

Muddy River Flood Damage Reduction Project
Phase 2 Construction Activities Next 90 Days
April 2023

General: The Muddy River Flood Damage Reduction Phase 2 Construction Project is located in the footprint generally between Leverett Pond to Boylston Street in Boston and Brookline. The major project components involve dredging 1 to 8' of sediment for flow conveyance in the Back Bay Fens and the Riverway sections of the Muddy River. It also includes excavation of the sandbar and island at Leverett Pond. Work also includes the removal of *phragmites* from the wetland and riparian areas which affect flow conveyance. After removal of river sediments and *phragmites*, preservation and restoration of the historic park shoreline in construction areas will consist of planting emergent wetland plants and restoring riparian vegetation in upland areas by planting trees and shrubs. This Notice is intended to identify the general construction activities that will be performed in the next 90 days. A figure that shows a typical flood control channel and the proposed improvements is at the end of this report.

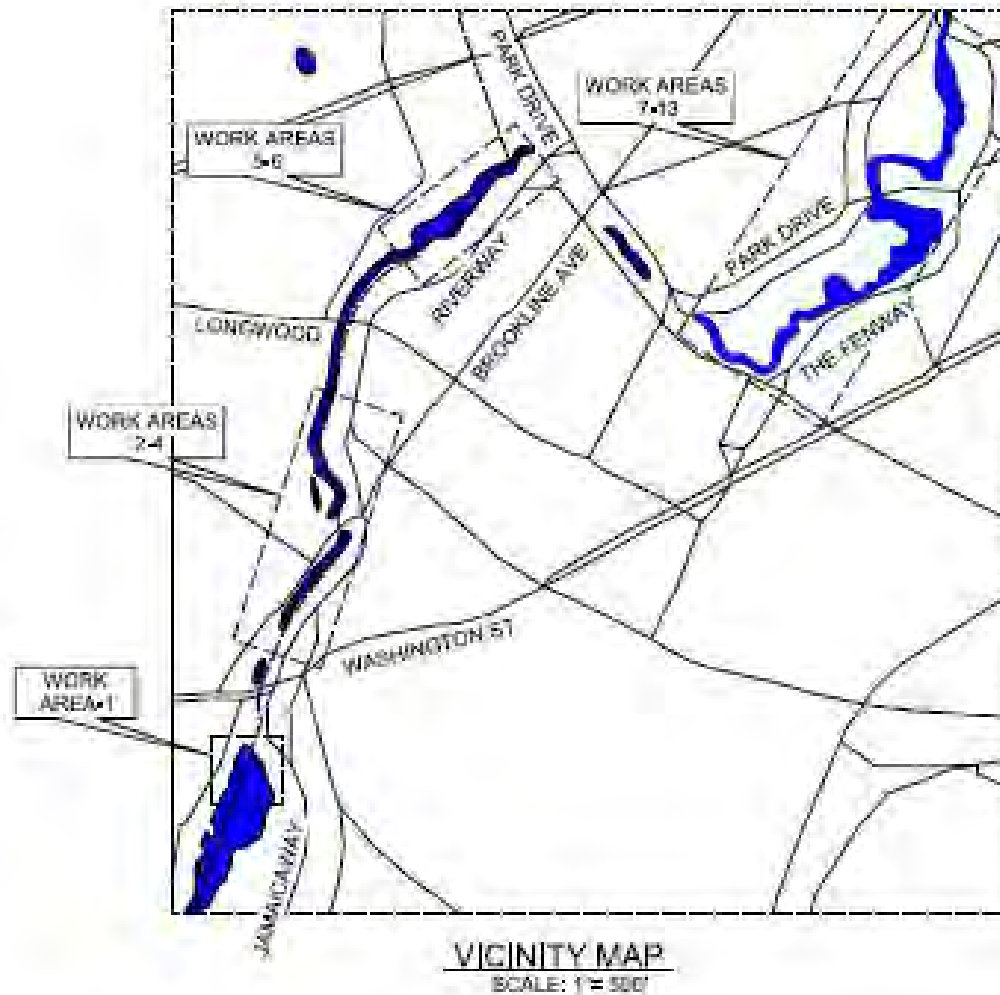
May 2023 through July 2023 Period:

- Since the award of the construction contract and issuance of the Notice to Proceed three years ago, the contractor has completed all but a minor amount of dredging that remains in Work Area #6. Active construction is expected to be completed in the next several months. The two-year guarantee period for the last of the plants to be planted will begin after the Spring 2023 planting window.
- Dredging of the Muddy River is divided into 12 work areas as shown in the Vicinity Map, with 6 work areas upstream of the Riverway and 6 work areas downstream of Ave. Louis Pasteur.
- **Work Area #2** – section of river at Brookline Avenue and the Riverway – near Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – the contractor completed dredging this section mid-February 2021. Surveying was done in February to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. Since that time, a review of the as-dredged conditions has taken place to confirm plant locations and topsoil quality to optimize planting success. A collapsed drain was repaired Winter 2021 which deferred planting of Work Area #2 to Spring 2022. Grading of the site and wetland construction and all trees, upland planting, and seeding were completed by June 2022. Maintenance of the planting will continue to October 2024 during the two-year plant guarantee period.
- **Work Area #3** – section of river at Brookline Avenue, the Riverway, and Netherlands Road – near Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – the contractor completed dredging this section late-March 2021. Surveying was done in May to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. Since that time, a review of the as-dredged conditions has taken place to confirm plant locations and topsoil quality to optimize planting success. All trees, upland planting, and seeding were completed in October 2021. Stonedust path restoration and landscape protection fence installation took place in mid-May 2022. Wetland plants were installed late-May 2022 and will be maintained to September 2024. Maintenance of the rest of the planting will continue to October 2023 during the two-year plant guarantee period.
- **Work Area #4** – section of river immediately downstream of Work Area #3, across Netherlands Road – the contractor completed dredging this section early April 2021. Surveying was done late May to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. Since that time, a review of the as-dredged conditions has taken place to confirm plant locations and topsoil quality to optimize planting success. All trees, upland planting, and seeding were completed in October 2021. Stonedust path restoration and landscape protection fence installation took place in mid-May 2022. Maintenance of the planting will continue to October 2023 during the two-year plant guarantee period.
- **Work Area #1** – Leverett Pond – The contractor completed dredging the revised footprint in June 2021. Surveying was done in mid-July 2021 to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. The additional dredging work at the Village Brook Outfall requested by the Sponsors was completed and equipment demobilized mid-March 2022. Grading of the site and installation of all trees, upland planting, and seeding were completed by June 2022. Landscape protection fence installation and paving of the pathway were completed early August. Maintenance of the planting will continue to October 2024 during the two-year plant guarantee period.

- **Work Area #7** – section of river immediately downstream of Avenue Louis Pasteur – the contractor completed dredging this section at the end of December 2020. Surveying was done in early January 2021 to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. Since that time, a review of the as-dredged conditions has taken place to confirm plant locations and topsoil quality to optimize planting success. Grading of the site and wetland construction and all trees, upland planting, and seeding were completed by October 2021. Stonedust path restoration was completed late-November 2021. Maintenance of the planting will continue to October 2023 during the two-year plant guarantee period.
- **Work Area #8** – section of river immediately downstream of Work Area #7 – the contractor completed dredging this section before the end of February 2021. Surveying was done in late February 2021 to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. Since that time, a review of the as-dredged conditions has taken place to confirm plant locations and topsoil quality to optimize planting success. Grading of the site and wetland construction and all trees, upland planting, and seeding were completed by October 2021. Stonedust path restoration was completed late-November 2021. Maintenance of the planting will continue to October 2023 during the two-year plant guarantee period.
- **Work Area #9** – section of river immediately downstream of Work Area #8 – the contractor completed dredging this section mid-April 2021. Surveying was done in late June 2021 to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. Since that time, a review of the as-dredged conditions has taken place to confirm plant locations and topsoil quality to optimize planting success. Grading of the site and wetland construction and all trees, upland planting, and seeding were completed by October 2021. Stonedust path restoration was completed late-November 2021. Maintenance of the planting will continue to October 2023 during the two-year plant guarantee period.
- **Work Area #10** – section of river immediately downstream of Work Area #9 which ends at Agassiz Road – the contractor completed dredging this section mid-December 2021. Surveying was done between July 2021 to January 2022 to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. The sediment processing bins were removed as part of the dredging efforts. Since that time, a review of the as-dredged conditions has taken place to confirm plant locations and topsoil quality to optimize planting success. Installation of herbivore fence, coir logs, and loam was completed mid-May. Trees and shrub beds were planted between early- into mid-May 2022. Stonedust path restoration was completed mid-June. Maintenance of the planting will continue to October 2024 during the two-year plant guarantee period. Construction trailers are expected to be removed late May so that the final restoration and plantings can take place in the Spring 2023 planting window. Repairs to Agassiz Road, to include paving, curb and sidewalk replacements, and drainage repairs will be done before final demobilization from the site.
- **Work Area #13** – Boston Fire Department Building in the vicinity of the Fenway and Agassiz Road – the pumps were installed December in the new pump station, as well as the new electrical panels in the existing fire department building. Granite veneer installation resumed in early April and all granite has been installed for the façade as well as the capstone. The new security fence posts have also been installed. Security fencing and security lights were installed by early September. Backfill and paving of the parking lot reconstruction was completed end of July 2022.
- **Work Areas #11 and #12** – Victory Gardens Area – dredging in the section of the river downstream of Agassiz Road Bridge began in late-December 2021 and was completed mid-May 2022. Planting and restoration of Work Areas #11 and #12 began mid-September and was completed mid-October to coincide with the Fall planting window. Stonedust path restoration was completed early December 2022. Maintenance of the planting will continue to October 2024 during the two-year plant guarantee period. The contractor began removing the sediment processing bins in mid-February and the last of the steel sheeting was removed by end of March 2023. Removal of equipment and cleanup near the Duck House will take place in April ahead of final restoration and plantings to take place during the Spring 2023 planting window.
- **Work Area #5** – section of river by Short Street Bridge to Back Bay Yard – near the intersection of Park Drive and Riverway – the contractor completed dredging this section April 2022. Surveying was done in May 2022 to confirm new flood risk management cross sections. Trees and shrubs were planted between early- to mid-June 2022. Maintenance of the planting in Work Area #5 will continue to October 2024 during the two-year plant guarantee period.
- **Work Area #6** – section of river by Back Bay Yard – near the intersection of Park Drive and Riverway – Dredging upstream of the MWRA easement for the existing sewer lines was completed in June 2022. In January 2023, the removal of the phragmites along the banks that

were encroaching into the river within the MWRA easement was completed. Since that time, the contractor mobilized in mid-February to begin cutting the temporary Flow Restriction Control Structure (FRCS) ahead of the restoration and planting within this work area. The FRCS was installed under Phase 1 to mimic the effect of the former twin 72" culverts underneath The Riverway until the downstream areas of dredging were completed. Restoration and planting of Work Area #6 will take place during the Spring 2023 planting window.

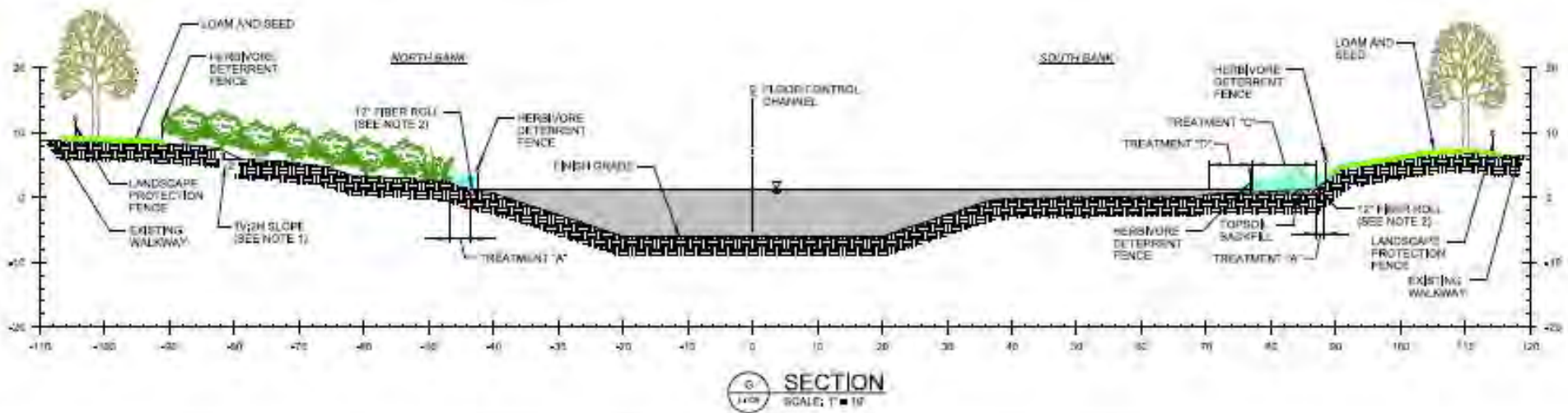
- **Additional Phragmites Removal in Work Areas #5, #6, #11, and #12** – at the request of and the funding provided by the Sponsors, additional phragmites were removed from within the footprint of Work Areas #5 and #6 and the area restored/planted late August into early September 2022. In Work Areas #11 and #12, additional phragmites removal began mid-October and was completed at the end of December 2022. The phragmites removal is not required for the Flood Risk Management project; however, the removal will provide additional environmental restoration benefits to the system as well as provide maintenance benefits for the dredged channel. Site preparation and wetland shelf creation began in mid-March in anticipation of planting in the Spring 2023 planting window.
- At the end of this notice we have included some pictures that show the construction progress at Work Areas #6, #11, and #12. We thought folks would be interested in seeing the work occurring behind the fence.
- If you have any questions, require additional information or would like to be added to the Project Contact List, please email the project mailbox at MuddyRiver@usace.army.mil



EXTENTS OF PROJECT WORK AREA FOR PHASE 2 CONSTRUCTION



REPRESENTATIVE FIGURE OF FLOOD CONTROL CHANNEL AND PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS





Work Area #6 – section of river by Back Bay Yard – removal of phragmites from the banks that have been encroaching into the river. Looking downstream towards the Flow Restriction Control Structure (FRCS) and the Landmark Center in the background.



Work Area #6 – section of river by Back Bay Yard – phragmites removed from both banks of the river. Dramatic change – one can now look across the river to the other bank!



Work Area #6 – section of river by Back Bay Yard – preparation to begin cutting the FRCS.



Work Area #6 – section of river by Back Bay Yard – Section of the FRCS has been cut on the right bank, look downstream.



Work Area #6 – section of river by Back Bay Yard – Initial cut of the FRCS has taken place across the whole width of the river.



Work Area #6 – section of river by Back Bay Yard – the two weir openings have been removed from the FRCS and the mini-excavator is moving sediment ahead of the sandbagging that will take place to dewater the remaining FRCS into three sections for the final cut to EL 0.4' NAVD88.



Work Area #11 – Victory Gardens Area – stonedust pathway restored.



Work Area #12 – section of the river near Boylston Street Bridge – View looking down at the river – Victory Gardens on the right with the restored bank and the BFD building and the new floodwall visible with the phragmites removed.



Work Area #12 – Additional Phragmites Removal – section of the river near BFD Building – Amphibious excavator moving sediment to create base for the wetland shelves. Loam and wetland plants will be installed at the created wetland shelves.



Work Area #12 – Additional Phragmites Removal – section of the river near Duck House – Installation of coir logs and herbivore fence at the wetland shelves. Loam and wetland plants will be installed after the wetland shelves are created.