



U.S. ARMY



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New England District

PUBLIC NOTICE

In Reply Refer to: Kevin DiRocco
Email: Kevin.J.DiRocco@usace.army.mil
Levee Safety Program
Date: May 15, 2024
Comment Period Closes: May 30, 2024

15 DAY PUBLIC NOTICE ALTERATION OF A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS CIVIL WORKS PROJECT PURSUANT TO 33 USC 408: City of Hartford Flood Control System Toe Drain Improvement, Hartford, CT

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE) is evaluating plans under 33 U.S.C. 408 (Section 408) to allow the City of Hartford, CT, to upgrade the existing toe drain system on the Flood Risk Management System (FRMS) along the Connecticut River in the city of Hartford. On the South Meadows Dike (Clark Dike), 6,000 linear feet (LF) of toe drain is proposed to be replaced and 5,650 LF is proposed to be cleaned and repaired. A landside chimney drain and buttress at the South Meadows (Clark Dike) section of the Hartford FRMS will also be installed to improve seepage and stability criteria for the levee. The soil buttress will increase the footprint of the South Meadows Dike on the landside but will remain within the Hartford Levee Right of Way. The drain would extend up to the height of the 0.2 percent annual chance flood (Top of Buttress Elevation 33.5 – NAVD88) to meet the USACE safety factor criteria.

This Notice is being issued pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408, USACE Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-220, Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508) for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et. seq.), and the USACE Procedures for Implementing NEPA (33 CFR 230). Section 408 allows USACE to grant permission for the alteration, occupation, or use of a USACE civil works project 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 proposed project will be conducted within the Hartford FRMS and its Right of Way. As a result, the impacts of the project on the existing landscape and habitats will be minimal. USACE has determined that the action falls within a categorical exclusion under 33 CFR 230.9 and, therefore, is categorically excluded from further NEPA review. The public is invited to provide comment. To request more information, contact: Kevin DiRocco, New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742, Kevin.J.DiRocco@usace.army.mil. The comment period will end on May 24, 2023. Letters should be postmarked by this date.