

# FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Helena has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding through the Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA), as an Applicant.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990, FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide a public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

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.

**Applicant:** City of Helena

**Project Title:** 242536 - Building and Content Damages - Amphitheater

**Location of Proposed Work:** 4151 Helena Road, Helena, Al 35080

Facility	Address	Latitude	Longitude	Date of Construction
Helena Park	4151 Helena Road, Helena, Al 35080	33.29697	-86.84461	2003

**Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:** Helena Park is located in two Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) – AE and AE Floodway Zones. Confirmation of Helena Park in these Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) was determined by the Shelby County Flood Insurance Rate Map 01117C0211F, dated 09/24/2021. The proposed work conforms to all applicable State of Alabama and local floodplain regulations. During the severe storm event, multiple structures throughout the park were damaged by wind forces and flooding.

There is a potential for the sites to be impacted by future events due to their location within the AE and AE Floodway Zone. The proposed work will not take place in any wetlands per the United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory.

**Proposed Work and Purpose:** The City of Helena will utilize force account labor, equipment, materials, and/or contracts for the repairs to Helena Park back to functional use. The fence, power and outlets system throughout the building facilities were severely damaged. The City of Helena is requesting funding to be able to repair/replace and restore power and other building damages to the Amphitheater Park.

In order to protect against and lessen the impact of future similar events, the City of Helena has requested 406 mitigation funding to upgrade the perimeter fence materials and installation from 4 IN diameter wooden posts to 4 IN diameter steel posts. These steel posts will be 24 IN deep and will have cast iron bollards with a 14 IN diameter base. This will prevent fast moving flood waters from toppling and destroying the perimeter fence for the facilities. Repairing Helena Park back to functional use will allow for a continuation of open space use. The park is essential to the city because it is an outdoor concert hall, festival grounds, movie theater, and nature park. In the spring, summer and fall it is host to many events.

**Project Alternatives:**

**Alternative #1** (no action alternative): If no action is not taken to restore Helena Park, it will impact the overall well-being of the community.

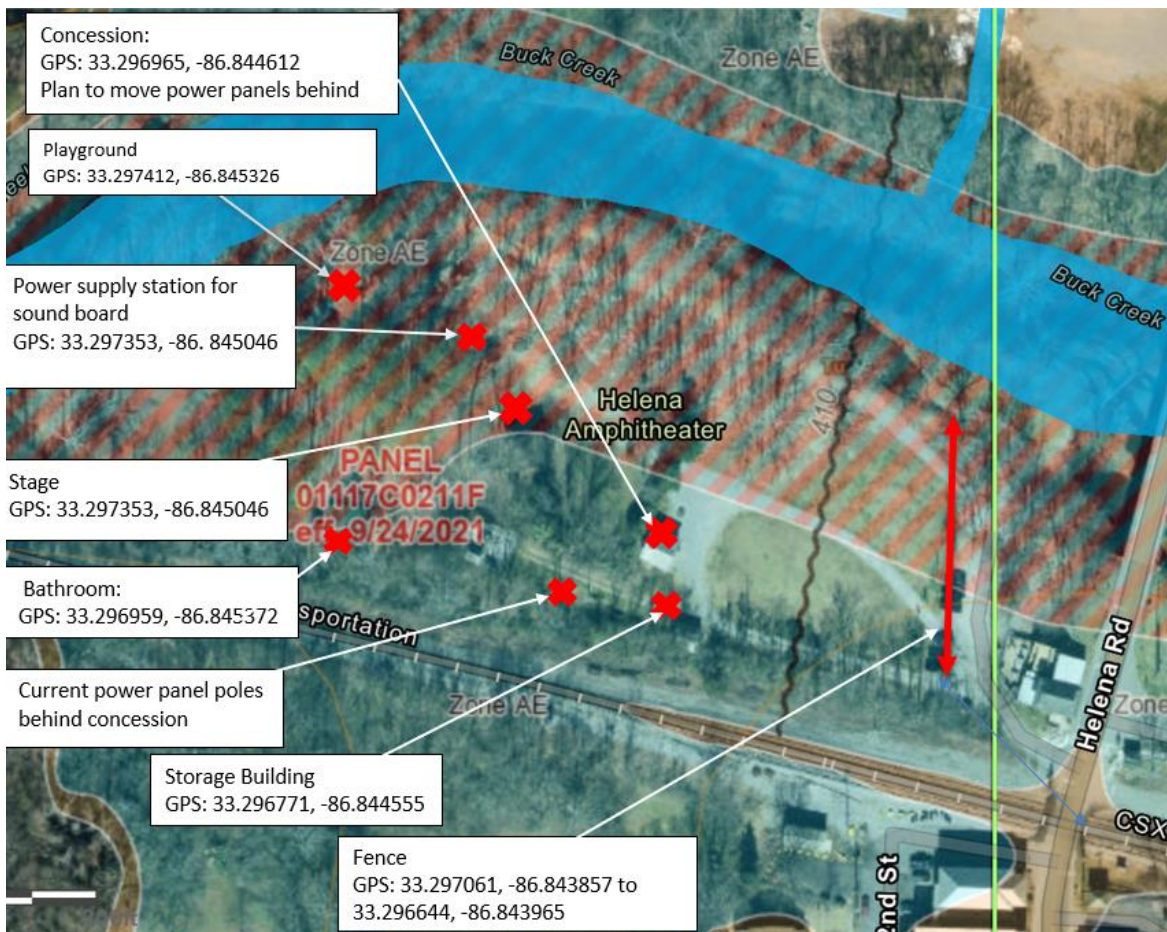
**Alternative #2:** Relocation of the park would not be economically feasible. The park provides open space use the City of Helena.

**Comment Period:** Comments are solicited from the public, local, state or federal agencies, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to the City of Helena. All comments are due within 15 days of this notice. The City of Helena will forward comments to applicable regulatory agencies as needed.

Interested persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency – Region IV - EHP, 3005 Chamblee Tucker Rd – Office #255, Atlanta, GA 30341-4112 or by email at FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Please include in the subject line of the email “DR-4596-AL EHP FIT.” Comments should be sent in writing at the above address within 15 days of the date of this notice.

**POSTED ON:** (01-13-2023)

**Floodplain and Wetland Map**



**End of Notice**