



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
New England District  
**696 Virginia Road  
Concord, MA 01742-2751**

# 15-DAY PUBLIC NOTICE

**Comment Period Begins: November 8, 2011**  
**Comment Period Ends: November 23, 2011**  
**File Number: NAE-2011-2156**  
**In Reply Refer To: Michael Riccio**  
**Phone: (978) 318-8685**  
**E-mail: Michael.S.Riccio@usace.army.mil**

The District Engineer has received a permit application from the applicant below to conduct work in waters of the United States as described below.

## **APPLICANT: City of Bristol/ Natural Resource Conservation Service**

**ACTIVITY:** Stabilize the failing stream bank immediately upstream of the Jacobs Street Bridge in Bristol, Connecticut. The proposed stabilization will include the regrading of the existing slope and relocation of 340 linear feet of the Pequabuck River, approximately 40 feet to the South. The project will include the placement of approximately 6,750 square feet of fill below the ordinary high water mark, and will have a total water resource impact area of approximately 25,000 square feet.

## **WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK**

This work is proposed in the Pequabuck River immediately upstream of the Jacobs Street Bridge in Bristol Connecticut. The proposed project location is at coordinates 41°40'30.43" N and 72°57'23.97" E.

## **AUTHORITY**

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899  
 Section 404 of the Clean Water Act  
 Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act).

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other

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public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 as amended.

**SECTION 106 COORDINATION**

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that the proposed work may impact properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Additional review and consultation to fulfil requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the permit review process.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION**

The New England District, Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which might occur at the project site. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect any Federally listed endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that the appropriate Federal Agency concur with our determination.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- ( X ) Permit, License or Assent from State.
- ( X ) Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commission.
- ( X ) Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Michael Riccio at (978) 318-8685, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

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**THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.**



**Robert J. DeSista**  
**Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch**  
**Regulatory Division**

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at [bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil](mailto:bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil). You may also check here ( ) and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE**

Storm flows associated with Tropical Storm Irene resulted in a bank failure along the left bank of the Pequabuck River upstream of Jacobs Street. The bank failure occurred approximately halfway between the Jacobs Street and Tulip Street bridges. Given the proximity of the failure to existing residences and the severity of the failure, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has offered to partially fund stabilization efforts, with the caveat that this money be expended as soon as possible. Improvements must be made to this area due to the severity of impact as well as the potential for long-term damage to structures if erosion continues unabated.

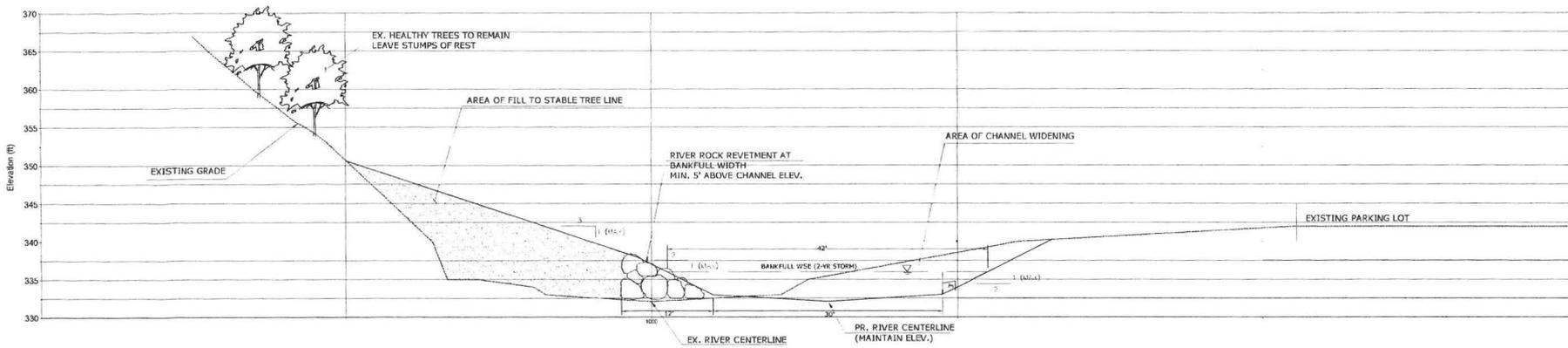
The Pequabuck River through Rockwell Park is a relatively natural channel with riffle/pool morphology. The channel is laterally unconfined and is located in a broad valley of stratified drift outwash sediments. The substrate of the river through the park consists of coarse sand, gravel, stones, and boulders while the banks are steep and vegetated, underlain with sandy till soil.

This project proposes natural stabilization of the bank through regrading and re-vegetation. Conceptual plans for this alternative are appended and these call for relocating the toe of the slope some 28 feet into the existing channel. This fill in the channel would be offset by the excavation of material from the right bank. The channel width would be retained at 30 feet with a bankfull width of 42 feet and bankfull depth of three feet. Right bank slopes are proposed at 2:1, while the left bank slope was stabilized with 30-inch diameter river rock at a 2:1 slope for a depth of five feet, and then a 3:1 slope from the top of stone to existing grade at the limit of stable tree line. The realignment would entail the relocation of approximately 340 linear feet of channel upstream of the Jacobs Street bridge, but would not affect the existing park facilities on the right bank.

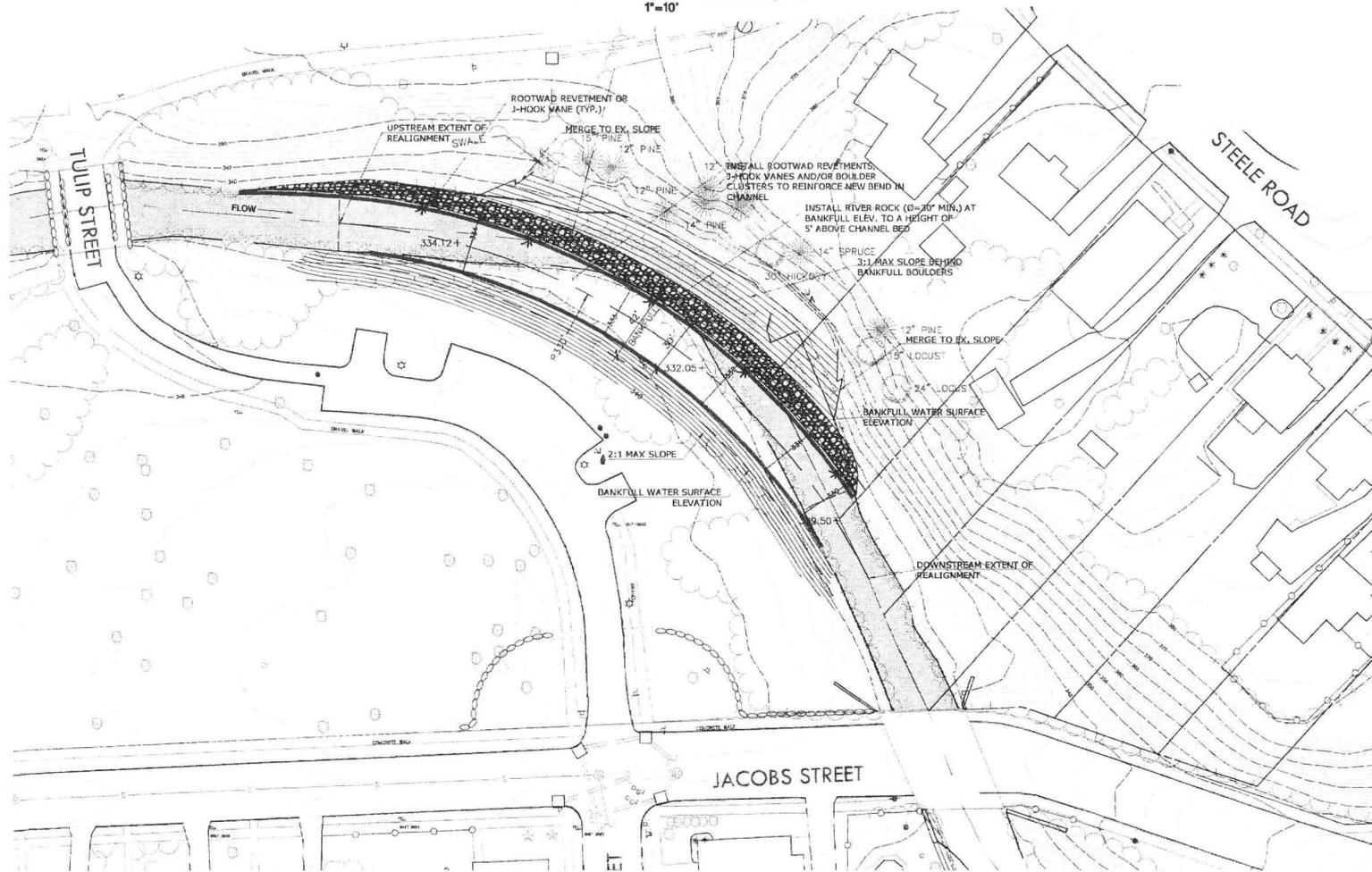
Results of hydraulic modeling suggest that this project will not have any significant adverse impacts to the water surface elevation of the Pequabuck River. Encroachment (floodway) modeling is ongoing to verify that the project meets the FEMA standard of less than 0.01 feet of rise. Predicted velocities in the project area will be on the order of seven to 11 feet per second for the 2- through 100-year design storms. The proposed bank armoring, boulder placement and natural channel material will be sized to sufficiently mitigate against any anticipated erosion based on these velocities.

The work is described and shown on the attached plans entitled “Rockwell Park Bank Stabilization” on two (2) sheets, dated “10-12-2011.”

**MITIGATION** – No mitigation is being required of the applicant for this project. The City of Bristol has considered two alternative designs, a no-action alternative and an alternative which included the construction of a retaining wall, however, the currently proposed action is preliminarily being considered the most practicable alternative.



TYPICAL CHANNEL SECTION (A-A)  
1"=10'



REVISIONS


ALTERNATE 2 - CHANNEL REALIGNMENT  
ROCKWELL PARK  
BANK STABILIZATION  
BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT

  
 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
 AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS  
**MILONE & MACBROOM**  
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 Cheshire, Connecticut 06010  
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 www.miloneandmacbroom.com

BAM	BAM	NEB
10/10/20	09/21/01	10/11/02
SCALE: 1"=40'		
DATE: 10-12-2011		
PROJECT NO: 2235-41		
SHEET NO: 1 OF 2		

ALT. 2

