



KEANSBURG, NJ

Restoration of Previously Constructed Projects

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG.

Description

Hurricane Sandy severely impacted large portions of the northeastern United States. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' previously constructed hurricane shore protection project in Keansburg, N.J., was damaged. Damages included a loss of beachfill sand and damages to levee closure gates that were a part of the original project constructed in 1973.



Authorities

Everything the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does must be tied to some statutory authority. The work at Keansburg is the result of two statutory authorities, one previously existing and one that is new since Hurricane Sandy.

- Through the Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies Act, PL 84-99, the Corps of Engineers is authorized to **repair** previously constructed projects after a large event like Hurricane Sandy. Put simply, this pre-existing authority allows the Corps to return the project area to pre-storm conditions.
- Through the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (the Sandy Relief Bill, or PL 113-2), the Corps of Engineers is authorized to **restore** previously constructed projects severely impacted by Hurricane Sandy. This new authority allows the Corps to restore projects impacted by Hurricane Sandy to their original design profile, which often means placing a great deal more sand during the near-term coastal restoration efforts.

History

Completed in 1973, the Keansburg Beach coastal storm risk reduction project was a federally designed and constructed project done in partnership with the state of New Jersey. The project provides coastal storm risk reduction to Keansburg, East Keansburg, and Laurence Harbor. At its full design level, without the effects of age and long-term erosion, the project is designed to perform during a 200-year storm - or a storm with a 0.5% chance of occurring in any given year. The original construction included a dune, groins, levees, floodwall, a storm closure gate, and a pump station.

Current Operations

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded a contract in fall 2013 for the placement of roughly 1.1 million cubic yards of sand along approximately 2.5 miles of shoreline along Raritan Bay in the area of the originally authorized and constructed project. The work is expected to begin in early 2014. Construction start dates are contingent upon real estate acquisition and environmental permits.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has also awarded a contract for repairs to the eroded levees, repairs to the damaged wingwall adjacent to the tide gate and removal of debris along the levees. That work is ongoing.

Questions? Call the public affairs office at 917-790-8007 or e-mail CENAN-PA@usace.army.mil

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