

## **Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain**

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Port Jervis has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order(s) 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and/or Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under CDBG Project #938PW123-24, City of Port Jervis Water Filtration Plant Improvements. The proposed project is located at 71 Reservoir Avenue in the City of Port Jervis, Orange County and is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain wetland. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using a Climate Informed Science Approach (CISA), 0.2 percent flood approach and a freeboard value approach.

Designed to provide 3 million-gallons-per day (MGD), the City of Port Jervis' water filtration plant (WFP) currently operates at a peak of 1.5 MGD. The improvements provided by \$1.5M in grant funding to the WFP include the upgrade of the gravity sand filters, filter media, control valves, underdrains, troughs, and the local filter control panel. The city will pay all soft costs including engineering and administration. All work will be performed within the WFP located on SBL: 4-1-1, which totals 2.20 acres. The total area of the floodplain on the parcel is 0.74 acres. No proposed project activity will take place within or disturb the floodplain.

The City of Port Jervis has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain/wetland:

To Locate the Project Outside of the Floodplain is not possible as this is the City's only WFP facility.

No Action or Alternative Actions that Serve the Same Purpose:

No Action was considered and rejected as the sole water filtration plant is currently operating, and the proposed actions will be contained within the plant with no impact to the exterior environment. As opposed to building a new plant outside the floodplain, financially, it is cost effective to perform upgrades to improve throughput which is currently half of the plant's original capacity. No Action would result in continued decreased output as the existing machinery and filtration processes would need to work harder and longer to perform filtration tasks to the point that the water is potable and safe for drinking. This option would bring eventual water quality into question and could result in options ranging from boil orders to no water produced for human use.

Alternative Actions such as building a new plant was considered and rejected as the work proposed will be contained within the facility with no impact to the exterior environment and the cost considerations of building a new plant and site impacts are far beyond what is financially and physically feasible.

As all work planned under this project will occur within the facility, no direct impact will occur in the floodplain within which the plant is located.

In compliance with state and local floodplain protection procedures, any future development outside the plant unrelated to facility maintenance and improvements on this parcel is constricted due to the City's Resolution 41 of 2025 prohibiting such development.

Current access to the reservoir system and recreational trails will remain in place.

The City of Port Jervis has reevaluated alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to floodplain development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, and/or Executive Order 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 the floodplain 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 the floodplain 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 floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Port Jervis at the following address on or before August 19, 2025: City of Port Jervis, P.O. Box 1002., Port Jervis, NY 12771, telephone (845) 858-4002, Attention: Steven Duryea, DPW Director. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the DPW Office at 1 Franklin St., Port Jervis, NY. Comments may also be submitted via email at [DPWDirector@PortJervisNY.gov](mailto:DPWDirector@PortJervisNY.gov).

August 11, 2025