

EASTWICK CAP SECTION 205

US Army Corps of Engineers®

Flood Risk Management Feasibility Study



Above - there are two levee alignments USACE is evaluating.

BACKGROUND

The Eastwick neighborhood of Philadelphia has experienced increases in the frequency, duration, and intensity of riverine and marsh flooding during storm events including hurricanes and major nor'easters. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Philadelphia District Eastwick Flood Risk Management Study is investigating and identifying technically sound, economically justified, and environmentally acceptable solutions for Eastwick. The Philadelphia Water Department is the non-Federal Sponsor.

STATUS

A draft report (released in late August 2023) outlined a "Tentatively Selected Plan" for a 1400-foot levee in the Eastwick Park area near Saturn Place. USACE team members are continuing to further study complementary measures to mitigate impacts of increased water levels outside of the study.



Above – a levee (general rendering) is an earthen embankment designed to reduce flooding

PATH FORWARD

Perform a bathymetric survey, collect geotechnical borings and perform hydraulic modeling to reevaluate induced flooding and identify complementary measures, if needed. These analyses will inform the Feasibility Report content and distribution timeframe as well as the commencement of the Design & Implementation Phase. The levee is currently estimated to cost \$13,000,000.



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STUDY FUNDING COURSES OF ACTION:

- Continue Study under Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) Section 205
 - Current study authority
 - o 65% Federal/35% non-Federal cost share for design & implementation
 - o Options if total project cost will exceed the CAP Program limit
 - Utilize Federal/State/Local Partnership to construct complimentary measures independent of the USACE project
 - Pursue a Locally Preferred Plan (non-Federal Sponsor request) for an alternative, non-levee plan (nonstructural) if it would not exceed CAP Program limits
 - Request waiver within USACE and/or OASA(CW) to exceed CAP Program limits. All costs above programmatic limit (\$10 million Federal) would be 100% non-Federally funded

Potential Pivot

- Section 212/8103 (WRDA 2022)
 - Received request from City of Philadelphia (June 2024)
 - 90% Federal/10% Non-Federal cost share for economically disadvantaged communities
 - Higher Federal funding limits (\$15 million) than CAP Program.
 Congressional authorization requirements not needed to initiate study (Congress can authorize higher limits in law for individual projects)
 - USACE is awaiting further guidance on this relatively new authority and how it would impact project execution
- General Investigation (GI) Study
 - Requires request from non-Federal sponsor; Congressional authorization needed to initiate study
 - Potential for significant delays in initiation (limited "new start" GI projects nationwide) and funding appropriation under this option

• Hybrid Approach

 Proceed with CAP Section 205 while also pursuing Section 212/8103 or General Investigation Study for larger long-term solution