-term recuperative care beds.

The project site is 1.53 acres within the floodplain. The project site is approximately 0.2 miles east of the Santa Ana River and is within Zone X, as determined by FEMA, is identified as "Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood: areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile: and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood." The river corridor contains natural values for wildlife and wetland habitat, flood control, and recreational opportunities (the Santa Ana River Trail). Additionally, the Santa Ana River has a storage capacity of 362,000 acre-feet

Approximately 25 miles south of the project site, in Corona, is the Prado Dam, an area designed for flood control and groundwater recharge and is the downstream element of the Santa Ana River flood control system. The original storage capacity of Prado Dam was 217,000 acre-feet which is currently being expanded to store 362,000 acre-feet. Seven Oaks Dam in San Bernardino can also be used for groundwater recharge and has a capacity of 145,600 acre-feet. The Santa Ana Mainstem project is designed to provide flood protection to San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange counties, and proposes to improve more than 75 miles of its system. Santa Ana River erosion control focuses on flood control and bank stabilization through the Santa Ana River Mainstem project. The Santa Ana River's water quality is managed through the Santa Ana River Basin Plan. The Santa Ana River Basin Plan contains water quality standards for the protection of surface and groundwater within the Santa Ana Region. The Santa Ana River Basin Plan includes comprehensive watershed and groundwater management programs to implement water quality objectives.

In addition, part of the Santa Ana Mainstem project includes environmental features such as enhancement of a degraded marsh area at the mouth of the river, providing significant value as wetland habitat for migrating waterfowl and the California least tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*),

a federally listed endangered species. The Santa Ana Mainstem project also plans to acquire land for wildlife and biological mitigation, which would restore temporary loss of habitat values, cultural mitigation, and a 32-mile system of recreation trails.

The San Bernardino County Community Development and Housing Department has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with the HUD 8-Step Process as identified within Executive Order 11988, 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 purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those with 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 comments about floodplains 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, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the San Bernardino County Community Development and Housing Department at the following address on or before February 2, 2026: San Bernardino County, Community Development and Housing Department, 560 East Hospitality Lane, Suite 200, San Bernardino, California, Attention Becky Sanabria, Housing Development Manager. Telephone calls should be made to Becky Sanabria, Housing Development Manager, at (909) 382-3995, between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

A full description of the project may also be reviewed between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Fridays at 560 East Hospitality Lane, Suite 200, San Bernardino, California and **cdh.sbcounty.gov** Comments may also be submitted via email to Rebecca.Sanabria@cdh.sbcounty.gov.

Date: 1/27/2026