

US Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District

## Notice of Availability of Draft Report and Public Meeting

## Metropolitan Washington, District of Columbia, Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE) and the non- federal sponsor, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG), have prepared a draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment (EA) to determine whether the implementation of coastal storm risk management (CSRM) measures would reduce coastal flood risk to critical public and private infrastructure along the west bank of the Potomac River in Northern Virginia. The study area encompasses approximately 76 square miles and includes the Northern Virginia jurisdictions within the Middle Potomac watershed boundary, from Arlington County south to include a portion of Prince William County.

**Purpose of Work:** The purpose of this study is to evaluate the feasibility of Federal participation in the implementation of solutions to reduce long-term coastal flood risk to vulnerable populations, properties, infrastructure, and environmental and cultural resources considering future climate and sea level change scenarios to support resilient communities in Northern Virginia within the Middle Potomac River watershed. Northern Virginia has been impacted by numerous major tropical and extratropical events, most notably the Chesapeake and Potomac Hurricane of 1933, Hurricane Agnes (1972), Hurricane Fran (1996), Nor'easter (1998), Hurricane Floyd (1999), Hurricane Isabel (2003), Hurricane Irene (2011), and Hurricane Sandy (2012). Hurricane Isabel in 2003 resulted in extreme water levels and caused millions of dollars of damage to residences, businesses, and critical infrastructure.

**Proposed Action:** The Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) presented in this draft report includes a floodwall at the Arlington Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) and a levee and floodwall at the community of Belle Haven (Figures 1 and 2). The TSP is the National Economic Development Plan (NED); the plan that reasonably maximizes net benefits.

At the Arlington WPCP, a floodwall would be constructed along the left bank of Four Mile Run between Four Mile Run and the Arlington WPCP with a closure structure on the east side of the structure. The new floodwall would tie into the bank to the east just past South Eads Street. The floodwall would wrap around the Arlington WPCP to the west where the stop log closure structure is located along South Glebe Road.

At Belle Haven, a floodwall would be constructed just north of Belle Haven Road from Barrister Place to 10<sup>th</sup> Street with a closure structure at 10<sup>th</sup> Street and at the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP). Closure structures would also be constructed along Belle Haven Road and Belle View Boulevard. A floodwall would tie into the closure structure at 10<sup>th</sup> Street and run south along the west side of the GWMP, curving around Belle View Boulevard to 10<sup>th</sup> Street. The floodwall would then run west to East Wakefield Drive tying into both sides of a closure structure on Potomac Avenue. The floodwall would continue west to West Wakefield Drive and tie into a small portion of earthen levee ending at Westgrove Dog Park.

**Comments:** The draft integrated Feasibility Report and EA will be made available to the public for a 30-day review and comment period beginning on May 31, 2022. Comments need to be received on or before June 30, 2022, to be considered. The draft Integrated Feasibility Report and EA are available via the USACE website at: https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/DC Coastal Study/. Comments can be submitted electronically to: DC-Metro-CSRM-Study@usace.army.mil

**Public Meeting:** USACE and MWCOG will hold at least one public meeting. The first meeting will be held on 14 June at Belle View Elementary School (6701 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 223007) from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm to present the report and receive comments. Additional information on this and other public meetings will be available on the USACE project website above.



FIGURE 1. TENTATIVELY SELECTED PLAN – ARLINGTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT FLOODWALL



FIGURE 2. TENTATIVELY SELECTED PLAN – BELLE HAVEN FLOODWALL AND LEVEE