



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

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Tookany Creek, Glenside Cheltenham, Montgomery County, PA

January 2008

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: Rep. Fattah (PA-2)

APPROPRIATION / PHASE:
Continuing Authorities / Feasibility

BUSINESS PROGRAM:
Flood Damage Reduction

AUTHORITY: Section 205, Flood Control Act of 1948, as amended.

LOCATION: The study area is situated along Tookany Creek, in the Glenside section of Cheltenham Township in eastern Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, 10 miles north of Philadelphia, Pa.

DESCRIPTION: Homes adjacent to Tookany Creek, located mostly on Brookdale Avenue, near Glenside Avenue, experience flooding during storm events. During the past 20 years, four (4) major storms have created significant flooding in this area. During Tropical Storm Alison (16 June 2001), water overtopped the levee along the creek and approximately forty (40) properties were flooded. Basements were uniformly flooded with some locations reporting flooding as high as the first floor. A pump station located directly downstream of the houses was ineffective during this flood. PADEP (Bureau of Dams and Waterways) has considered a project to raise the levee three (3) feet in this area, with all homeowners but one willing to provide easements. This project has not been implemented because of several concerns: (1) Raising the levee has the potential to increase flooding downstream; (2) SEPTA, downstream homeowners, and a private industrial company have all voiced opposition to the levee raising due to the potential for induced flooding; (3) Two bridges located downstream will have to be raised to pass the higher flows, further increasing downstream flooding and project costs.

Both structural and non-structural alternatives will be evaluated in the Feasibility phase. Structural solutions (designed to alter flood water flow) would include raising the levee along the creek, and raising the downstream bridges. Other structural alternatives could include channel improvements, alternate channel alignments, and detention basins. The non-structural solution would be to buyout approximately 30 homes with estimated market value of \$150,000 each. The buyout option could lead to an environmental restoration project that could include restoration of the floodplain in the area, which would further reduce the flooding problem. Other non-structural alternatives include various flood-proofing techniques to reduce or prevent flood damage to properties that are vulnerable to flooding during a storm event. These alternatives will be investigated during the Feasibility Study. Coordination with PADEP, who constructed a flood control project upstream and is investigating modifying that further, has been initiated. Further Corps action is dependent on results of that coordination since PADEP's actions may eliminate virtually all remaining flooding.

Tookany Creek, Glenside, Cheltenham, Montgomery County, PA (continued)

STATUS: FY 07 funds in the amount of \$65K are being used to complete the feasibility study. The buy-out option will likely be recommended.

FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)				BUDGET DATA (\$000)		
	Fed	Non-Fed	Total			Comments
Feasibility	100	0	100	Thru FY 05	34.9	
Plans & Specifications *	100	0	100	FY 06	0	
Construction **	3,020	1,680	4,700	FY 07	65.1	
				FY 08	0	
				FY 09	TBD	

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

** Estimate based on buyout option: 30 homes @ \$150K + environmental restoration @ \$200K

SPONSOR: Cheltenham Township

COMMENTS:

- 1) An environmental assessment will need to be prepared.
- 2) Due to the nationwide demand for limited program funds, full funding may not be possible.

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