

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment Hurricane Sandy Proposed Recapitalization Project Rebuild USCG Station Manasquan Inlet, New Jersey

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) intends to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposal to rebuild shore facilities at Station Manasquan Inlet, New Jersey, pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the President's Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and the Coast Guard's NEPA implementing procedures (COMDTINST M16475.1D). The EA will also fulfill the requirement for project review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (36 CFR Part 800). The 2013 Disaster Assistance Supplemental Act (P.L. 113-2) appropriated funds to rebuild USCG shore facilities damaged by Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 and to prevent damage from future storms by replacing damaged facilities with those that are hurricane and flood resilient.

Proposed Action: The USCG proposes to replace the Station building and Boathouse facilities at USCG Station Manasquan Inlet, both of which are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). To improve resilience and reduce down time for mission critical facilities after future storms, these new, hardened shore facilities will be constructed above the 500-year flood elevation, where practicable, and to hurricane resistant building codes. The existing historic Station Building will be declared excess and divested out of the USCG property inventory and a new elevated hurricane-resistant Multi-Mission Station building will be constructed on the site of the existing boathouse and its adjacent parking lot. USCG will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer to avoid and/or mitigate adverse effects on historic properties at the site. The bulkhead will be re-built as part of this project to improve its resilience to future storms. The existing, non-historic Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH) building will be demolished and replaced with additional parking.

Alternatives will be evaluated by the USCG in the EA, including the No Action Alternative and the above-described Proposed Action. The USCG may consider other reasonable alternatives identified during the public scoping process.

The EA will describe the need for the project, the alternatives, and the environmental impacts of the alternatives. The EA will also contain a comparative analysis of the alternatives, a statement of the environmental significance of the impacts of the alternatives, and a list of the agencies and persons consulted during EA preparation. The EA will serve as a concise public document to briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining the need to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Public Scoping Period: The Coast Guard is seeking public input on the scope of environmental issues to be addressed in the EA. Please submit your written comments by October 18, 2013, via USPS mail, fax, or electronic mail to:

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