

**FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**PROPOSED ACTION LOCATED WITHIN A FLOODPLAIN**

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”) has conducted a reevaluation of alternatives as required by Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order 11988 for Floodplain Management and by Section 2(b) of Executive Order 11990 for the Protection of Wetlands (collectively, the “Executive Orders”). These Executive Orders are implemented by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Regulations found at 24 CFR 55.20 to determine the potential impact that the proposed actions will have on the environment for development in a floodplain.

A public notice was first published in The Westerly Sun on July 21, 2017 to notify interested parties of a proposal to use federal funds within a FEMA-designated 100-year floodplain. The proposed development, Shannock Village Cottages, involves new construction of nine (9) apartments on a vacant parcel of land at 1639A Shannock Road, in Charlestown, Rhode Island (the “Site”). The Site is identified as Lot 164 of Assessor’s Plat 28.

The initial proposed design has been modified to locate the buildings and other Site improvements outside of the 200’ riverbank setback to minimize adverse impacts to the floodplain, public safety, and public investment. The proposed minimal encroachment into the 200’ riverbank wetland setback is necessary to provide access for emergency vehicles. No flood insurance is required.

Several alternatives to this proposal were considered to avoid development in the floodplain and were determined to be unacceptable. It is not possible to locate the units of affordable housing and the infrastructure needed to support them without a minor encroachment into the 200’ riverbank setback. Modifications made to the initial Site plan to minimize the encroachment increased Site density and reduced the number of structures and length of roadway. These modifications will reduce project costs and the amount of storm-water runoff from the Site. The only encroachment is the 2,870 square feet of paved surface, a vegetated bioretention dry swale, and an existing historic stone wall. A no action alternative was considered and rejected as the proposed project in Charlestown supports the development of low-and-moderate income housing needed for the 10% minimum state target.

It is the determination of RI Housing that there will be no adverse effect on the environment with the development of this project. The proposed action will not aggravate current hazards and will have no potential to disrupt floodplain values.

Written comments may be addressed to Barbara Fields, Executive Director of Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation, at 44 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903, by telephone at (401) 457-1190, weekdays from 9A.M. to 5 P.M., or by email at [bfields@rihousing.com](mailto:bfields@rihousing.com). Written comments must be received on or before October 6, 2017.

