

## **DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

### **SECTION 202 TOWN OF MARTIN NONSTRUCTURAL PROJECT LOW INCOME HOUSING FACILITY FLOYD COUNTY, KENTUCKY**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The final Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) dated 7 June 2019, for the Section 202 Town of Martin Nonstructural Project addresses the disposition of the Low income housing facility which is affected by the Phase II redevelopment site in the Martin, Kentucky. The purpose of the Section 202 Town of Martin Nonstructural Project is to implement flood risk management measures to reduce flooding impacts and damages for the residences and businesses of Martin, Kentucky. The SEA tiers from previous environmental documentation, Final Environmental Assessment of July 2000, which was prepared concurrent with the development of the approved study report, referred to as the Detailed Project Report (DPR), for the Section 202 Town of Martin Nonstructural Project, and for which a Finding of No Significant Impact was issued on 8 August 2000.

Given a detailed re-evaluation of the plan documented in the 2000 DPR and accompanying EA, which was considered the no action alternative, it was recognized there would be considerable risks related to public safety, costs and social impacts associated with the originally proposed plan to keep the low income housing facility in its current location. The original plan would result in significant adverse impacts to low income populations and affect socioeconomic resources and Environmental Justice to the users of the low-income housing facility. The Final SEA, evaluated alternatives for the low income housing facility to include acquisition and relocation. Section 3.0 of the SEA discusses alternative formulation selection. Acquisition would displace low income residents without sufficient decent, safe, and sanitary housing to accommodate them into the surrounding areas realizing significant adverse effect on low-income and elderly populations. The relocation alternative (proposed action) would mitigate for significant adverse impacts to low income residents and includes a replacement facility built at the location of the existing Phase I Redevelopment Site. Phase I of the project included construction of a 6.4 acre re redevelopment site and was evaluated under the FEA. Relocation would include the 28 unit facility, associated amenities, and the Community/Senior Center. Through implementation of the proposed action, the replacement facility would compensate for the significant impacts of the no action alternative to socioeconomic and Environmental Justice adverse impacts from the need to acquire the land underlying the low-income housing facility for Project purposes by providing decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the community.

#### ***SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS:***

For all alternatives, the potential effects were evaluated, as appropriate. The evaluation of effects was focused on key resources affected by the proposed alternatives. Given the developed nature of the project area and/or adequate consideration of such resources in previous NEPA documentation, the evaluation of effects in the SEA was limited to only a few resource areas. The resource areas which were excluded from evaluation in this SEA include but is not limited to: aquatic resources, navigation, hydrology, land use, water quality etc. A summary assessment of the potential effects of the recommended plan are listed in Table 1:

**Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Proposed Action**

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by action
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the recommended plan. Best management practices (BMPs) as detailed in the SEA will be implemented, if appropriate, to minimize impacts. The proposed action, sufficiently mitigates for the socioeconomic and Environmental Justice impacts by providing a replacement facility within the community, and eliminates risks related to public safety, costs and social impacts. For additional details of the proposed action, see Section 4.0 of the SEA.

Public review of the Draft SEA and FONSI was completed on **24 July 2019**. All comments submitted during the public review period were responded to in the Final SEA and FONSI.

Technical, environmental, economic, and cost effectiveness criteria used in the formulation of alternative plans were those specified in the Water Resources Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in evaluation of alternatives. Based on this report, the reviews by other Federal, State and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the recommended plan would not cause significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

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Date

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Jason A. Evers  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Commander