



Joseph G. Minish Waterfront Park and Historic Area, Newark, New Jersey

As of February 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

DESCRIPTION

The Joseph G. Minish Passaic River Waterfront Park and Historic Area project is located along the west bank of the Passaic River between Bridge and Brill Streets in the City of Newark, New Jersey. This reach of the Passaic River is eroded, deteriorated and environmentally degraded due to past commercial and industrial use and flooding. The project is comprised of three phases: Phase I is 6,000 feet of new bulkhead, 3,200 feet of restored riverbank and creation of wetlands, Phase II is the 9,200-foot waterfront walkway and Phase III is the park facilities, plazas, and landscaping. The project will reduce erosion and provide environmental restoration, recreation, and economic development benefits. In light of the renewal of the commercial downtown area of Newark near the Passaic River, the project area is viewed as an environmental resource to be restored. The Non-Federal sponsors for Phase I is the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The NJDEP will continue to sponsor Phase II/III and will have a partnering agreement with the City of Newark to locally fund a portion of the non-Federal cost share.



AUTHORIZATION

The project was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1990 (Public Law 101-640) as an element of the Passaic River Flood Damage Reduction Project on November 28, 1990, modified in the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-580) by extending the project area, and further modified in the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-303).

STATUS

The final Design Memorandum and Environmental Assessment were completed in May 1996. The Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) for Phase I was executed with the NJDEP in May 1999. The first construction contract for the bulkhead at Center Street was completed in September 2000. A second construction contract for the bulkhead from Center Street to Penn Station was completed in March 2003. The third construction contract for the steel bulkhead from Jersey St to Jackson St and site clearing of the wetlands restoration site was completed in June 2006. The fourth construction contract was awarded in January 2008 to construct the concrete cap on the steel

bulkhead from Jersey St. to Jackson St. This work was completed in November 2010. Currently designs for the next construction contract are being worked on for bulkhead work from Lombardy St. to past Rector St. Additional federal appropriations will be required to complete the first phase. The design of Phases II/III will incorporate the standards of the Newark community along with the City's December 1999 Passaic Riverfront Report. Discussion of the Project Cooperation Agreement for design and construction of Phases II/III has been initiated with the NJDEP and the City of Newark.

CONTACT

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CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION

NJ U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez
NJ U.S. Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg
NJ-8 Rep William J. Pascrell, Jr.
NJ-10 Rep Donald M. Payne
NJ-13 Rep Albio Sires