



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, DETROIT DISTRICT
477 MICHIGAN AVE.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-2550

October 25, 2021

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, PUBLIC GROUPS, AND CITIZENS

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Detroit District, has prepared a Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment (EA) for a project proposed by the City of Fort Wayne, IN to horizontally directionally drill (HDD) two high density polyethylene (HDPE) lines under the USACE flood control project located on the St. Joseph River in Fort Wayne, IN. The proposed project is located near Wagner Street and St. Joseph Boulevard in downtown Fort Wayne, IN. The lines will have at least 10 feet of clearance below the riverbed. The proposed project is needed to carry lime sludge from the water treatment plant and provide for the installation of communication lines. The USACE flood control project was evaluated under a 1987 Final Environmental Impact Statement that resulted in the upgrade to 35,000 feet of flood control levees and flood walls with other flood control amenities. Fort Wayne's proposed modification to the USACE's flood control project is being evaluated under USACE Engineering Circular 1165-2-216, Policy and Procedural Guidance for Processing Requests to Alter U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Projects pursuant to 33 USC 408 (31 July 2014).

The USACE's preliminary environmental analysis indicates that implementing the proposed project work would not be injurious to the public interest nor constitute a major Federal action that significantly affects the quality of the human environment. No significant short term, long term, or cumulative environmental effects would result from constructing the proposed project. Adverse effects would be minor, limited primarily to short-term noise and air emission.

The EA may be accessed for viewing or downloaded at the Detroit District Corps webpage: <https://www.lre.usace.army.mil/> Scroll down to the lower left to Other Public Notices and select, *Directionally Drilled HDPE Lime Sludge Lines, Under St. Joseph River Flood Control Levees, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana*. Electronic copies of this Public Notice and EA are being sent to federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, interested groups, and individuals. The USACE is soliciting comments from the public to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Any person who has a concern/interest or has historical or cultural interests that may be affected by the proposed project may submit written comments within the comment period of this notice. Comments must clearly set forth what interest may be affected by the proposed activity and how the action significantly affects the quality of the human environment. If no comments are received by the end of the thirty (30) day review period, it will be assumed that no comments are forthcoming. Because of the COVID-19 virus, please provide all comments by email to: LRE-Section408@usace.army.mil and refer to File No. 408-LRE-2021-0004. All comments received will be taken under consideration.

Following the comment period and a review of the comments received, the USACE Detroit District Engineer will make a final decision regarding the necessity of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed project. Based on the preliminary conclusions of the EA, it appears that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required. Therefore, a preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact is included in the EA.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Uhlarik

Charles A. Uhlarik
Chief, Environmental Analysis Section