

# REVIEW PLAN

## WESTCHESTER COUNTY STREAMS

### BYRAM RIVER BASIN

Fairfield County, CT; Westchester County, NY

Feasibility Report

New York District

MSC Approval Date: 02 August 2012

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US Army Corps  
of Engineers ®

REVIEW PLAN

**BYRAM RIVER BASIN (CT & NY)**  
**Feasibility Report**

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## 1. PURPOSE AND REQUIREMENTS

a. **Purpose.** This Review Plan defines the scope and level of peer review for the Byram River Basin (Westchester County Streams), Connecticut and New York, Flood Risk Management Feasibility Report.

### b. References

- (1) Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-217, Review Policy for Civil Works, 20 Jan 2018
- (2) EC 1105-2-412, Assuring Quality of Planning Models, 31 Mar 2011
- (3) Engineering Regulation (ER) 1110-1-12, Quality Management, 30 Sep 2006
- (4) ER 1105-2-100, Planning Guidance Notebook, Appendix H, Policy Compliance Review and Approval of Decision Documents, Amendment #1, 20 Nov 2007
- (5) Project Management Plan, dated June 2012
- (6) MSC (North Atlantic Division) and/or District (New York District) Quality Management Plan(s)

c. **Requirements.** This review plan was developed in accordance with EC 1165-2-217, which establishes an accountable, comprehensive, life-cycle review strategy for Civil Works products by providing a seamless process for review of all Civil Works projects from initial planning through design, construction, and operation, maintenance, repair, replacement and rehabilitation (OMRR&R). The EC outlines four general levels of review: District Quality Control/Quality Assurance (DQC), Agency Technical Review (ATR), Independent External Peer Review (IEPR), and Policy and Legal Compliance Review. In addition to these levels of review, decision documents are subject to cost engineering review and certification (per EC 1165-2-217) and planning model certification/approval (per EC 1105-2-412).

## 2. REVIEW MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (RMO) COORDINATION

The RMO is responsible for managing the overall peer review effort described in this Review Plan. The RMO for decision documents is typically either a Planning Center of Expertise (PCX) or the Risk Management Center (RMC), depending on the primary purpose of the decision document. The RMO for the peer review effort described in this Review Plan is the Flood Risk Management Center of Expertise, South Pacific Division

The RMO will coordinate with the Cost Engineering Mandatory Center of Expertise (MCX) to ensure the appropriate expertise is included on the review teams to assess the adequacy of cost estimates, construction schedules and contingencies. Because there is potential risk for life safety, the Risk Management Center of Expertise (RMC) will be consulted during the development of the scope of the Type I IEPR to include those Safety Assurance Review factors that should be reviewed for this study.

## 3. STUDY INFORMATION

a. **Decision Document.** The purpose of the feasibility phase study is to describe and evaluate potential solutions and alternative plans that will address the flooding problems in the study area, and to select a recommended project for design and implementation. A Feasibility Report, accompanied by NEPA documentation in the form of an Environmental Impact Statement, will be produced for this study. Following HQUSACE approval, Congressional authorization will be required for implementation of any Tentatively Selected Plan that would result from the Feasibility Report.

The current study was authorized by a resolution of the Committee on Public Works and Transportation of the United States House of Representatives adopted 02 May 2007 covering flood damage reduction, storm damage reduction, environmental restoration, navigation, watershed management, water supply, and other allied purposes in the Westchester County Streams study area, of which the Byram River is a sub-basin. The reconnaissance report was approved September 2008. It recommended that a cost-shared feasibility study be undertaken to investigate flood damage reduction for of the river basins within Westchester County Streams, including the Byram River Basin. Accordingly, the name of this study is Westchester County Streams (WCS) – Byram River Basin.

The Town of Greenwich (Greenwich) is the Non-Federal sponsor for the feasibility study. Although the Byram River Basin begins and ends in New York State, most of the damages, alternatives to be considered, and benefits to be realized are within Greenwich. Accordingly, Greenwich has agreed to cost share the study for the entire river basin. The State of New York, represented by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, will play an active role as a team member during the study.

- b. Study/Project Description.** Flooding on the Bryam River primarily affects the Town of Greenwich, Connecticut, just south of the constructed project of levees at Pemberwick. The Byram River and its tributaries were the subject of a General Design Memorandum in 1958, which recommended 3000 ft of levees on the Byram River mainstem at Pemberwick, Town of Greenwich, Fairfield County, Connecticut. Only part of the project at Pemberwick was constructed in the 1960s. The recommendation for flood risk management was reinforced in the 1977 Westchester County Streams Feasibility Report, titled “Feasibility Report for Flood Control, Mamaroneck and Sheldrake Rivers Basins, and Byram River Basin,” which recommended channel excavation and the construction of floodwalls and levees at Port Chester, NY and the Town of Greenwich, CT (Map 1, Figure 1) Although the recommended plan, which included continuation of the levee features to the south, was subsequently authorized by Congress, it was not implemented due to local concerns about the negative aesthetic effects of the levees.

Based on recent discussions with residents in the area, flooding is a much greater concern now than aesthetics. The study team is pursuing a new Feasibility Study because there are new damage areas within the Byram River Basin that were not covered in the previous study and authorization, and to reassess the 1977 recommendation. A secondary damage area was identified to the north, on Bailiwick Bridge within the Town of Greenwich (Figure 2). This bridge is small, with low clearance, and it consequently traps debris on the river course, effectively acting as a dam. Its stone facing was stripped by raging floodwaters during the April 2007 storm. There are also minor tidally induced flood damages at the lower end of the Byram River within the Village of Port Chester, Westchester County, New York. Consequently, the study team is now pursuing a new watershed-wide single purpose Feasibility Study for Flood Risk Management in the Byram River Basin to address current conditions and ensure a comprehensive approach.

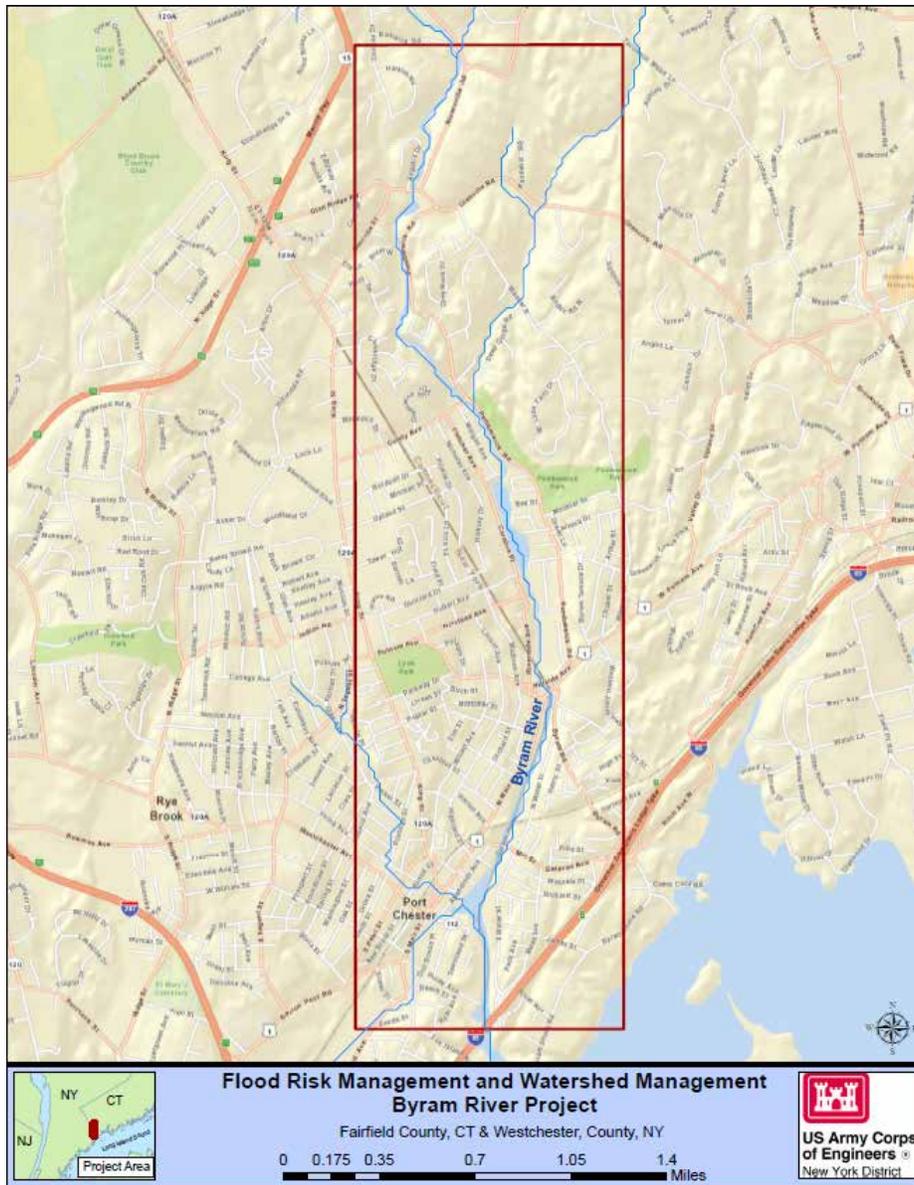
This study will focus on FRM alternatives in the Byram River Basin primarily within the Pemberwick area south of the previously constructed USACE levee as well as in the area of the Bailiwick Bridge to the north. At a minimum, the potential FRM measures that may be examined in the feasibility study include channel modification, levees, floodwalls, non-structural measures, as well as bridge modifications based on public feedback, and the “no action” alternative. Non-structural measures such as “buyouts” and preservation and/or creation of open space in the floodplain will also be considered. As measures to be considered are roughly in scale with those in the 1977 report, cost

estimates from the 1977 report may be used as a guideline to estimate the range of construction costs. Plans considered within the 1977 Feasibility ranged from \$3.5 million to \$9.5 million. Adjusted for inflation, construction costs for this project are estimated in the range from \$14 million to \$36 million.<sup>1</sup>

Based on results from the analysis of potential flood risk management measures, the team determined that the levee alternatives were not economically justified. In 2015 at a public meeting, the team presented a non-structural plan as the plan most likely to move forward. The non-structural plan was not well received by the public or the Town of Greenwich because they were concerned about residual risk. Incorporating the public's feedback, the team introduced bridge removal and replacement alternatives; this included removal of Route 1 Bridges in the Port Chester and combination of Rt. 1 Bridges removal with the nonstructural plan.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.usinflationcalculator.com/>



Map 1. General location map showing study area for the Byram River Basin.

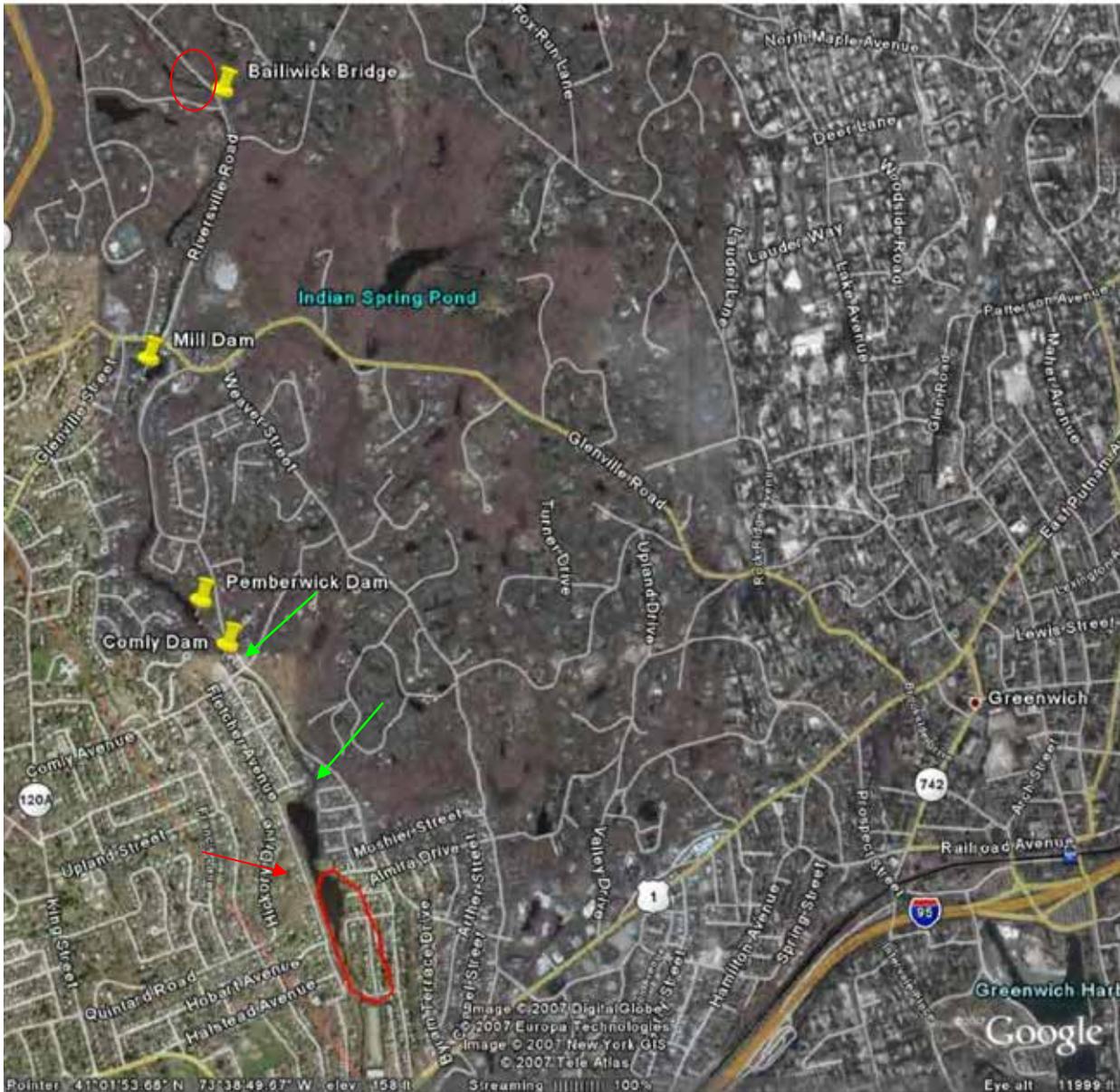


Figure 1. Location view of problem areas in Greenwich. The red outlines indicate areas of flood damages, the green arrows point to constructed works, and the red arrow points to stream bank erosion.



**Figure 2** – The first problem area is generally bordered by Den Lane to the south, Lucy Place to the north, and Pemberwick Road to the east. Previous flood risk management on the Byram River to the north, in the form of rip-rap, channelization, and levees, was recommended in the 1977 Feasibility Report and provides adequate protection for the reach north of Hallock Drive. Although included in the recommendations of the 1977 report, such measures were not constructed south of Hallock Drive. As a consequence, houses adjacent to the Byram from Lucy Place to Den Lane lack protection from fluvial floods.



**Figure 3.** The second problem area is north of Bailiwick Bridge, which is located on Bailiwick Road and Riversville Road. Bailiwick Bridge is built for two year storm events. In larger storms, the bridge is clogged and becomes an obstruction in the river, leading to fluvial flood damages to nearby houses. The bridge experienced considerable damage in the spring 2007.

**c. Factors Affecting the Scope and Level of Review.**

- It is anticipated that this study may have some social challenges, as the recommended plan from 1977 was not constructed due to local concerns over the aesthetic aspects of the flood risk management structures. The challenge will be managing expectations to minimize the risk of local rejection of a Tentatively Selected Plan. Technical or institutional challenges are not expected on the study.
- Based on a preliminary assessment, the most likely risk is local rejection of the NED plan based on aesthetic concerns. In the event of such a rejection, the consequence is that portions of the study area will remain without flood risk management measures, subject to property and potentially personal damages.
- As the proposed project is relatively modest in scale and involves conventional flood risk management measures, significant economic and/or social effects to the Nation are not anticipated.
- Based on feedback from the public on the alternatives being considered, a bridge removal alternative is being considered. The bridge removal may have significant environmental impacts and therefore will require an Environmental Impact Statement if the alternative moves forward. An Environmental Impact Statement is a trigger for Type I Independent External Peer Review.
- The team determined there is no significant threat to human life/safety assurance. The Byram River study area includes area west and east of the river, extending between just north of Bailiwick Road to South of West Putnam Avenue. The project area is populated and densely developed with suburban housing and commercial buildings. The Town of Greenwich has been subjected to repeated, severe flooding caused by overflow of the Byram River due to precipitation of high intensity, large amounts, or prolonged duration. Delineation of the 0.2-percent floodplain in the River Basin indicates that approximately 500 structures are located in the damage area. Equivalent annual damages have been estimated at \$2.1 million.
- The project is likely to have significant interagency coordination with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), representing the State of New York, because the watershed is partially in New York. NYSDEC will be an active member of the study team.
- The study is not expected to be highly controversial as long as public expectations are managed effectively, per the Communications Plan Appendix to the Project Management Plan.
- The report is unlikely to contain influential scientific information because the proposed flood risk management measures are conventional and straightforward.
- It is unlikely that the information in the decision document or proposed project design will be based on novel methods, involve the use of innovative materials or techniques, present complex challenges for interpretation, contain precedent-setting methods or models, or present conclusions that are likely to change prevailing practices because the proposed measures are conventional.
- The proposed project design is unlikely to require redundancy, resiliency, and/or robustness because of its relatively modest scale and use of conventional techniques, however, this assumption may be revisited as more data are collected.
- The proposed project is not expected to involve unique construction sequencing or a reduced or overlapping design construction schedule because of its relatively modest scale and use of conventional techniques.

**d. In-Kind Contributions.** Products and analyses provided by non-Federal sponsors as in-kind services are subject to DQC, ATR, and IEPR. The in-kind products and analyses to be provided by the non-Federal sponsor include: Surveys, Hydraulics and Hydrology Modeling, Preliminary Designs, and Biological Field Data collection.

#### **4. DISTRICT QUALITY CONTROL (DQC)**

All decision documents (including supporting data, analyses, environmental compliance documents, etc.) shall undergo DQC. DQC is an internal review process of basic science and engineering work products focused on fulfilling the project quality requirements defined in the Project Management Plan (PMP). The home district shall manage DQC. Documentation of DQC activities is required and should be in accordance with the Quality Manual of the District and the home MSC.

- a. Documentation of DQC.** District Quality Control will be conducted on all decision documents and interim reports as noted below in Section 4(b) of this Review Plan. Documentation for all DQC reviews will be provided in DrChecks and included in a Quality Control Appendix of all decision documents and interim reports.
- b. Products to Undergo DQC.** Products under this study to undergo DQC include the draft Feasibility Report, final Feasibility Report, and interim documents as deemed necessary.
- c. Required DQC Expertise.** The expertise required for this study will be somewhat extensive. Expertise will/may be required for structural engineering, civil engineering, geotechnical engineering, cost engineering, hydraulic engineering, hydrologic engineering, environmental resources, cultural Resources, Plan Formulation, Real Estate, and Economics, depending on the alternatives that may be analyzed.

#### **5. AGENCY TECHNICAL REVIEW (ATR)**

ATR is mandatory for all decision documents (including supporting data, analyses, environmental compliance documents, etc.). The objective of ATR is to ensure consistency with established criteria, guidance, procedures, and policy. The ATR will assess whether the analyses presented are technically correct and comply with published USACE guidance, and that the document explains the analyses and results in a reasonably clear manner for the public and decision makers. ATR is managed within USACE by the designated RMO and is conducted by a qualified team from outside the home district that is not involved in the day-to-day production of the project/product. ATR teams will be comprised of senior USACE personnel and may be supplemented by outside experts as appropriate. The ATR team lead will be from outside the home MSC.

- a. Products to Undergo ATR.** Products under this study to undergo ATR include the draft and final Feasibility Reports. Additionally, where practicable, technical products that support subsequent analyses may be reviewed prior to being used in the study and may include: surveys & mapping, hydrology & hydraulics, geotechnical investigations, economic, environmental, cultural, and social inventories, annual damage and benefit estimates, cost estimates, etc.
- b. Required ATR Team Expertise.** The appropriate RMO, in cooperation with the PDT, vertical team, and other appropriate centers of expertise, will determine the final make-up of the ATR team. The following table provides the types of disciplines that should be included on the ATR team and the

expertise required; if a reviewer meets the expertise required for multiple disciplines, the reviewer can be responsible for multiple disciplines (ex., ATR Lead and Planning may be combined, or H&H and Risk). The names, organizations, contact information, credentials, and years of experience of the ATR members will be included in Attachment 1 once the ATR team is established.

ATR Team Members/Disciplines	Expertise Required
ATR Lead	The ATR lead should be a senior professional with extensive experience in preparing Civil Works decision documents and conducting ATR. The lead should also have the necessary skills and experience to lead a virtual team through the ATR process. The ATR lead may also serve as a reviewer for a specific discipline (such as planning, economics, environmental resources, etc).
Planning	The Planning reviewer should be a senior water resources planner with experience in formulation of flood risk management studies especially in urban, highly developed areas. The planner will also be able to assess risk in accordance with the November 2010 memorandum by Mr. James Dalton (USACE).
Economics	The economics reviewer should have extensive experience in urban flood risk management studies and a thorough understanding of HEC-FDA.
Environmental Resources	Team member will have independently completed EA/EIS's and be well versed in the NEPA process, partnerships with other environmental resource agencies and environmental concerns and constraints within urban settings.
Cultural Resources	Team member will have experience with 106 actions and documentation including mitigation for historical structures and archeological artifacts.
Hydrology and Hydraulic Engineering	Team member should be an expert in the field of urban hydrology and hydraulics, have a thorough understanding of flash flooding, open channel systems and the use of HEC computer modeling systems.
Civil Engineering	Team member will have a thorough understanding of design of channel improvements, structural, and non-structural measures in an urban setting. A Transportation Systems background or experience with traffic studies is preferred. A certified professional engineer is required.
Structural Engineering	Team member will have a thorough understanding of both structural and non-structural measures to include, but not be limited to bridge removal and replacement, retaining walls, channel improvements and levees. A certified professional engineer is required.
Climate Change Reviewer	A team member will be added to the ATR team to assess sensitivity to sea level changes.
Cost Engineering	Team member will be familiar with cost estimating for similar projects in MII. Review includes construction schedules and contingencies for any document requiring Congressional authorization. The team member will be a registered

	Professional Engineer, Certified Cost Technician, a Certified Cost Consultant, or a Certified Cost Engineer. As the Cost Engineering Center of Expertise, Walla Walla District will assign this team member as part of a separate effort coordinated by the ATR or IEPR team lead in conjunction with the geographic district's project manager.
Real Estate	Team member will be have experience with flood risk management studies and be familiar with urban planning and acquisition strategies.
Risk Analysis	The risk analysis reviewer will be experienced with performing and presenting risk analyses in accordance with ER 1105-2-101 and other related guidance, including familiarity with how information from the various disciplines involved in the analysis interact and affect the results. This discipline may be combined with the economics or H&H reviewers charge.

c. **Documentation of ATR.** DrChecks review software (<https://www.projnet.org/projnet/>) will be used to document all ATR comments, responses and associated resolutions accomplished throughout the review process. Comments should be limited to those that are required to ensure adequacy of the product. The four key parts of a quality review comment will normally include:

- (1) The review concern – identify the product’s information deficiency or incorrect application of policy, guidance, or procedures;
- (2) The basis for the concern – cite the appropriate law, policy, guidance, or procedure that has not be properly followed;
- (3) The significance of the concern – indicate the importance of the concern with regard to its potential impact on the plan selection, recommended plan components, efficiency (cost), effectiveness (function/outputs), implementation responsibilities, safety, Federal interest, or public acceptability; and
- (4) The probable specific action needed to resolve the concern – identify the action(s) that the reporting officers must take to resolve the concern.

In some situations, especially addressing incomplete or unclear information, comments may seek clarification in order to then assess whether further specific concerns may exist.

The ATR documentation in DrChecks will include the text of each ATR concern, the PDT response, a brief summary of the pertinent points in any discussion, including any vertical team coordination (the vertical team includes the district, RMO, MSC, and HQUSACE), and the agreed upon resolution. If an ATR concern cannot be satisfactorily resolved between the ATR team and the PDT, it will be elevated to the vertical team for further resolution in accordance with the policy issue resolution process described in either ER 1110-1-12 or ER 1105-2-100, Appendix H, as appropriate. Unresolved concerns can be closed in DrChecks with a notation that the concern has been elevated to the vertical team for resolution.

At the conclusion of each ATR effort, the ATR team will prepare a Review Report summarizing the review. Review Reports will be considered an integral part of the ATR documentation and shall:

- § Identify the document(s) reviewed and the purpose of the review;

- § Disclose the names of the reviewers, their organizational affiliations, and include a short paragraph on both the credentials and relevant experiences of each reviewer;
- § Include the charge to the reviewers;
- § Describe the nature of their review and their findings and conclusions;
- § Identify and summarize each unresolved issue (if any); and
- § Include a verbatim copy of each reviewer's comments (either with or without specific attributions), or represent the views of the group as a whole, including any disparate and dissenting views.

ATR may be certified when all ATR concerns are either resolved or referred to the vertical team for resolution and the ATR documentation is complete. The ATR Lead will prepare a Statement of Technical Review certifying that the issues raised by the ATR team have been resolved (or elevated to the vertical team). A Statement of Technical Review should be completed, based on work reviewed to date, for the draft and final report. A sample Statement of Technical Review is included in Attachment 2.

## 6. INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW (IEPR)

IEPR is assumed to be required for decision documents. IEPR is the most independent level of review, and is applied in cases that meet certain criteria where the risk and magnitude of the proposed project are such that a critical examination by a qualified team outside of USACE is warranted. A risk-informed decision, as described in EC 1165-2-214, is made as to whether IEPR is appropriate. IEPR panels will consist of independent, recognized experts from outside of the USACE in the appropriate disciplines, representing a balance of areas of expertise suitable for the review being conducted. There are two types of IEPR:

- Type I IEPR. Type I IEPR reviews are managed outside the USACE and are conducted on project studies. Type I IEPR panels assess the adequacy and acceptability of the economic and environmental assumptions and projections, project evaluation data, economic analysis, environmental analyses, engineering analyses, formulation of alternative plans, methods for integrating risk and uncertainty, models used in the evaluation of environmental impacts of proposed projects, and biological opinions of the project study. Type I IEPR will cover the entire decision document or action and will address all underlying engineering, economics, and environmental work, not just one aspect of the study. For decision documents where a Type II IEPR (Safety Assurance Review) is anticipated during project implementation, safety assurance shall also be addressed during the Type I IEPR per EC 1165-2-214.
  - Type II IEPR. Type II IEPR, or Safety Assurance Review (SAR), are managed outside the USACE and are conducted on design and construction activities for hurricane, storm, and flood risk management projects or other projects where existing and potential hazards pose a significant threat to human life. Type II IEPR panels will conduct reviews of the design and construction activities prior to initiation of physical construction and, until construction activities are completed, periodically thereafter on a regular schedule. The reviews shall consider the adequacy, appropriateness, and acceptability of the design and construction activities in assuring public health safety and welfare.
- a. **Decision on IEPR.** In accordance with the Water Resources and Reform Development Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-121), Independent External Peer Review shall be conducted for all projects with an estimated total cost of greater than \$200M dollars. We do not expect the total project costs for this

project will be in excess of this amount. However, other criteria, such as innovative solutions, life safety issues, and significant environmental effects could also trigger the requirement for IEPR. The bridge removal alternative is the Tentatively Selected Plan and because of its possible significant environmental effects, will require an Environmental Impact Statement. For this reason, Type I IEPR will be needed for this study. The study will revisit these assumptions and coordinate with the FRM PCX at the Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone. IEPR would be conducted to identify, explain, and comment upon assumptions that underlie economic, engineering, and environmental analyses, as well as to evaluate the soundness of models and planning methods. This task would be supported by the New York District's Planning Division for a maximum cost of \$500,000 (this task is 100% Federal Cost) if necessary.

- b. **Products to Undergo Type I IEPR.** Type I IEPR will be performed for the entire decision document (including supporting documentation), which is typically available at the draft report stage.
- c. **Required Type I IEPR Panel Expertise.** The expertise represented on the Type I IEPR panel will be similar to those on the ATR team. The Feasibility Report will be relatively small and not very complex. However, the IEPR panel is anticipated to involve as many disciplines/individuals as the ATR team. At minimum, the panel should include the necessary expertise to assess the engineering, environmental, and economic adequacy of the decision document as required by EC 1165-2-214,. The PDT has made the initial assessment of what expertise is needed based on the PMP and the factors affecting the scope and level of review outlined in Section 3 of the review plan. The Outside Eligible Organization (OEO) will determine the final participants on the panel. The following table provides the types of disciplines that might be included on the IEPR team and a description of the expertise required; if a reviewer meets the expertise required for multiple disciplines, the reviewer can be responsible for multiple disciplines (ex., Plan Formulation and Economics may be combined).

IEPR Panel Members	Expertise Required
Plan Formulation	The Planning reviewer should be a senior water resources planner with experience in formulation of flood risk management studies especially in urban, highly developed areas.
Economics	The economics reviewer should have extensive experience in urban flood risk management studies and a thorough understanding of HEC-FDA.
Environmental Resources	Team member will have independently completed EA/EIS's and be well versed in the NEPA process, partnerships with other environmental resource agencies and environmental concerns and constraints within urban settings.
Hydrology and Hydraulic Engineering	Team member should be an expert in the field of urban hydrology and hydraulics, have a thorough understanding of flash flooding, open channel systems, and the use of HEC computer modeling systems.
Civil Engineering	Team member will have a thorough understanding of design of channel improvements, structural, and non-structural measures in an urban setting. A Transportation Systems background or experience with traffic studies is also required. A certified professional engineer is required.

Structural Engineering	Team member will have a thorough understanding of both structural and non-structural measures to include, but not be limited to, bridge removals and replacements, retaining walls, channel improvements, and levees. A certified professional engineer is required.
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d. **Documentation of Type I IEPR.** The IEPR panel will be selected and managed by an Outside Eligible Organization (OEO) per EC 1165-2-214. Panel comments will be compiled by the OEO and should address the adequacy and acceptability of the economic, engineering and environmental methods, models, and analyses used. IEPR comments should generally include the same four key parts as described for ATR comments in Section 4.d above. The OEO will prepare a final Review Report that will accompany the publication of the final decision document and shall:

- § Disclose the names of the reviewers, their organizational affiliations, and include a short paragraph on both the credentials and relevant experiences of each reviewer;
- § Include the charge to the reviewers;
- § Describe the nature of their review and their findings and conclusions; and
- § Include a verbatim copy of each reviewer's comments (either with or without specific attributions), or represent the views of the group as a whole, including any disparate and dissenting views.

The final Review Report will be submitted by the OEO no later than 60 days following the close of the public comment period for the draft decision document. USACE shall consider all recommendations contained in the Review Report and prepare a written response for all recommendations adopted or not adopted. The final decision document will summarize the Review Report and USACE response. The Review Report and USACE response will be made available to the public, including through electronic means on the internet.

## 7. POLICY AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW

All decision documents will be reviewed throughout the study process for their compliance with law and policy. Guidance for policy and legal compliance reviews is addressed in Appendix H, ER 1105-2-100. These reviews culminate in determinations that the recommendations in the reports and the supporting analyses and coordination comply with law and policy, and warrant approval or further recommendation to higher authority by the home MSC Commander. DQC, ATR, and IEPR augment and complement the policy review processes by addressing compliance with pertinent published Army policies, particularly policies on analytical methods and the presentation of findings in decision documents.

## 8. COST ENGINEERING MANDATORY CENTER OF EXPERTISE (MCX) REVIEW AND CERTIFICATION

All decision documents shall be coordinated with the Cost Engineering MCX, located in the Walla Walla District. The MCX will assist in determining the expertise needed on the ATR team and in the development of the review charge(s). The MCX will also provide the Cost Engineering MCX certification. The RMO is responsible for coordination with the Cost Engineering MCX.

## 9. MODEL CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL

EC 1105-2-412 mandates the use of certified or approved models for all planning activities to ensure the models are technically and theoretically sound, compliant with USACE policy, computationally accurate, and based on reasonable assumptions. Planning models, for the purposes of the EC, are defined as any models and analytical tools that planners use to define water resources management problems and opportunities, to formulate potential alternatives to address the problems and take advantage of the opportunities, to evaluate potential effects of alternatives and to support decision making. The use of a certified/approved planning model does not constitute technical review of the planning product. The selection and application of the model and the input and output data is still the responsibility of the users and is subject to DQC, ATR, and IEPR (if required).

EC 1105-2-412 does not cover engineering models used in planning. The responsible use of well-known and proven USACE developed and commercial engineering software will continue and the professional practice of documenting the application of the software and modeling results will be followed. As part of the USACE Scientific and Engineering Technology (SET) Initiative, many engineering models have been identified as preferred or acceptable for use on Corps studies and these models should be used whenever appropriate. The selection and application of the model and the input and output data is still the responsibility of the users and is subject to DQC, ATR, and IEPR (if required).

- a. **Planning Models.** The following planning models are anticipated to be used in the development of the decision document:

Model Name and Version	Brief Description of the Model and How It Will Be Applied in the Study	Certification / Approval Status
HEC-FDA 1.4.2 (Flood Damage Analysis)	The Hydrologic Engineering Center's Flood Damage Reduction Analysis (HEC-FDA) program provides the capability for integrated hydrologic engineering and economic analysis for formulating and evaluating flood risk management plans using risk-based analysis methods. The program will be used to evaluate and compare the future without- and with-project plans along the Passaic River and major tributaries to aid in the selection of a recommended plan to manage flood risk.	Certified
Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP)	HEP is an established approach to assessment of natural resources. The HEP approach has been well documented and is approved for use in Corps projects as an assessment framework that combines resource quality and quantity over time, and is appropriate throughout the United States. The Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) models are the format for quantity determinations that are applied within the HEP framework. This method will be used for determining the effect of alternatives upon habitat and for habitat mitigation calculations, if needed.	New HSI models developed by the Corps are subject to certification. Published HSI models, while peer reviewed and possibly tested by the developers are subject to review and approval by the PCX. Modifications to published HSI models where relationships or

		formulas are changed may be subject to certification.
Stream Impact Assessment - spreadsheet model	Currently, there is no state specific or regional method that focuses on quantifying stream function and impacts resulting from channel modification activities that could be applied to this project. Therefore, if necessary, the PDT will create a series of worksheets modeled after those developed and implemented by the Regulatory Divisions at the USACE Kansas City, Little Rock, Omaha and Rock Island Districts that quantifies the adverse impacts caused by the proposed activity and establishes the appropriate level and type of mitigation required to compensate for the impacts.	Not certified; will initiate approval process during study documentation.

b. **Engineering Models.** The following engineering models are anticipated to be used in the development of the decision document:

Model Name and Version	Brief Description of the Model and How It Will Be Applied in the Study	Approval Status
HEC-RAS 4.0 (River Analysis System)	The Hydrologic Engineering Center's River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) program provides the capability to perform one-dimensional steady and unsteady flow river hydraulics calculations. The program will be used for steady/unsteady flow analysis to evaluate the future without- and with-project conditions along the Passaic and its tributaries	HH&C CoP Preferred Model
HEC-HMS	This model will be used to define the watersheds' physical features; describe the metrological conditions; interior drainage analysis; estimate parameters; analyze simulations; and obtain GIS connectivity	HH&C CoP Preferred Model

## 10. REVIEW SCHEDULES AND COSTS

- a. **ATR Schedule and Cost.** **ATR Schedule and Cost.** The following forthcoming products are expected to undergo ATR: Interim economics and cost reviews, January 2016, (\$20K); Draft Feasibility Report, June 2018 at a cost of \$60k; Final Feasibility Report, March 2019 at a cost of \$40k. This budget and schedule includes participation of the ATR lead at the Agency Decision Milestone meeting, and the Senior Leaders Panel to address the ATR process and any significant and/or unresolved ATR concerns.
- b. **Type I IEPR Schedule and Cost.** Type I IEPR will be conducted on the draft Feasibility Report, Environmental Impact Statement, and appendices. The estimated date for the IEPR to occur is June 2018 at a cost that would not exceed \$500K (includes the potential for responses to questions for the Senior Leaders Panel). For decision documents presented to the Senior Leaders Panel, IEPR comments and responses may be discussed at the meeting.

- c. **Model Certification/Approval Schedule and Cost.** The team does not anticipate any required model certification.

## **11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Public Involvement entails the continuation and expansion of the public involvement started during the Reconnaissance phase. Initially, it will involve introducing and explaining the reconnaissance study results and the direction and goals of the Feasibility phase. It will then continue by conducting meetings and coordination with a broad range of public and private agencies. Scoping efforts are required for coordination between Federal, state and environmental agencies. There will also be meetings between citizens committees and other groups. The Town of Greenwich and NYSDEC will share in the responsibility of these meetings, particularly those involving state agencies and groups. Newsletters will also be issued periodically to keep all interested parties updated on the study status and relevant issues. The Corps will provide the Greenwich and NYSDEC with minutes of meetings similarly as the Reconnaissance study. Public Involvement will also consist of notifying concerned parties (newspapers, police, property owners, etc.) of personnel who may be involved in on-site data collection.

The Town of Greenwich will be responsible for providing representatives at the public meetings, meetings with other agencies and officials, and participation in other local coordination efforts. NYSDEC will also provide representatives for public meetings and facilitate coordination on matters affecting New York State. The Town of Greenwich will also be responsible for providing the facilities for public meetings.

The Feasibility Report, study Review Plan, and associated review reports (IEPR) will be available for the public to download on the District's website. Significant public comments will be provided to the ATR team and the IEPR panel after the public review of the Draft Feasibility Report. The study team will coordinate with the FRM PCX on whether the public will be asked to nominate potential peer reviewers.

## **12. REVIEW PLAN APPROVAL AND UPDATES**

The North Atlantic Division Commander is responsible for approving this Review Plan. The Commander's approval reflects vertical team input (involving district, MSC, RMO, and HQUSACE members) as to the appropriate scope and level of review for the decision document. Like the PMP, the Review Plan is a living document and may change as the study progresses. The home District is responsible for keeping the Review Plan up to date. Significant changes to the Review Plan (such as changes to the scope and/or level of review) should be re-approved by the MSC Commander following the process used for initially approving the plan. The latest version of the Review Plan, along with the Commanders' approval memorandum, will be posted on the Home District's webpage. The latest Review Plan will also be provided to the RMO and home MSC.

## **13. REVIEW PLAN POINTS OF CONTACT**

Public questions and/or comments on this review plan can be directed to the following points of contact:

- § Section Chief, Plan Formulation Branch, 917-790-8705
- § Team Leader, NAD Planning and Policy CoP, 347-370-4514
- § Deputy Director, Flood Risk Management Planning Center of Expertise, 415-503-6852

**ATTACHMENT 1: TEAM ROSTERS**

**PDT**

Name	Role	Phone Number	E-mail
Rifat Salim	Project Manager	917-790-8215	Rifat.salim@usace.army.mil
Elena Manno	Engineering Technical Manager	x-8371	Elena.n.manno@usace.army.mil
Michael Chen, P.E.	Structural Engineer	x-8749	<a href="mailto:xiaoming.chen@usace.army.mil">xiaoming.chen@usace.army.mil</a>
Robert Muskthel	Cost Engineering	(509) 527-7266	<a href="mailto:robert.w.muskthel@usace.army.mil">robert.w.muskthel@usace.army.mil</a>
Andre Chauncey, P.E.	Hydrology	x-8353	<a href="mailto:andre.t.chauncey@usace.army.mil">andre.t.chauncey@usace.army.mil</a>
Olivia Cackler	Section Chief, Plan Formulation	x-8705	Olivia.n.cackler@usace.army.mil
Karen Baumert	Plan Formulation	x-8608	Karen.L.Baumert@usace.army.mil
Nancy Brighton	Section Chief, Environmental Analysis	x-8703	<a href="mailto:Nancy.J.Brighton@usace.army.mil">Nancy.J.Brighton@usace.army.mil</a>
Kimberly Rightler	Biology/NEPA	x-8722	<a href="mailto:kimberly.a.rightler@usace.army.mil">kimberly.a.rightler@usace.army.mil</a>
Carissa Scarpa	Cultural Resources	x-8612	Carissa.a.scarpa@usace.army.mil
Carlos Gonzalez	Real Estate	x-8465	<a href="mailto:Carlos.E.Gonzalez@usace.army.mil">Carlos.E.Gonzalez@usace.army.mil</a>
Ellen Simon	Office of Counsel	x-8158	<a href="mailto:Ellen.b.simon@usace.army.mil">Ellen.b.simon@usace.army.mil</a>
Mitchell Laird	Economics	(270) 495-1412	Mitchell.P.Laird@usace.army.mil

**ATR Team**

Name	Role	Review District
TBD	ATR Lead	TBD
TBD	Planning	TBD
TBD	Economics	TBD
TBD	Environmental Resources	TBD
TBD	Cultural Resources	TBD
TBD	Hydrology/Hydraulics	TBD
TBD	Civil Engineering	TBD
TBD	Structural Engineering	TBD
TBD	Climate Change Reviewer	TBD
TBD	Cost Engineering*	TBD
TBD	Real Estate	TBD

\* The cost engineering team member nomination will be coordinated with the NWW Cost Estimating Center of Expertise as required. NWW will determine if the cost estimate will need to be reviewed by PCX staff. \*\*All resumes will be reviewed and approved by the PCX prior to initiating any ATR.

IEPR Team

Name	Role
TBD	Plan Formulation
TBD	Economics
TBD	Environmental Resources/NEPA
TBD	Hydrology/Hydraulics
TBD	Civil Engineering
TBD	Structural Engineering

## ATTACHMENT 2: SAMPLE STATEMENT OF TECHNICAL REVIEW FOR DECISION DOCUMENTS

### COMPLETION OF AGENCY TECHNICAL REVIEW

The Agency Technical Review (ATR) has been completed for the <type of product> for <project name and location>. The ATR was conducted as defined in the project's Review Plan to comply with the requirements of EC 1165-2-209. During the ATR, compliance with established policy principles and procedures, utilizing justified and valid assumptions, was verified. This included review of: assumptions, methods, procedures, and material used in analyses, alternatives evaluated, the appropriateness of data used and level obtained, and reasonableness of the results, including whether the product meets the customer's needs consistent with law and existing US Army Corps of Engineers policy. The ATR also assessed the District Quality Control (DQC) documentation and made the determination that the DQC activities employed appear to be appropriate and effective. All comments resulting from the ATR have been resolved and the comments have been closed in DrChecks<sup>sm</sup>.

SIGNATURE

Name

ATR Team Leader

Office Symbol/Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SIGNATURE

Name

Project Manager

Office Symbol

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SIGNATURE

Name

Architect/Engineer Project Manager<sup>1</sup>

Company, location

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SIGNATURE

Name

Review Management Office Representative

Office Symbol

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### CERTIFICATION OF AGENCY TECHNICAL REVIEW

Significant concerns and the explanation of the resolution are as follows: Describe the major technical concerns and their resolution.

As noted above, all concerns resulting from the ATR of the project have been fully resolved.

SIGNATURE

Name

Chief, Engineering Division

Office Symbol

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*SIGNATURE*

Name

Chief, Planning Division

Office Symbol

Date

<sup>1</sup> Only needed if some portion of the ATR was contracted

**ATTACHMENT 3: REVIEW PLAN REVISIONS**

Revision Date	Description of Change	Page / Paragraph Number

**ATTACHMENT 4: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
ASA(CW)	Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works	NER	National Ecosystem Restoration
ATR	Agency Technical Review	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
CSDR	Coastal Storm Damage Reduction	O&M	Operation and maintenance
DPR	Detailed Project Report	OMB	Office and Management and Budget
DOC	District Quality Control/Quality Assurance	OMRR&R	Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Replacement and Rehabilitation
DX	Directory of Expertise	OEO	Outside Eligible Organization
EC	Engineer Circular	PCX	Planning Center of Expertise
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	PDT	Project Delivery Team
EO	Executive Order	PAC	Post Authorization Change
ER	Ecosystem Restoration	PMP	Project Management Plan
FDR	Flood Damage Reduction	PL	Public Law
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	QMP	Quality Management Plan
FRM	Flood Risk Management	QA	Quality Assurance
GRR	General Reevaluation Report	RED	Regional Economic Development
Home District/MS	The District or MSC responsible for the preparation of the decision document	RMC	Risk Management Center
HQUSACE	Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	RMO	Review Management Organization
IEPR	Independent External Peer Review	RTS	Regional Technical Specialist
ITR	Independent Technical Review	SAR	Safety Assurance Review
IPR	Interim Progress Report	USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
LRR	Limited Reevaluation Report	WRDA	Water Resources Development Act
MSC	Major Subordinate Command		

**ATTACHMENT 5: DISTRICT CHIEF OF ENGINEERING'S STATEMENT OF FINDING**