

***Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year/500-year
Floodplain and Wetland**

To: All interested Agencies include all Federal, State, and Local, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the County of Lawrence has conducted an evaluation 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 activities to be funded under PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Contract #C000094821. The proposed project will allow for existing Single-Family; Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation of approximately 35 structures located throughout the County and is located in the 100-year/500-year floodplain and wetland.

Project Activity:

CDBG FFY2025-Contract C000094821

Countywide Housing Rehabilitation

Ellwood City Borough Housing Rehabilitation

Shenango Township Housing Rehabilitation

Union Township Housing Rehabilitation

County of Lawrence has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values. The project will only allow for existing Single-Family; Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation located throughout the County and additional funds being targeted in the Borough of Ellwood City, Shenango and Union Townships from their specific entitlements. These funds estimate that 35 structures will be brought up to current construction codes and safe standards included in the County Housing Rehabilitation Manual. None of these projects will include new construction. It will not be in a floodway or coastal high hazard area. Rehabilitation construction & lead based paint remediation of the project is proposed in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal requirements and will not alter topography and will not have any anticipated impacts on flood levels, flood risk, or flow of floodwaters. Since there is no new construction, no wetlands will be impacted and does not increase floodplain occupancy. Each structure will be evaluated and paired with multiple funding sources, as well as homeowners may be required to place a payment in escrow prior to signing a rehabilitation contract.

County of Lawrence has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain and wetland 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 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 comments about floodplains and 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 and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the County of Lawrence at the following address on or before September 4, 2026. County of Lawrence, 430 Court Street, New Castle, PA 16101, 724-656-2193 or TDD (Dial 711). Attention: Amy McKinney, Director, Lawrence County Department of Planning and Community Development. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:30 A.M until 3:30 P.M. at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted via email at amckinney@lawrencecountypa.gov*

Date: Advertised & Posted: August 27, 2026

Posted: County Courthouse, Ellwood City Borough, Union Township, Shenango Township, County municipal buildings, LCCAP, Website, FaceBook

