

Update on the Mamaroneck-Sheldrake General Re-Evaluation Study

2 Feb 2011

Update on Scheduled Activities

Hydrology & Hydraulics:

- **Floodplain delineations.** Maps developed for Existing Conditions, provided to Economist. Maps for Future Unimproved conditions are also needed for a complete flood damage analysis. EN reported that each alternative examined will have a floodplain map.
- **Preliminary Alternatives.** Discussion on methodology used to compare various alternatives. PL-F believes that all preliminary alternatives should be compared at the 100-yr return period storm event, including the Non-Structural Alternatives (NSA). EN believes that comparing NSA for a 100-yr event would strictly rule out use of NSA's altogether because the cost (e.g. buyouts of all the structures in the floodplain) would be considerably out of so proportion. EN proposes to examine NSA's at a higher return period event, such as a 500-yr event. PL-F may agree to the exception for NSA's but that the structural alternatives should all be weighed the same, however the economists need to see the comparison. It was noted that tunnels were targeted for 200 yr level of protection. Question about whether Net Benefits will be the main benchmark for comparison. Village expressed concerns about tunnel being the only option. The following are preliminary alternatives that EN has begun to work on. Considerable analysis and discussion with Non Federal partners will be required before any move too far forward, however there are some givens based on GRR guidance.
- **Alternative 1** (Downstream channel only). EN almost complete with this alternative. Developing Risk & Uncertainty considerations. This alternative is an improvement plan for the downstream area below the confluence. Involves two bridge replacements. Village asked Corps to be mindful of the existing 48" sewer main under bridge at Anita Lane/Valley Place. EN believes they may not need to remove the bridge or center abutment if 1-2' are excavated to lower water elevations at this station.
- **Alternative 2** (Full Mamaroneck-only channel). This alternative includes Alt 1 components and looks at a channel improvement for the entire Mamaroneck from Wynnefield Ave Bridge to Thompson. Proposes to remove dam on Westchester county JWW, which may be an issue since the dam does have some minimal benefits. The channel could be discontinuous so as not to remove the dam, perhaps allow for a gap near Thruway at Jefferson-Hillside. No improvements for the Sheldrake in this alternative.
- **Alternative 3.** Includes 1 + 2 + improvements on the Sheldrake. Dependent on the confluence so deepening channel may not affect.
- **Alternative 4.** Tunnel on Fenimore.
- **Alternative 5.** Tunnel on Mamaroneck Ave – Mt Pleasant – Municipal garage – theater – Library Lane.
- **Alternative 6.** Non-structural Alternatives (NSA).
- **Alternative 7.** NSA + Channel.
- **Alternative 8.** No action.

- A **cost engineer** is going to be needed in the PDT. EN Technical Manager will check.
- R&U added to H&H write up.
- EN Technical Manager to find IPR District QC reviewers.

Economics:

Economics - Flood Damage Analysis:

- Structural valuation results for HEC-FDA model. Topographical data to be merged.

Real Estate/Rights of Entry:

- Tax maps needed by PL-E for environmental and cultural surveys. PL-E needs more info from RE to use these maps. Follow up on discussions to identify what PL-E needs.
- After meeting, Dave Andersen said he planned to knock on doors Monday to get more returned ROE's. PM advised he coordinate with Village asap and to request assistance in obtaining responses from residents as these ROE's are necessary for environmental and cultural survey contractors working on behalf of the Corps to have access to areas.

Environmental, Cultural and HTRW studies:

- Status of Environmental tasks.
 - o Wetlands delineation.
 - Coordinate with RE to have the right info on the tax maps.
 - o Mitigation site (outside of study area). County has questions about mitigation area.
 - Conference Call between State, County and PL-E on 15 Feb to discuss.
- Cultural resources.
 - o Coordination with SHPO ongoing.
 - o Site visit to identify features NRHP eligible.
 - o Cultural survey. Negotiations begin on Thursday.
- HTRW database search report complete.
- T&E Species Coordination. Nothing to report.
- Preliminary Draft EIS. Contractor looking for gaps in data.
- Environmental Model. Coordinating with Ecosystem Restoration Planning Center of Expertise (PCX) at Mississippi River Division (MVD), Vicksburg.
- Review of previous EN questions for PL-E:
 - o Cutting one or two banks. EN asks whether pilot channel needs to be incorporated now. PL-E prefers no banks, then one bank, but if two really need to be cut, then EN should justify why and explain how lesser impacts couldn't be avoided.
 - o Bridge replacements (8 on Mamaroneck River)
 - PL-E asks EN for discussion on options
 - Historical aesthetics an option for new bridges?

Formulation Tasks:

- In Progress Review (IPR) schedule
 - o PDT review this week. 4 Feb.
 - o District QC. 14-18 Feb.
 - o ATR, concurrent with release to State, County, Village. By early March.
 - o IPR package to NAD. Mid-April.

- DCAA Audit – status. PNO submitted. May be able to award by May.

Comments/Questions from Non-Federal Partners

- Village asks if any additional reinforcements would be required to protect the Railroad increase the cost to a point beyond which it negates an alternative, or a set of alternatives?
 - o Surrounding weight loads required for the railroad embankment need to be considered and factored into any structural and tunnel alternatives.
 - o EN to reach out to Amtrak/MNR. Need structural engineer.
- State/Westchester County requested prior to meeting: separate meeting over alternatives, separate call on wetlands/mitigation issues. Spring update for County.
- Update to be provided to Village for its website following release of these notes.

Glossary of Acronyms:

USACE – US Army Corps of Engineers; PPMD – Programs & Project Management Division; EN – Engineering Division; PL-F – Planning Division, Formulation Branch; PL-E - Planning Division, Environmental Branch; OC – Office of Counsel; RE- Real Estate Division; CT – Contracting Division; NAD – North Atlantic Division; NYSDEC – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; CWT – civil works team; PDT – project delivery team; GRR – General Re-evaluation Report; WPA – Works Progress Administration; IDC- Indefinite Quantity Contract; FSM- feasibility scoping meeting; IPR – In-Progress Review; MIPR-military interdepartmental purchase request; NSTR – nothing significant to report; HEC-FDA- Hydrologic Engineering Center-Flood Damage Analysis; GIS – geographic information systems; R&Y – risk and uncertainty; SHPO – State Historic Preservation Office; NRHP – National Register of Historic Places; EIS – Environmental Impact Statement; HTRW – hazardous toxic and radiological waste; DCAA – Defense Contract Audit Agency; ATR – Agency Technical Review; MNR – Metro-North Railroad; PCX – Planning Center of Expertise