

Public Notice

US ARMY CORPS
OF ENGINEERS
St. Louis District
Gateway to Excellence

Reply To: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CEMVS-OD-R 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

OD-R 23-010
Public Notice Date
September 15, 2023

Permission No.

Postmaster, Please Post Conspicuously Until:

Expiration Date
October 14, 2023

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO MODIFY A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECT UNDER SECTION 408

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army Section 408 permission for certain work near federally constructed flood protection projects of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached maps.

<u>COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>: Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice number shown above and must reach this office no later than the above expiration date of the Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Comments should be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Readiness Branch 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833 ATTN: Jeffrey Wells, P.E. or Jeffrey.M.Wells@usace.army.mil

REQUESTER: Illinois Department of Transportation Attention: Mr. Philip E. Coppernoll, P.E.

LOCATION: The site is located along and perpendicular to the Lower Wood River and Metro East Sanitary District Levees. The work is located at the approximate coordinates 38°48'18.34"N 90°4'1.36"W in Versailles, IL. (Madison County, Illinois).

PROPOSED ACTION: The applicant is requesting to make alterations to the Metro East Sanitary District and the Lower Wood River Levees in Madison County, Illinois. The proposed alterations include the rehabilitation of the IL-111 Bridge across the Cahokia Diversion Canal and modifications to the Closure structures at each of the levee crossings. The project will remove and replace the floodgate highway structures in order to return the floodgates to an operational condition.

In addition to 408 considerations, IDOT has prepared this request for authorization pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The 404 permit application and associated cultural, biological, and environmental clearances is attached for forwarding. Tree removal adjacent the Cahokia Diversion Canal is minimal and cannot be avoided. Wetlands are located beneath the structure within the canal and immediately adjacent to the structure within the canal. These wetlands will be impacted to install the slope protection system and to allow access to perform the work. The total wet meadow wetland impacts are 0.11 acres which will be mitigated at a ratio of 1.5: 1 for a total compensation of 0.165 acres. IDOT district 8 will use the Fairmont city Wetland Mitigation Bank Site to mitigate the loss resulting from the proposed project.

LOCATION MAPS AND DRAWINGS: See Attachment

<u>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>: Additional information may be obtained by contacting Jeffrey Wells, P.E., St. Louis District 408 Coordinator, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at (314)-331-8568. Your inquiries may also be sent by e-mail to Jeffrey.M.Wells@usace.army.mil.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY: The St. Louis District Regulatory Branch has conducted a preliminary review of the proposed project. Based upon review of the project activity description, as well as the location of the work, the Regulatory Branch determined that this activity will trigger the need for a Department of the Army Permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The proposed project involves a discharge in the Cahokia Diversion Canal. The St. Louis District Regulatory Branch intends to issue a Department of the Army Nationwide Permit #14 (Linear Transportation Projects) for the proposed actions (MVS-2022-269).

EVALUATION: The decision whether to grant the requested permission for project modification under Section 408 will be based on several factors. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. Review of the requests for modification will be reviewed by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers technical review team considering the following factors:

- Impair the Usefulness of the Project Determination. The review team will determine if the
 proposed alteration would limit the ability of the project to function as authorized, or would
 compromise or change any authorized project conditions, purposes, or outputs. The decision
 whether to approve a request for modification would be based on a determination of no
 impairments.
- 2. <u>Injurious to the Public Interest Determination</u>. Proposed alterations will be reviewed to determine the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts that the proposed alteration to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project may have on the public interest requires a careful weighing of all those factors that are relevant in each case. Factors that may be relevant to the public interest depend upon the type of USACE project being altered and may include, but are not limited to, such things as conservation, economic development, historic properties, cultural resources, environmental impacts, water supply, water quality, flood hazards, floodplains, residual risk, induced damages, navigation, shore erosion or accretion, and recreation. The decision whether to approve an alteration will be determined by the consideration of whether benefits are commensurate with risks. If the potential detriments are found to outweigh the potential benefits, then it may be determined that the proposed alteration is injurious to the public interest.

3. Environmental Compliance. A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action and is therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental compliance requirements. While ensuring compliance is the responsibility of USACE, the requester is providing all information that the St. Louis District identifies as necessary to satisfy all applicable federal laws, executive orders, regulations, policies, and ordinances. NEPA and other analysis completed to comply with the other environmental statutes (e.g. Endangered Species Act) should be commensurate with the scale and potential effects of the activity that would alter the US Army Corps of Engineers project. The scope of analysis for the NEPA and environmental compliance evaluations for the Section 408 review is limited to the area of alteration and those adjacent areas that are directly or indirectly affected by the alteration.

In compliance with Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, an updated list of species and critical habitat was acquired from the USFWS Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) website on 29 June 2023 (Project Code: 2023-0099561) for the Proposed Action Area. The species listed in the IPaC report include Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, tricolored bat, eastern massasauga, monarch butterfly, and decurrent false aster. A "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" determination was made for Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat. A "not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of" determination was made for tricolored bat and monarch butterfly. A "no effect" determination was made for eastern massasauga and decurrent false aster. On 18 August 2023, the USFWS concurred with these effects determinations.

An EcoCAT report dated 28 June 2023 was obtained by USACE from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources website. The report stated that the Illinois Natural Heritage Database contains no record of State-listed threatened or endangered species, Illinois Natural Area Inventory sites, dedicated Illinois Nature Preserves, or registered Land and Water Reserves in the vicinity of the project location. On 28 June 2023, IDNR provide a response saying that adverse impacts are unlikely. They also recommended a winter tree clearing restriction for the forest bat species.

No bald eagle nests would be disturbed by the proposed work. If a Bald Eagle nest is found within 660 feet of the proposed project area, or in the vicinity of the project area, then the applicant should immediately contact the USFWS and implement the National Bald Eagle Guidelines. A variety of other migratory birds might occur in the project area, some as migrants and some as breeders, depending on the time of year. Year-round residents would also be present. Given the commercial and industrial land use in the metro St. Louis area, the available habitats would be marginal in quality or simply nonexistent.

St. Louis District Archaeologists conducted a Historic Property Preliminary Review on 14 April 2023. There are no known archeological sites within the project area and the project area has never been surveyed for cultural resources. The project is limited in scope and limited in area to the existing road right-of-way. The project is subject to a Programmatic Agreement Regarding Section 106 Implementation for Federal-Aid Transportation Projects in the State of Illinois, executed March 6, 2018 by FHWA, Illinois SHPO, IDOT and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. IDOT made a determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" for the project. The St. Louis District concurs with IDOT's finding.

All actions taken were in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as

amended (NHPA). In the unlikely event that, earthmoving activities associated with the proposed work did impact potentially significant archeological/historic remains, all construction activities and earthmoving actions in the immediate vicinity of the remains would be held in abeyance until the potential significance of the remains could be determined. The precise nature of such investigations would be developed by the Saint Louis District in concert with the professional staff of the Illinois SHPO.

- 4. <u>Environmental Impact Statement</u>. A preliminary determination has been made that an environmental impact statement is not required for the proposed work.
- 5. <u>Technical Analysis</u>. The St. Louis District is working closely with the requestor to ensure that all technical plans, maps, drawings, specifications are provided and complete. A District-led Technical Review is being conducted to determine any potential adverse impacts to the US Army Corps of Engineers flood protection system.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and Local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permission for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are taken into consideration in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

<u>SUMMARY:</u> It should be noted that materials submitted as part of the Section 408 request become part of the public record and are thus available to the general public under the procedures of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Individuals may submit a written request to obtain materials under FOIA or make an appointment to view the project file at the St. Louis District Corps of Engineers, Office of Counsel.

Interested parties wishing to comment on the proposed activity must do so in writing no later than **October 14, 2023**. It is presumed that all parties receiving this notice will wish to respond to this public notice; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the project as described.

This public notice is not a paid advertisement and is for public information only. Issuance of this notice does not imply Corps of Engineers endorsement of the project as described.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

John L. Osterhage

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:

It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 30 days from the date of this issuance of this notice.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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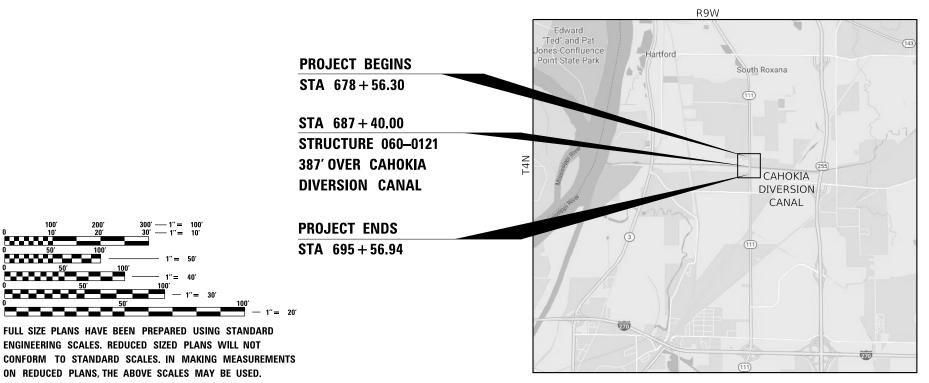
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FOR LIST OF HIGHWAY STANDARDS, SEE SHEET NO. 2

PROPOSED HIGHWAY PLANS

FAP ROUTE 582 (IL 111) SECTION 5BR-2 PROJECT STP-8QP4 (624) **BRIDGE REPAIR MADISON COUNTY**

C-98-056-20



LOCATION MAP NOT TO SCALE

GROSS LENGTH = 1,700.64 FT. = 0.322 MILE NET LENGTH = 1,700.64 FT. = 0.322 MILE

PROJECT ENGINEER BILLIE OWEN 618-346-3209

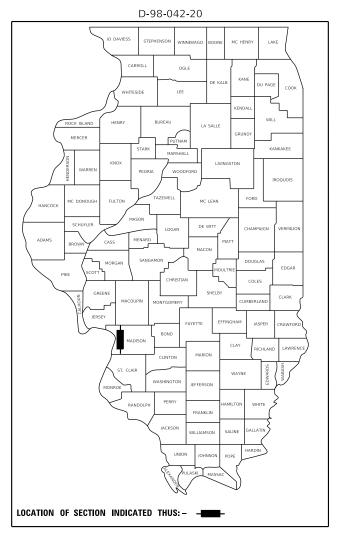
FILL SIZE PLANS HAVE BEEN PREPARED LISING STANDARD ENGINEERING SCALES. REDUCED SIZED PLANS WILL NOT

ON REDUCED PLANS, THE ABOVE SCALES MAY BE USED.

JOINT UTILITY LOCATION INFORMATION FOR EXCAVATION

Kyon W. Staley 01/21/2022 RYAN STALEY, P.E. LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
ILLINOIS NO. 062–069637 EXPIRES 11–30–22

RYAN W. STALEY



FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION MINOR ARTERIAL 2019 ADT: 5050 VEH /DAY S.U. = 11.4% M.U. = 4.5% **POSTED SPEED LIMIT: 55 MPH**

STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
SUBMITTED	20
_	REGIONAL ENGINEER
_	20
-	ENGINEER OF DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT
_	20
-	DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

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