

**NOTICE OF EARLY PUBLIC REVIEW OF
PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN 100 YEAR FLOODPLAIN**

This is to give notice that the City of Bradford has determined that the following proposed action under the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Contract Number C000092268 is located in the 100-year floodplain, and the City of Bradford will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain of the Tunungwant Creek and Bennett Brook and the potential impacts on the Tunungwant Creek and Bennett Brook from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The activity includes the replacement of existing traffic light poles at the intersection of West Washington Street and Mechanic Street and the replacement of sidewalk near Bennett Brook on West Washington Street. The proposed project is located on West Washington Street in the City of Bradford, McKean County.

There are three primary purposes of this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in the 100-year 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. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the Tunungwant Creek/Bennett Brook floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. 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 City of Bradford at the following address on or before August 1, 2025 at the City of Bradford OECD, 20 Russell Boulevard, PO Box 490, Bradford, PA 16701, (814) 368-7170 ext. 2 to the attention of Tom Riel, Mayor of the City of Bradford. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the address above or at the City of Bradford's website: bradfordpa.org. Comments may also be submitted via e-mail at kcostellopecht@bradfordpa.org.

Tom Riel
Mayor

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

D. ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Describe the activity sufficiently to demonstrate that it is an eligible activity, and that its scope is adequate to meet the identified needs of intended beneficiaries. Particular attention must be focused on the impact the proposed solution will have upon low and moderate income people, e.g. user fees, benefit assessments, etc. (For activities with user fees, complete "Local Effort/User Fee Analysis".)

For Competitive Applicants - Due to the competitive review process, the activity should be described comprehensively to substantiate the cause and magnitude of the need, and "third party" support (reports, newspaper articles, letters from affected residents, businesses, etc.), should be provided. Focus as specifically as possible on the impact of the problem on the residents of the affected area.

All activities for entitlement and competitive submissions are requested to upload a satellite image or photographs of the project area. Please label all photos.

1. Identify what is the problem and location of the problem. Identify the location of the project by street name(s) if applicable.

West Washington Street (SR 346) is a major corridor, which extends from Mechanic Street in the City's downtown historic district to Poplin Avenue near the City boundary line (see project location map). West Washington Street is the highest traffic/pedestrian use corridor in the City of Bradford. It is the main connector from the downtown business district to Bradford Area High School, Bradford Regional Medical Center, Callahan Park, the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and the Allegheny National Forest. The corridor is mixed use with both commercial businesses and residential properties (see street photos). The Bradford Area Public Library, medical offices, restaurants and retail/other businesses are located on West Washington Street

The roadway improvements will address poor street drainage; lack of curbing due to deterioration and paving without milling over the years; replacement of deteriorated sidewalk replacement of old and outdated traffic signal poles and lights; relocation of overhead utilities and address pedestrian safety on the street (see existing condition photos)

2. This project has been reviewed to determine if any of the project is within the designated FLOODWAY using the best available data, and it has been determined that it is ☒ or is not ☐ located in the FLOODWAY.

Identify FIRM MAP or other source used for this determination. Small portion is in floodway - 42083C0058D/42083C0059D

3. How will the problem be corrected: Specify type and quantity of materials to be used to correct the problem. You must answer the questions posed in the activity description instructions, as applicable.

PennDot has been planning a roadway corridor improvement project on West Washington Street for several years. The City has been able to provide input during this planning stage as to what it improvements it would like to see included in the project. Planned roadway improvements include drainage system improvements; curb reconstruction and the replacement of sidewalks the entire length of the project area; ADA curb ramp improvements at all intersections; replacement of traffic signals and poles at all intersections that have traffic signals; full-depth pavement replacement with the installation of colored, stamped asphalt crosswalks. The new crosswalks will provide additional visual aid to drivers to see pedestrians crossing the street and improve pedestrian/vehicular safety on the street. During planning meetings with PennDot, the City was informed that PennDot initially planned for the replacement of only a portion of the sidewalk (1,900 s.f.) where there planned improvements would effect. Due to the poor condition of the majority of the entire length of the project area, the City will use 2024 CDBG funds to pay for 20% of the cost to replace 1,200 s.f. of sidewalk, so that all of the sidewalk in the improvement area can be replaced. 2024 CDBG funds will also be used to pay for the difference of standard traffic signals at the Mechanic Street to decorative traffic signal. This intersection is in the downtown historic district and the decorative traffic signals will match other decorative traffic signals on Boylston Street and Main Street.

4. Who are the primary beneficiaries; who will receive the daily benefits of the proposed project. Grantee must confirm that the project serves a primarily residential area. The project and service area must be identified on the map and may be different. (Include photos)

As West Washington Street is a major collector which serves the entire City, the project is a citywide benefit as 56.1% of the residents are 56.1% low/moderate income. See attached location maps.

(Attach Additional sheets as necessary.)