

**Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity  
in a 100-Year Floodplain or Wetland  
Powers Avenue Stormwater Project**

**Date: April 8, 2026**

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Volusia County Office of Recovery and Resiliency has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990 in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands for the proposed expansion of the Powers Avenue Stormwater Project under the U.S. Department of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program. The proposed Powers Avenue Stormwater Project includes the acquisition of three private residential properties to construct a retention pond. The project is located at the northeast corner of Powers Avenue and Spruce Creek Road, Port Orange, Florida. The project area is within the 100-year floodplain. There are no wetlands on the project site. The pond to the north is designated as Freshwater Pond Habitat and the stream/canal to the west is designated as Riverine Habitat in the National Wetlands Inventory maps.

The proposed site includes three residences and is bordered on the north side by an existing pond and on the west side by Halifax Canal. The proposed project includes the acquisition of three private residential properties; construction of a 4.7-acre retention pond; construction of inflow structures for the adjacent Halifax Canal and Powers Avenue, and approximately 500 feet of new or upgraded stormwater collection system.

The proposed project would not change the function of the 100-year floodplain from infiltration in residential landscaping to constructed retention and infiltration. The natural and beneficial functions and uses of the floodplain (infiltration) would be retained and floodwater retention improved. The estimated total project cost is \$2,370,000.

The area around the project site floods during severe storm events and the existing retention pond's capacity is exceeded. Floodwaters threaten the operation of the nearby electrical substation. The need is to reduce flooding along Dunlop Avenue and Spruce Creek Road, an evacuation route, and increase the resilience of the Florida Power and Light substation to flooding. The purpose of the project is to increase the stormwater retention capacity of the surrounding area by adding an additional pond with connection to the Halifax Canal. The project is a mitigation for the existing limited retention capacity for the area. Alternative locations would not mitigate the issues at the project site.

The Volusia County Office of Recovery and Resiliency has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: A. Raising the Equipment at the Electrical Substation, B. Construct a Berm Around the Substation, and C. Take no action.

The Volusia County Office of Recovery and Resiliency has reevaluated the alternatives to the proposed construction of the new retention pond and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Raising the elevation of all the equipment in the substation would be too expensive and require power outages as

construction on the equipment occurred. Berms around the substation would affect drainage within the substation grounds and would result in rainfall on the substation itself to accumulate. The construction of the new retention pond is the most viable Alternative. Also, the beneficial functions and values of the floodplain will be retained. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of 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 primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains 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 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 Volusia County Office of Recovery and Resiliency at the following address on or April 16, 2026. Comments can be sent to the County at 1578 N. Woodland Blvd. De Land, FL 32720-4213 and phone number 386-717-2831, Attention: Melissa Dewall. A full description of the project may also be reviewed at, or copies requested from, the Volusia County Office of Recovery and Resiliency from the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at 1578 N. Woodland Blvd. De Land, FL. Comments may also be submitted via email to Melissa DeWall, Office of Recovery and Resiliency, at [mdewall@volusia.org](mailto:mdewall@volusia.org).

### **THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

Pursuant to Title II of the ADA, Volusia County does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities in providing or conducting its services, programs, or activities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of county policies to participate in a meeting or other event, should contact the County's ADA Title II Coordinator, Mr. Jim Corbett at (386) 246-1760 no later than 2 days before the event or meeting.