



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Philadelphia District

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Southeast Pa. Environmental Improvements Program Phila., Bucks, Chester, Del. & Montgomery Cos., PA

January 2008

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: Reps. Brady (PA-1), Fattah (PA-2), Schwartz (PA-13)

APPROPRIATION / PHASE:
Construction, General

BUSINESS PROGRAM:
Environmental Infrastructure

AUTHORITY: Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996

LOCATION: Authority allows for projects within the Pennsylvania Counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, and Delaware. See individual projects for specific location.

DESCRIPTION: Section 566 of WRDA 96 established a pilot program to provide design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects for non-Federal interests in Southeastern Pennsylvania. The process consists of three phases: (1) Project Approval - preparation and approval of an Initial Appraisal Report; (2) Project Design - negotiation and execution of a Design Agreement between Federal and Non-Federal interests and the design of the project; and finally (3) Project Construction - negotiation and execution of a Project Cooperation Agreement and construction of the project.

OVERALL STATUS: In FY05, the Corps and Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) visited Mill Creek and several sites along Cobbs Creek. These site investigations identified four (4) projects – (1) Mill Creek Diversion Project, (2) the Cobbs Creek Habitat Restoration Project, (3) the Cobbs Creek Fish Passage Restoration Project, and (4) the Indian Creek Reconstruction Project.

In FY06, funds totaling \$594,000 were allocated with \$300,000 for the three Cobbs Creek projects and \$294,000 for an additional project – (5) Tacony Creek. In FY 08, \$492,000 was appropriated for the Tacony project.

In FY 08, \$49,000 was allocated for a project in Whitpain, PA and \$236,000 was allocated for a project in Hatfield, PA.

Mill Creek Diversion Project

- **Description:** The proposed project is to divert the stream flow generated in Montgomery County from the combined sewer by constructing an alternate channel to either the Schuylkill River via City Line Avenue or to the East Branch of Indian Creek. The East Branch route is much shorter but would require crossing the SEPTA/AMTRAK double tracks. Diverting the flows from the combined sewer to the East Branch will increase flows in the creek. These flows will need to be investigated, and this alternative would require additional real estate. The Schuylkill River alternative will require about 2.7 miles of large box culverts under City Line and would be relatively expensive. Although real estate is not an issue, existing utilities

Southeast Pa. Environmental Improvements Program *(continued)*

and the logistics of construction along a heavily traveled highway need to be considered. The possibility of detaining runoff in Montgomery County will also be investigated.

- **Status:** An Initial Appraisal Report approved by higher authority. The Design Agreement was executed on 13 June 2007. Work on the Alternative Evaluation Report has begun: PWD has collected and sent GIS data to the Corps' FTP site, and a photo reconnaissance of various routes has been completed.

FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total	BUDGET DATA (\$000)	Comments
Init. Appraisal Report	10	0	0	Thru FY 06	** 522
Design Agreement	8	0	0	FY 07	0
Alt. Evaluation Report	1,125	375	1,500	FY 08	0
Plans & Specifications *	2,250	750	3,000	FY 09	TBD
Construction	15,000	5,000	20,000		

* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

** Funds were transferred from the Cobbs Creek Habitat (\$107K), Cobbs Creek Fish Passage (\$82K), Indian Creek (\$57K), and Tacony Creek (\$276K) projects

SPONSOR: Philadelphia Water Department

COMMENTS: The project must have an environmental assessment done prior to construction.

STUDY MANAGER: Don Martinelli
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Cobbs Creek Habitat Restoration Project

- **Description:** Urbanization of the Cobbs Creek watershed has resulted in degradation of the stream and adjacent habitat. More specifically, urban stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflows have eroded the banks and altered the stream alignment. The purpose of the Cobbs Creek Habitat Restoration Project is to design and construct an approximately 1.2 mile channel restoration project from Millbourne Dam downstream to Marshall Road, to meet a small (about 1000ft) restoration project PWD completed in 2005.
- **Status:** An Initial Appraisal Report was approved by higher authority. The next step is to negotiate and execute the Design Agreement using the new model agreements that came out in September 2007. To date, \$10,000 has been spent on the Initial Appraisal Report, and \$8,000 has been spent on the Design Agreement. Remaining FY 06 funds identified for Cobbs Creek (\$107K for this project) were transferred to the Mill Creek Diversion project

Southeast Pa. Environmental Improvements Program *(continued)*

FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total	BUDGET DATA (\$000)	Comments
Init. Appraisal Report	10	0	0	Thru FY 05	0
Design Agreement	8	0	0	FY 06	** 18
Plans & Specifications *	450	150	600	FY 07	0
Construction	3,337	1,113	4,450	FY 08	0
				FY 09	TBD

* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

** \$107K transferred to Mill Creek Diversion project

SPONSOR: Philadelphia Water Department

COMMENTS: The project must have an environmental assessment done prior to construction.

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Cobbs Creek Fish Passage Restoration Project

- **Description:** Fish passage can be restored on Cobbs Creek by modifying two small dams. The lower dam, Woodland Dam, located close to the Cobbs Creek Parkway and Woodland Avenue, is the first impediment to fish passage on Cobbs Creek. It is a low concrete structure below which the creek is tidal. The upper dam, Millbourne Dam, situated on Cobbs Creek near 65th and Race Streets is a rock structure. Both dams are owned by the City of Philadelphia’s Fairmont Park Commission. The purpose of the Cobbs Creek Fish Passage Restoration Project is to investigate, select, and construct the best alternative to reestablish fish passage on Cobbs Creek. The most effective method of restoring fish passage is to eliminate the obstructions by removing the dams. If it is concluded that either or both dams are of significant cultural value and cannot be removed, breached, or notched, other methods, such as stone fills downstream of the dams or fish ladders, will need to be investigated.
- **Status:** An Initial Appraisal Report was approved by higher authority. The next step is to negotiate and execute the Design Agreement using the new model agreements that came out in September 2007. To date, \$10,000 has been spent on the Initial Appraisal Report, and \$8,000 has been spent on the Design Agreement. Remaining FY 06 funds identified for Cobbs Creek (\$82K for this project) were transferred to the Mill Creek Diversion project.

Southeast Pa. Environmental Improvements Program *(continued)*

FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total	BUDGET DATA (\$000)	Comments
Init. Appraisal Report	10	0	0	Thru FY 05	0
Design Agreement	8	0	0	FY 06	** 18
Report	75	25	100	FY 07	0
Plans & Specifications *	450	150	600	FY 08	0
Construction	1,687	563	2,250	FY 09	TBD

* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

** \$82K transferred to Mill Creek Diversion project

SPONSOR: Philadelphia Water Department

COMMENTS: The project must have an environmental assessment done prior to construction.

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Indian Creek Reconstruction Project

- Description:** Indian Creek is a tributary to Cobbs Creek. Sometime in the late 1800's or early 1900's, the City of Philadelphia enclosed a portion of the West Branch of Indian Creek in a combined sewer. During storm events, the combined sewer is overwhelmed resulting in overflows that dump raw sewage into Indian Creek and ultimately Cobbs Creek. Also, urbanization of the watershed has increased the storm flows that fill the sewer with sediment and debris leading to frequent flooding of the area during even minor storm events. The West Branch of Indian Creek enters a combined sewer system upstream of City owned tennis courts in Morris Park, between Brockton and Ruskin Roads. The proposed Indian Creek Reconstruction Project is to design and construct a new stream channel to the East Branch of Indian Creek that bypasses the sewer system. This will remove the flow from the West Branch of Indian Creek from the combined sewer thereby greatly reducing sewer overflow events, decreasing flooding of the park by providing an alternate route for the water, and restoring the stream to a more natural state which will improve habitat in the area. Approximately 650ft to 1000ft of channel, including pools and riffles, would have to be constructed.
- Status:** An Initial Appraisal Report was approved by higher authority. PWD has expressed interest in designing this project with the help of ERDC and constructing it with their own in-house labor. To date, \$10,000 has been spent on the Initial Appraisal Report, and \$8,000 has been spent on the Design Agreement. Remaining FY 06 funds identified for Cobbs Creek (\$57K for this project) were transferred to the Mill Creek Diversion project.

Southeast Pa. Environmental Improvements Program *(continued)*

FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Initial Appraisal Report	10	0	0
Design Agreement	8		
Plans & Specifications *	300	100	400
Construction	1,687	563	2,225

BUDGET DATA (\$000)	Comments
Thru FY 05	0
FY 06	** 18
FY 07	0
FY 08	0
FY 09	TBD

* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

** \$57K transferred to Mill Creek Diversion project

SPONSOR: Philadelphia Water Department

COMMENTS: The project must have an environmental assessment done prior to construction.

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Tacony Creek Project

- **Description:** The project, located in the Tacony-Frankford Watershed in Pennsylvania's 1st Congressional District, is to investigate the feasibility and prepare the design for a 60 million gallon storage facility that would reduce average annual combined sewer discharges by approximately 600 million gallons per year.
- **Status:** An Initial Appraisal Report has been approved by higher authority. Preparation of the Draft Design Agreement began in April 2007. To date, \$10,000 has been spent on the Initial Appraisal Report, and \$8,000 has been spent on the Design Agreement. Remaining FY 06 funds identified for Tacony Creek (\$276K) were transferred to the Mill Creek Diversion project.

FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Initial Appraisal Report	10	0	0
Design Agreement	8		
Feasibility Report	750	250	1,000
Plans & Specifications *	2,250	750	3,000
Construction	225,000	75,000	300,000

BUDGET DATA (\$000)	Comments
Thru FY 05	0
FY 06	** 18
FY 07	0
FY 08	492
FY 09	TBD

* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

** \$276K transferred to Mill Creek Diversion project

SPONSOR: Philadelphia Water Department

Southeast Pa. Environmental Improvements Program *(continued)*

COMMENTS: The project must have an environmental assessment done prior to construction.

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Whitpain Wastewater and Sewer Project

- **Description:** The project, located in Whitpain Township, PA, involves the installation of a sewer lateral camera/television inspection system.
- **Status:** Funds in the amount of \$49,000 have been received. These funds will be used to prepare the project fact sheet for approval by higher authority, and to initiate negotiations for the Design Agreement.

FINANCIAL

DATA (\$000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Init. Appraisal Factsheet	18	0	18
Design Agreement	50	0	50
Plans & Specifications *	187	63	250
Construction	761	254	1,015

BUDGET

DATA (\$000)	Comments	
Thru FY 08	49	
FY 09	TBD	

* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

SPONSOR: TBD

COMMENTS: The project must have an environmental assessment done prior to construction.

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Hatfield Sewer Repair and Inspection Project

- **Description:** The project, located in the Borough of Hatfield, PA, involves repair of the Borough's sewer system, and the installation of a sewer video inspection system.
- **Status:** Funds in the amount of \$236,000 have been received. These funds will be used to prepare the project fact sheet for approval by higher authority, to execute a Design Agreement, and initiate preparation of the Plans and Specifications.

Southeast Pa. Environmental Improvements Program *(continued)*

FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total	BUDGET DATA (\$000)	Comments
Init. Appraisal Fact sheet	18	0	18	Thru FY 08	236
Design Agreement	50	0	50	FY 09	TBD
Plans & Specifications *	187	63	250		
Construction	761	254	1,015		

* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

SPONSOR: TBD

COMMENTS: The project must have an environmental assessment done prior to construction.

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