



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Levee Safety Program Manager

Date: July 28, 2025

Comment Period Closes: August 12, 2025

15 DAY PUBLIC NOTICE AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT -

ALTERATION OF A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS CIVIL WORKS PROJECT PURSUANT TO 33 USC 408: LOWELL CENTRALVILLE PHASE 1 LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New England District, is evaluating plans pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 (Section 408) to allow Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility to install a new stormwater drain culvert and outfall through the existing Lakeview earthen levee, a feature of the Lowell Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) System in Lowell, Massachusetts, constructed by USACE.

This notice is being issued pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 and USACE Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-220 detailing USACE procedures for implementing NEPA under Section 408. Section 408 allows USACE to grant permission for the alteration, occupation, or use of USACE civil works projects if it is determined that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the federal project. A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action, and therefore subject to NEPA and other environmental compliance requirements.

The Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility has proposed cutting of a trench through the existing Lakeview earthen levee to install a new stormwater drain culvert along with an associated outfall structure. A trench approximately 15-20 feet wide and up to 22 feet deep will be excavated through the Lakeview levee to install the culvert. The culvert will continue under the adjacent state-owned recreation trail until it reaches the proposed outfall structure on the banks of the Merrimack River, approximately 40 feet from the levee. The work will be conducted on previously developed or disturbed areas and will not affect the levee geometry. The proposed action is anticipated to take up to three months and be completed in phases to minimize the amount of open excavation.

USACE has made a preliminary determination that the proposed action will not adversely affect environmental resources on the affected area of the Lakeview levee and will not have a significant impact on the human environment. The public is invited to provide comment. To request more information or obtain a copy of the Finding of No

Significant Impact (FONSI), contact Heather Shields, Levee Safety Program Manager, New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742, 978-318-8081, Heather.P.Shields@usace.army.mil. The comment period will end on August 12, 2025. Letters should be postmarked by this date.