
**EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW
OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A FLOODPLAIN**

March 12, 2026
City of Watertown, NY
245 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601
(315) 785-7741

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Watertown has determined that the following proposed action under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is located in the 100-year floodplain. The City of Watertown will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and potential impacts on the floodplain, 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 City of Watertown proposes to use CDBG funding to replace approximately 6,700 linear feet of 16-inch water main underneath Huntington Street, an undertaking identified in the City's 2024 Annual Action Plan as the Huntington Street Water Main Replacement Project. The intent of the project is to replace an aging segment of utility infrastructure. Of the approximately 6,700 linear feet of new water main, approximately 245 linear feet of the new 16-inch pipe would cross the 100-year floodplain (Zone A). Approximately 120 linear feet of new pipe would be installed within Zone A on the 700 block of Huntington Street and approximately 125 linear feet of new pipe would be installed within Zone A on the 600 block of Huntington Street.

The proposed project spans the entire length of Huntington Street in the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York. All of the infrastructure to be replaced already exists and the project will not create any new impervious surface. The only direct disturbance to the floodplain will be during construction when the trench excavations to remove the old water main and install the new watermain will occur in Zone A. The total linear feet of pipeline passing through the floodplain after construction will be greater than the existing condition pre-construction, but will be entirely underground.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains 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 about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks 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 Watertown at the following address on or before March 27, 2026. A minimum 15 calendar-day comment period will begin the day after the publication and end on the 15th day after the publication:

City of Watertown
245 Washington Street, Room 302
Watertown, NY 13601
Attention: Sarah V.C. Pierce, Mayor

Comments may also be submitted via email at planning@watertown-ny.gov or by calling (315) 785-7741.

Date: March 12, 2026