



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Louis District

Information Paper Wood River Levee, IL

Construction (FRM)

Contact:

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Location: The project area is in the Mississippi River flood plain of Madison County, Illinois, upstream of the city of East St. Louis. An urban design levee, authorized in 1938 and constructed in the 1950s, protects the area.

Description: The levee system was designed to withstand a flood at 54 feet on the St. Louis gage; approximately a 0.2 percent chance of exceedance (500-year event). The project includes replacing existing relief wells as well as installing new relief wells as a design deficiency correction under the existing project authorization. The recommended plan to correct deficiencies of underseepage controls identified in the Limited Reevaluation Report (as well as the 2019 Supplement to the LRR) and includes construction of new relief wells and associated ditch work, pump stations, pump station modifications and cutoff walls.

Status: Design deficiency corrections are underway to address uncontrolled underseepage. Due to recent increases in costs for construction a project cost update has been completed resulting in an authorized total project cost of \$107.4M. An updated Integral Determination Report (IDR) and an amendment to the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) will be updated in FY24 to document updated project costs and sponsor Work in Kind (WIK) plans. Sponsor is constructing federal project features for WIK credit and \$17.7 million in WIK has been credited. Recent construction completion includes Relief Well Package No. 1 (24 wells). Remaining USACE contracts include pump station modifications to Wood River and Hawthorne pump stations to add capacity, Relief Well Packages No. 2 (56 wells plus ditching) and No. 3 (30 wells). The partner's future WIK contributions include design and construction of a seepage berm including gravity drain extension, detention basin and wetland mitigation.

The project has been fully funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) supplemental appropriation of \$26.9M in 2023.

Importance: The Wood River Levee System protects a population of approximately 31,000 people in five towns and \$3.4 billion in economic value; a high concentration of industry such as petrochemical infrastructure, steel manufacturing and ammunition production; and 12,700 acres of bottomland. In addition, the system is part of the containment feature of Melvin Price Locks and Dam.

Authority: Section 4 of the Flood Control Act of 1938; Section 103 of WRDA 1986; Section 1001(20) of WRDA 2007

Schedule:

- Pump Station Modifications contract award: April 2024
- Relief Well No. 3 contract award: Aug. 2024



Upper Wood River Protected Area

Activities for FY 24: Complete construction of three pump stations and 22 relief wells, advance design efforts of 56 relief wells and associated ditching and coordinate with sponsors with respect to WIK activities. Pending resolution of real estate acquisitions, the design team anticipates contract awards of 2 Pump Station Modifications and Relief Well No. 3 (30 wells). USACE continues to support the sponsor by exploring alternative solutions in Reach 2 due to a real estate impasse between the levee district and the city of Wood River.

Activities after FY 24: Manage ongoing construction contracts and coordinate with sponsors with respect to WIK activities. Pending resolution of real estate acquisitions, the design team anticipates contract award of Relief Well No. 2/Ditch Work (56 wells and associated ditching) in Reach 2.

Project Partners: Wood River Drainage and Levee District and Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District (FPD) Council.

Congressional Interest: Senate: Durbin (IL) and Duckworth (IL); House: Bost (IL-12), Miller (IL-15) and Budzinski (IL-13).

Financial:

Estimated Federal Cost:	\$69,856,000
Estimated non-Federal Cost:	\$37,615,000
Total Estimated Cost:	\$107,471,000

Total Federal funding to date: \$42,971,000 (Funded to completion through future BIL supplemental allocations)