US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District

Information Paper

St. Louis Flood Control System, MO

Section 5070 of Water Resources Development Act 2007, Section 216 of FCA of 1970

Investigations (FRM)

Location: The study area is within the St. Louis Flood Control System and situated along the right bank of the Mississippi River between Miles 176.3 and 187.2, in the City of St. Louis, Missouri.

Description: August 1955 authorization assigned O&M responsibility to the local sponsors. Between 1955 and 1986, the Corps was responsible for Repair, Rehabilitation and Replacement (RR&R). After WRDA 1986 all new projects moving forward would have the RR&R assigned to the local sponsor. Several projects fell into the gap of time where RR&R responsibility was undefined but was, by default, still a federal responsibility. WRDA 2007 Section 5070 attempts to fill this gap in philosophy and practice by outlining 10 critical projects that are eligible for funding under this authority. Therefore, reconstruction of other features within the system, to include the existing gatewell structures, remains a federal interest. The willing and financially capable sponsor, Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) will cost share a feasibility study to comply with WRDA 1986 cost share requirements.

Status: A Reconstruction Evaluation Report (RER) was completed in 2005 with the Non-Federal Sponsor, City of St. Louis, to analyze the existing St. Louis Flood Control System levees and floodwalls. The reconstruction project was completed in 2014 at a total project cost of $20.1M. The proposed feasibility study will examine the potential problems on the final remaining critical system elements and the associated risks of not performing in compliance with the project's authorized purpose. Preliminary evaluation by Corps cost estimators, estimate the total project cost for remaining reconstruction of system features between $30 to $80 million dollars.

Importance: The St. Louis Flood Control System is complex and has many features associated with its urban level of protection. The RER was limited to levee and floodwall features and did not evaluate other elements of the total system, to include existing gatewell structures, since they are operated and maintained by another Non-Federal Sponsor, MSD. The proposed study will examine these final remaining critical system elements which are showing significant degradation due to age and essential to reducing risk of overbank flooding.

Risk: Screening level risk assessment was completed on the levee and floodwalls. The risks associated with the entire system, to include the additional elements being operated and maintained by MSD, were not evaluated. A study is required to address the probability of failure on the remaining features such as gatewells.

Consequence: The total leveed area is 8,400 acres protecting $1.5 billion in economic assets, 260,000 lives, and 27 critical infrastructure areas. The system also reduces risk to infrastructure crucial to the nations supply chain consisting of five interstate highways, six Class I railroads, and six intermodal transfer facilities. Also the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) has one of its two main facilities in the nation protected by the St. Louis flood risk reduction system.

St. Louis Flood Protection System Leveed Area

Activities for FY 17: None

Acquisition Strategy: N/A

Activities after FY 17: Verify Federal interest, conduct scoping meeting, achieve alternatives milestone, and receive vertical team concurrence.

Project Sponsor/Customer: Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District

Congressional Interest: Senators Blunt and McCaskill (MO) and Representative Clay (MO-1)

Phase	FY 17 Allocation	FY 18 Budget
Construction	$0	$0