FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has received the subgrant application for the Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium’s repairs at Elizabeth Moore International Center for Coral due to damages in Hurricane Irma (DR-4337-FL PW 05638). Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 and 44 CFR Part 9.12, final notice is hereby given of FEMA’s intent to provide funding for this project under the Public Assistance (PA) Program.

An initial disaster-wide Public Notice was published October 6, 2017 for Hurricane Irma. Comments and other information received were fully evaluated by FEMA along with evaluation of social, economic, environmental, and safety considerations. This notice serves as a project-specific final notice for FEMA’s funding action located within the floodplain.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions. This action complies with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements.

Responsible Entity: FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Program

Applicant: Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium

Project Title(s): PA-04-FL-4337-PW-05638; 41618 - Elizabeth Moore International Center for Coral

Location of Proposed Work: (24.66185, -81.45451)

Floodplain: Project is located in the AE zone, area of 100-yr flooding, per Sarasota County FIRM Panel # 12087C1312 K, dated 02/18/2005.

Proposed Work and Purpose: The Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium made multiple repairs to The Elizabeth Moore International Center for Coral Reef Research & Restoration to restore this facility back to its pre-disaster design, function and capacity within the existing footprint. Repairs included: repairing boats by replacing windows, a shade canopy, and an antenna, replacing a boiler motor and circuit board, replacing PVC coral trees, replacing a flag pole, repairing a generator, replacing holding tanks and their various components, repairing an ice machine, replacing lighting elements, replacing sand filters, replacing shade cloth and associated elements, replacing a shed, replacing solar panels, replacing water pumps, and repairing a wood platform deck by replacing the decking and wood stairs. No mitigation. According to SOW, elevator repairs listed in the PW were addressed in a separate project and are not included in this project. The applicant replaced the previous shed with a portable shed to have the ability to relocate it prior to an event to minimize flood risk.

Project Alternatives: The alternative that has been considered is the no action alternative. This alternative is not feasible as the area will remain vulnerable to flood risk including property damage. With the no action alternative, continued negative impacts on property and the community may be experienced. Alternate locations were not considered as the damaged elements are part of a larger facility and relocating it would not be practicable. The research facility is also functionally dependent upon its location within the floodplain. The applicant replaced a shed with a portable shed to have the ability to relocate it prior to an event.

Comments: This will serve as the final public notice regarding the above-described action funded by the FEMA PA program. Interested persons may submit comments, questions, or request a map of this specific project by writing to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 4, 3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, or by emailing FEMA-R4EH@fema.dhs.gov. Comments should be sent in writing with the subject line FL-4337-PW-05638, Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium at the above address within 15 days of the date of this notice.